



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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**SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMMISSION
MINUTES**

June 9, 2017 9:00am – 12:00pm

Tukwila Community Center
12424 42nd Avenue S Room B
Tukwila, WA 98168

Members Present:

Russ Hauge
Jon Tunheim
Hon. Stanley Rumbaugh
Kathleen Kyle (Ed DeCosta proxy)
Hon. Maryann Moreno
Jennifer Albright
Hon. Catherine Shaffer
Tony Golik
Rep. Sherry Appleton
Marybeth Queral
Rev. Terri Steward
Tim Wettack
Sheriff Paul Pastor
Hon. Roger Rogoff

Members Absent:

Sonja Hallum
Senator Kevin Van De Wege
Stephen Sinclair
Kecia Rongen
Rep. Brad Klippert
Phillip Lemley
Kimberly Gordon

Staff:

Keri-Anne Jetzer

Guests:

Elizabeth Drake, WSIPP; Kris Bitney, WSIPP; Juliana Roe, WSAC; Tom McBride, WAPA; Alex MacBain, DOC; Clela Steelhammer, DOC; Mac Pevey, DOC; David Boerner.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hauge asked Keri-Anne to announce the members who were on the phone, then he those in the room to introduce themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #17-16: MOTION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 2017

MOVED: Judge Shaffer
SECONDED: Tim Wettack
PASSED: Unanimous

III. EVIDENCE-BASED PRINCIPLES

Elizabeth Drake, Supervisory Senior Research Associate, Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP), presented to the members on the changes from the time of the ‘nothing works’ philosophy to what does work to improve outcomes. She informed members that that reported crime rates decreased by 44% from 1980 to 2015, while taxpayer spending on the criminal justice system increased by 116% between 1980 and 2007. The WSIPP strives to find programs and policies that keeps crime down and also control taxpayer spending.

She discussed how WSIPP researchers go about their research to determine evidence-based practices and what the return on investment might be. She noted that when reviewing other studies to determine if a program is evidence-based, they are limited to what the studies have studied, especially subgroups such as gender, race, and age.

Elizabeth noted that, according to the prison bed forecast, there are about 1,600 fewer inmates in Washington prisons as a result of Washington’s investment in evidence-based programs over the years.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS IN COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Mac Pevey, Interim Assistant Secretary for Community Corrections, Department of Corrections, presented to the members on DOC’s current community supervision practices and their approaches to adjusting offender behavior in the community.

He informed members of four aspects about community supervision that WSIPP has indicated can reduce crime: 1) focusing on higher-risk populations, 2) swiftness and certainty of punishment can deter crime, 3) coupling supervision with referrals to programs that are delivered with fidelity, and 4) supervision that includes face-to-face contact.

V. SRA REVIEW

Chair Hauge informed members that there is a new legislative bill related to the SRA review. Keri-Anne said she did a document comparison between 2ESSB 5294 and S-2841.1 and found they were identical. She added that S-2841.2 was released late yesterday afternoon but whatever change was made did not impact the two sections related to the SRA review (Sections 17 and 18). Alex MacBain agreed that it is the version of 5294 that was last adopted by the Senate on May 2nd. The new part of S-2841.2 was related to the effective date of the standard Judgment & Sentence form. He has heard that negotiations are still happening around various pieces of the bill. Chair Hauge said he will try to attend the bill's hearing on Tuesday to learn more.

In the memo sent out a few weeks ago, Chair Hauge requested some members to take the lead in creating discussion groups around the areas of interest related to the SRA review.

Tim Wettack inquired about a law enforcement group. Chair Hauge agreed that one is needed but as Sheriff Pastor is the only law enforcement representative on the Commission (other groups have multiple representatives) and that the current discussions around changing how sentences are computed, handed down, and then supervised, all of which take place after the arrest. He believes the current groups are a good place to things started.

Alex MacBain inquired if there was a product that was desired from these work groups by July or in the future. Chair Hauge responded that for the July meeting, he is looking for a progress report (have there been any meetings, have any new issues surfaced, etc.). In terms of a report, he doesn't have anything in mind other than an interest in the substance of the groups' conversations.

Keri-Anne noted that SGC bylaws indicate staff must be at all meetings and subcommittee meetings, although that was created when there were more staff. She asked members to inform her of when and where the meetings will be and she will try to attend if her schedule allows. Chair Hauge presumed everyone will coordinate through Keri-Anne's office anyway.

Chair Hauge also encouraged members to sign up for a Box.com account, which is the state-approved 'system of engagement', similar to Dropbox. Judge Shaffer commented that it is very easy to use and takes only moments to create an account.

The SRA contains a number of parts that have stood in the way of meaningful discussions of reform, according to Chair Hauge. An example would be the percentage variation requirement of each grid cell, which limited new grid proposals. Chair Hauge said that he would be working on these independently.

He informed Clela that she had been volunteered by one of her bosses to assist as she is very knowledgeable of where many of these are.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Keri-Anne mentioned that in light of the many subgroup meetings that are being put together, she has received several requests for member contact information. She reminded members that they are provided with a list of members' contact information at every meeting and may want to take their copy with them for future reference.

Keri-Anne also informed members that she followed up with contacts provided by Jon Tunheim related to the post-release work being done in Oregon. They have two projects, one is Short-Term Trans Leave program and the other is the Washington County Transition/Reentry program. Oregon's Criminal Justice Center completed a recidivism study on the Short-Term Trans Leave program and she has uploaded a copy of that analysis to the Box site. Keri-Anne will contact Steve Berger to learn if there are any reports/studies on the other program. Judge Shaffer requested to have the Project Returns link added to the Box.

Chair Hauge asked members to update their contact information and their biography information for the website.

Keri-Anne announced that the July meeting will take place at the Renton Community Center.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SENTENCING GUIDELINES COMMISSION

/ s /

Russ Hauge, Chair

Date