

Skagit County Law & Justice Council

Charlie Wend
Jail Commander
Chairman

Lisa Tremblay
Sup/Juv Court Admin.
Vice-Chair

Rob Sullivan
Director PHS
Member-at-Large

Cathy Sisk
Jail/Court Coordinator
Secretary

WEDNESDAY, September 9, 2015
8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Attendance:

WILL REICHARDT
SARAH HINMAN
MARK RAAKA
LADESSA CROUCHER
LISA JANICKI
DUANA WILKINS
GLEN HUTCHINS

CHARLIE WEND
DALE RAGAN
CATHY SISK
ROXANE GOSS
MAVIS BETZ
JERRY DODD

TIM HOLLORAN
DAVE NEEDY
JENNIFER JOHNSON
REBECCA CLARK
MATT MILLER
ROB SULLIVAN

LISA TREMBLAY
BONNIE BOWERS
KEN DAHLSTEDT
JOE VALENTINE
MONICA WHITE
MARC ESTVOLD

I. Welcome – Charlie Wend, Chair

Chairman Charlie Wend called the meeting to order at approximately 8:15 a.m. and welcomed the Council and guests.

II. Introductions

All present introduced themselves with the names listed above.

III. Review and approval of June 10, 2015 minutes

The minutes from the June 10, 2015 Law & Justice Council meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved.

IV. Jail Update – Marc Estvold

Five jail bids were received on August 25, 2015, including a bid by Lydig Construction from the Seattle area. Lydig has experience in building jails. The bid from Lydig was affirmed with a bid of \$41.8 million – about \$1 million under estimates. The County Commissioners approved the contract. We expect to proceed in 4-6 weeks. There is some digging going on now. Expect to open early summer of 2017.

Charlie Wend talked about Whatcom County and the many challenges they faced with building their jail. We have dealt very differently with our many challenges, and our approach to be transparent and to create partnerships was, though arduous at times, ultimately successful.

Skagit County Law & Justice Council

Lisa Janicki is pleased with how quickly the county and cities came to payment agreements through the Jail Finance Committee.

Tim Holloran stressed the continued need to be transparent. We are experiencing more soil contamination at the building site than was expected. The building currently on the site must be removed soon because of the contaminants beneath it.

V. Presentation –Naloxone Use by First Responders by Dr. Adam Kartman

Dr. Kartman presented on how intra-nasal naloxone use by first responders can reduce the amount of deaths by opioid overdose.

Law enforcement overdose reversal programs are designed to teach law enforcement officers to recognize and reverse an active opioid overdose using naloxone. The idea is that providing law enforcement with the knowledge and the tools to reverse opioid overdoses in the field can reduce the time between when an opioid overdose victim is discovered and when they receive lifesaving assistance. Law enforcement overdose rescue programs are similar to the already widespread efforts to train police in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Opiates are depressants and cause euphoria. However, in high doses opiates may cause the user to become unconscious and ultimately comatose.

Naloxone is the antidote to opioid poisoning. Agencies already using the naloxone nasal spray have seen impressive results where opioid overdose deaths have been greatly reduced by officers carrying naloxone, or Narcan.

The Lummi Police Department saved ten lives in the first six months of having their police officers carry naloxone.

Snohomish County saved nine lives in just a few months.

Narcan is safe and effective with no side effects. Opioid overdose is a time-sensitive emergency and getting to the person in time is critical in saving their life.

Opioid use and deaths are going up yearly. In 2014, overdose deaths outnumbered motor vehicle deaths by 24%.

Skagit County Law & Justice Council

The goal is for each agency to train a couple officers in naloxone use and they become trainers for their department.

Recently, the legislature passed House Bill 1671-2015, which allows medical providers to write a standing order of naloxone for agencies. Individual orders are no longer required so agencies may stock naloxone at their office for use in the field.

Skagit County was awarded an \$8000 grant to supply naloxone kits to law enforcement. The price per kit is approximately \$70, and includes two syringes per kit.

Mark Raaka, Director of Emergency Services, advised that his EMT's are not licensed or certified in Washington State so they weren't previously allowed to administer. Now they are. Mark talked about training the EMT's and within a couple months they should be using naloxone in Skagit County.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said that he is going to Colorado in October for the National Association of Counties where conversations around this issue will occur. The Commissioner was asking if we could put something together for the meeting to seek additional funding for the naloxone program.

Sheriff Reichardt said that the law enforcement chiefs meet once a month. Last month he met with Mark Raaka seeking information on the use of naloxone in emergency situations. The sheriff said that EMS has their role and law enforcement has our role. The sheriff would like to see if there is a need for the program by law enforcement. If so, a policy decision will need to be made.

Jennifer Johnson welcomes the opportunity to participate in conversations in implementing a pilot project from a funding perspective and look at barriers and sustain it past the grant that the county was awarded.

Swinomish PD Assistant Chief Glen Hutchins explained that the naloxone program isn't a fix but has been a great tool. Dr. Kartman helped with policy development. The Swinomish officers have embraced the use of the kits. They have saved seven lives since November. It is a widespread program but isn't a cure.

Dr. Kartman supplied the following website links for further reference:

<https://www.bjatraining.org/tools/naloxone/Naloxone+Background>

<http://stopoverdose.org/>

<http://adai.washington.edu/>

Skagit County Law & Justice Council

VI. Announcements from the floor

Chief Bowers announced the procurement of their new drug dog, Major. He is a year-and-a-half old black lab.

Jennifer Johnson announced there will be a meeting October 30, 2015 at the Cotton Tree Inn regarding Northern State and researching models with an innovative approach. Please contact Rebecca Clark if additional information is needed prior to the meeting.

Chief Wend discussed the Law & Justice Council executive board composition for the 2016 year. Lisa Tremblay will take over as chair. Rob Sullivan will remain as Member-at-Large. Cathy Sisk will remain as executive secretary. That leaves an opening for the vice president position. Please consider volunteering to fill this position prior to the next meeting.

There will be no November meeting.

- VII. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 8:15 a.m.**
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9: 15 a.m.