

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for July 10, 2018

1. Call To Order

Committee Chair Stephen Gockley called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m. in the Whatcom County Courthouse Conference Room 514, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham.

Members Present: Angela Anderson, Jill Bernstein, Bill Elfo, Deborra Garrett, Stephen Gockley, Deborah Hawley, Dave McEachran, Lisa McShane, Darlene Peterson, Peter Ruffatto

Also Present: Caryl Dunavan (proxy for Raylene King)

Members Absent: Raylene King, Moonwater

Review June 12, 2018 Meeting Summary

There were no changes.

2. Finalize the list of the committee's data needs for a new Information Needs and Data Exchange (INDEX) Committee

The committee members discussed the Cities' need for access to the Spillman system.

Peterson moved to ask the INDEX Committee to look into allowing the Cities access to the Spillman system and also to review the past recommendations of the Law and Justice Council. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

McShane moved to reach out to the Lummi and Nooksack tribes to participate in coordinating data. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The committee members discussed data they should be collecting, including who is being released on personal recognizance (PR) and bail information and adult versus juvenile failures to appear (FTA).

McEachran moved to collect data on FTA history, including the date of the FTA and/or the age of the defendant. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Bruce Van Glubt, District Court Administrator, reported on the Intergovernmental Policy Academy Conference.

Committee members continued to discuss judicial consideration of public safety and potential new crimes, including new violent crimes, as the priority in a risk assessment; failure to abide by pretrial conditions; defining recidivism; providing judges information on criminal history; past data on who is released, resolving warrants in other jurisdictions outside Whatcom County, how many defendants

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for July 10, 2018

have warrants in other jurisdictions; and clarifying the differences between filed charges and booked citation charges.

McEachran stated he can collect data on defendants with pending felonies who are released with the condition that they don't commit crimes, but violate those conditions.

Peterson moved to recommend that they track data on out-of-county and out-of-state warrant information on defendants, including who have warrants and from which jurisdictions. Identify warrants in multiple courts both inside and outside Whatcom County. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Garrett moved to track data that would identify the number of people on pretrial status (both in and out of jail), who are later charged with a crime, and identify the specific crimes committed. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Anderson moved to create a system that would allow warrants issued in error to be deleted or indicated as an warrant that was issued in error. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Joy Gilfilen spoke about tracking data on whether or not a person has a restraining order or pending no contact order and data on the costs defendants and inmates have or will incur.

Committee members discussed a new law that prohibits certain fines and fees charged at sentencing to people who are indigent.

Garrett moved to recommend to the INDEX Committee a review of all the data points as modified and discussed today. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The committee concurred that additional data may come forward as they go through the risk assessment system validation process.

3. Draft Priorities and Work Plan

This item was not discussed.

4. Next Steps: Ideas & Further Information

Gockley reported on the draft invitation to the public to attend the September meeting regarding drug court best practices.

5. Other Business

Garrett reported on the Pretrial Processes Workgroup meeting on July 17 with Dr. Andrew Peterson, who may validate the risk assessment.

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force
Legal & Justice Systems Subcommittee
Meeting Summary for July 10, 2018

6. Public Comment

Joy Gilfilen, Restorative Community Coalition, submitted and spoke about their system map and plan of things that need to be done. She asked to present her findings to the committee.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.