

**COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF
MEMORANDUM**

**APPROVED
With Changes
04.14.2015**

Date: March 11, 2015
To: Sheriff Jeff Dickerson
From: Millie Wagner, Administrative Assistant
SUBJECT: **JOCAC MEETING – MINUTES FOR 03/10/2015 MEETING**

Attendees:

Committee Members:
Dick Lager, Chair
Garrett Lines, Vice-chair
Greg Hinkleman
Jamie Maygra
Dennis Kenna
Rita Bernhard
Harvey Bilton

Columbia County:
Henry Heimuller, Board of County Commissioners

Columbia County Sheriff's Office:
Sheriff Jeff Dickerson
Captain Tony Weaver – Jail Commander
Millie Wagner – Administrative Assistant

Meeting location: Columbia County Justice Center, 901 Port Avenue, Saint Helens, Oregon.

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM by Committee Chair, Dick Lager.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brady Preheim stated that while he appreciates the fact that this meeting is now shown on the website, the law states that as a public meeting it needs to be published as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Review of the minutes from previous meetings. One correction made and minutes then were approved as corrected.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentations:

Sheriff's Update on the 2016 FY Budget and Hiring Update

- Currently have hired 4 new deputies, dismissed one and expect to have a new Corrections Technician hired by April. There is also the potential of a second senior deputy being dismissed.
- The Sheriff also stated that new hires will go to the Academy as well as serve an 18 month probationary period.
- Committee Chair Lager asked if the SO was having difficulties due to the situation here.
 - ◆ Sheriff's response: Our County pays less than other counties that are also currently hiring now.

Sheriff's Report on Jail Usage by Jurisdiction

- The Sheriff provided a graph showing a snapshot of who is being housed in the jail.
- The Sheriff stated that Circuit Court provides the largest population of inmates. Inmates from Circuit Court had been tried and convicted of state crimes.
- The Sheriff stated that Municipal Courts also account for some of the inmates in the jail. He also stated that if an inmate is charged on a purely a Municipal Court charge then there would be the potential for charging the Municipal Court for housing this inmate.

Jail Commander Report on the Matrix Release Program

- Captain Weaver provided a handout detailing the Matrix Release Program.
- Captain Weaver stated that for each inmate they look for the primary charge and then score accordingly.
- Different categories and other factors to be considered were explained.
- Committee member Hinkleman asked if the matrix was a Columbia County design or if it was something used statewide.
 - ◆ The Sheriff responded that in looking at this, they first looked at what other Counties were doing. They all seemed to have adopted Multnomah County's Matrix Release System. We also adopted Multnomah County's, but made some changes after discussions with County Counsel, Judges and the Police Chiefs in the County.

Discussion RE Strategies for Getting Jail Information out to the Public:

- Continued Discussion RE the Cost per Inmate to be Housed
 - ◆ Vice Chair Lines stated that the Committee understands that the cost varies, but how do they get that information out.
 - ◆ The Sheriff stated that the best scenario is to use a fixed cost with 100 local inmates and 60 USM inmates being housed vs. the same fixed cost with 60 local inmates and 100 USM inmates being housed. The point of this is how much more we'd pay if we didn't have USM inmates.
 - ◆ Committee Vice Chair Lines stated that he would also like to see the cost per inmate if the objectives were met in hiring and the jail were running at full capacity.
- Committee Member Bilton stated that he felt that town hall meetings might be a good way to get information out to the public.
 - ◆ County Commissioner Heimuller suggested having committee members on a panel to answer questions.
 - ◆ Commissioner Heimuller also stated that a discussion about the Jail Management System software might be a good talking point.
 - ◆ The Sheriff stated that the media had been reporting on the purchase of the Body Cameras.
 - Cost vs. value was discussed. Committee member Bilton stated that the body cameras was far less than a lawsuit.
 - A question asking why body cameras were needed when there are security cameras in the jail.
 - The Sheriff responded that a body camera provides real time video from the Deputy's point of view and in addition, it provides audio and has no blind spots.

Discussion on the Advisory Committee's Reporting Responsibilities

- Commissioner Heimuller stated that some committees meet with the BOCC quarterly and asked what the committee might be comfortable with. He also stated that the BOCC meets on Wednesday and that possibly a representative of the committee could deliver a report of the positives and negatives. He summarized by saying that the BOCC definitely wants interaction with the committee, but that the Board wants to make it comfortable for the committee.
- Committee member Kenna suggested preparing a summary statement that the whole committee has input with and then this should be delivered to the BOCC.

- Committee Vice-chair Lines made the motion to make a list of things to talk about with the BOCC at the next meeting and that the Committee Chair and Vice Chair deliver it. The motion was seconded by committee member Maygra and the motion carried.
- Commissioner Heimuller stated that he will speak with the Board's Administrative Assistant regarding a quarterly date and he will have that information for the committee at the next meeting.

Discussion on the Committee's Role in the Budget Hearings This Spring

- Vice-chair Lines expressed concern that the committee's presence at the budget hearings might be viewed as an "arm" of the jail. He feels the committee should remain independent.
- Committee member Hinkleman stated that he feels that the committee needs to have a presence at the budget hearings in order to deliver information not as an advocate of the budget.
- The Sheriff stated that he will send out the dates and times of the budget hearings via email.

Committee Roundtable/Discussion for the Next Agenda

- Topics for discussion at the budget hearings
- Topics for information to the public
- Results of the OSA Jail Inspection

Set the Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be on April 14, 2015 at 7:00 PM. The location will remain the same.

At 8:00 PM, Committee Chair Dick Lager asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A committee member made the motion and it was seconded by committee member Kenna; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Millie Wagner, Admin, Columbia County Sheriff's Office