

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23, 2014

11:30

JUSTICE BUILDING –
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR

MEETING CALLED BY	Mark Orndoff
ATTENDEES	Julie Evans, Ed Smith-Burns, Michele Morales, Doug Breidenthal, Lorenzo Mejia, Doug Engle, Beth Heckert, Danny Jordan, Danny Penland, Brett Johnson, Jeremy Markowitz, Jodi Merritt, Nichole Houchins, Lee Ayers

- Mark Orndoff opened the meeting at 11:35 am
- Opening Remarks: Mark welcomed everyone to the September PSCC meeting and round table introductions were conducted.

Agenda topics

MINUTES ADOPTION (MAY & JUNE)

MARK ORNDOFF

DISCUSSION	
Mark asked if everyone was able to review the minutes from the May and June meetings. Danny proposed a motion to formally adopt the minutes, the motion was seconded by Doug E. all were in favor. The minutes for May and June were formally adopted.	

PRESENTATION – DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

BETH HECKERT

DISCUSSION																																																																							
<p>Beth Heckert provided a presentation on the District Attorney's Office and the variety of work that they do. The DA's Office has a 4.6 million dollar budget which funds 3 divisions: Prosecution; Victim Services; and Family Support Division. Overall department supports 43.5 full time employees.</p> <p>The DA's office handles local cases with the majority of cases filed by the following agencies: Medford Police, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, Ashland Police, Central Point Police and Talent Police. Approximately 10-15% of cases forwarded to the DA's office are not filed.</p> <p>Beth was able to provide the following statistics:</p> <p>Cases filed:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Cases Filed</th> <th>Cases not filed</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>14-15</td> <td>6293</td> <td>92</td> <td>Residue cases no longer filed due to lack of resources</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13-14</td> <td>6110</td> <td>151</td> <td>Budget reductions – loss of one Deputy District Attorney</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12-13</td> <td>6637</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>11-12</td> <td>5696</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-11</td> <td>7458</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>09-10</td> <td>6549</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>08-09</td> <td>6521</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Average Attorney Caseloads per year. These numbers are new cases added to the attorney caseloads each year, this does not include cases that have carried over from previous years:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Felony</th> <th>Misdemeanor</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>14-15</td> <td>275</td> <td>709</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13-14</td> <td>266</td> <td>688</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12-13</td> <td>263</td> <td>653</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11-12</td> <td>242</td> <td>744</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-11</td> <td>227</td> <td>734</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Attorney Assignments by year:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Family</th> <th>Juvenile</th> <th>Criminal (Adult)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>07-08</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>08-09</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>09-10</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10-11</td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>16</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Additional position was added to the Hi-Tech Crime unit during the budget process. It was thought that this position would be sustainable through forfeitures dollars.</p>		Year	Cases Filed	Cases not filed		14-15	6293	92	Residue cases no longer filed due to lack of resources	13-14	6110	151	Budget reductions – loss of one Deputy District Attorney	12-13	6637			11-12	5696			10-11	7458			09-10	6549			08-09	6521			Year	Felony	Misdemeanor	14-15	275	709	13-14	266	688	12-13	263	653	11-12	242	744	10-11	227	734	Year	Family	Juvenile	Criminal (Adult)	07-08	1	2	15	08-09	1	2	15	09-10	1	2	16	10-11	1	2	16
Year	Cases Filed	Cases not filed																																																																					
14-15	6293	92	Residue cases no longer filed due to lack of resources																																																																				
13-14	6110	151	Budget reductions – loss of one Deputy District Attorney																																																																				
12-13	6637																																																																						
11-12	5696																																																																						
10-11	7458																																																																						
09-10	6549																																																																						
08-09	6521																																																																						
Year	Felony	Misdemeanor																																																																					
14-15	275	709																																																																					
13-14	266	688																																																																					
12-13	263	653																																																																					
11-12	242	744																																																																					
10-11	227	734																																																																					
Year	Family	Juvenile	Criminal (Adult)																																																																				
07-08	1	2	15																																																																				
08-09	1	2	15																																																																				
09-10	1	2	16																																																																				
10-11	1	2	16																																																																				

11-12	1	2	16	
12-13	1	2	16	
13-14	1	2	15	Budget reduction – elimination of the Hi-Tech crime unit DA.
14-15	0.8	2	15.2	

Jury Trials (majority of cases were misdemeanors):

2014 – 47 (As of September 22nd)

2013 – 51

2012 – 94

2011 – 48

2010 – 75

2009 – 82

The DA's office staffs the following:

- Arraignments everyday – twice a day
- Grand Jury – 3 days a week
 - All felony cases presented – approximately 300 cases presented per month
- Drug Court staffings/pleas
- Pre-trials every Monday afternoon
- Monday status hearings
- Friday probation violation hearings
- Additional hearings include: motions to suppress, restitution and other court hearings

The DA's office also offers Officer training to local law enforcement agencies. The DA's have attended police briefings and provided court training to new officers on appropriate testimony and court protocol.

The DA's office also responds to crime scenes and is available by phone at all times. Crime scene response is mandated for all homicides, officer involved shootings and fatal car crashes. The DA's office receives approximately 50 calls per month after hours and responds to crime scenes approximately one to two times per month. There are currently 4 open homicide cases pending from 12-13 and currently 8 unsolved homicides.

During the next budget cycle, Beth expressed she would like to request the addition of 1 Deputy District Attorney to put them back at optimal staffing levels and would like the support of the PSCC. It was identified that to budget and support an additional attorney, there may be a need for additional support/administrative staff as well however the primary focus is the attorney. Beth went on to express that national studies for public defender caseloads average at approximately 150 cases; no studies could be located expressing optimal caseload sizes for DA's. Beth went on to identify that local law enforcement staffing, with the addition of officers/detectives, impacts the workload of her staff.

Shane put forward a motion for the PSCC to draft a letter of support for the request of one Deputy District Attorney for the next budget cycle. John Stromberg seconded the motion; vote taken and all were in favor, none opposed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

DISCUSSION

Lee identified there would be a public hearing provided by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission on October 6th in the Meese Room for the Hannon Library from 4-6 pm. The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the policies set forth for the grant process under the reinvestment act funds.

Danny expressed the County will be building a new Justice Court in Central Point. This building will be approximately 3500 sq. ft. and will be a satellite office for Central Point Police and will be staffed 24/7.

October meeting: Shane expressed that Craig Prins and/or Mike Schmidt from the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission will be providing a presentation on an Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM) model system mapping grant program that the State is currently looking for 6 counties that may be interested in applying for.

November meeting: Mark expressed we will have a presentation from the Methadone Clinic and Dr. Shames.

Next Scheduled PSCC Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 11:30 am

Meeting Adjourned: 12:35 pm