



STATE OF WASHINGTON
SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

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SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

November 3, 2017 9:00am-1:00pm
Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs
3060 Willamette Dr NE
Lacey, WA 98516

Members Present:

Jedd Pelander
Michael O'Connell
Elena Lopez
Keri Waterland
Brad Meryhew
Roger Rogoff
Richard Torrance
Kendle Allen

Members Absent:

WSACA (Vacant)
AWC (Vacant)
Jonathan Meyer
Andrea Piper-Wentland

Members Represented By

Proxy:

Jeff Patnode (Proxy: Elyse Balmert)

Staff:

Leah Fisher

Guests: Jamie Weimer, WASPC; Terrina Peterson, WASPC

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Call to Order

Chair Waterland called the meeting to order and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Approval of March 15, 2017 & September 22, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The Board is asked to approve the minutes from March 15, 2017.

MOTION #17-5: MOTION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 17, 2017 WITH FORMATTING CHANGE.

MOVED: Brad Meryhew
SECONDED: Keri Waterland
PASSED: Approved Unanimously

MOTION #17-6: MOTION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 22, 2017 WITH FORMATTING CHANGE.

MOVED: Roger Rogoff
SECONDED: Brad Meryhew
PASSED: 8 approve; 1 abstain (Kendle Allen)

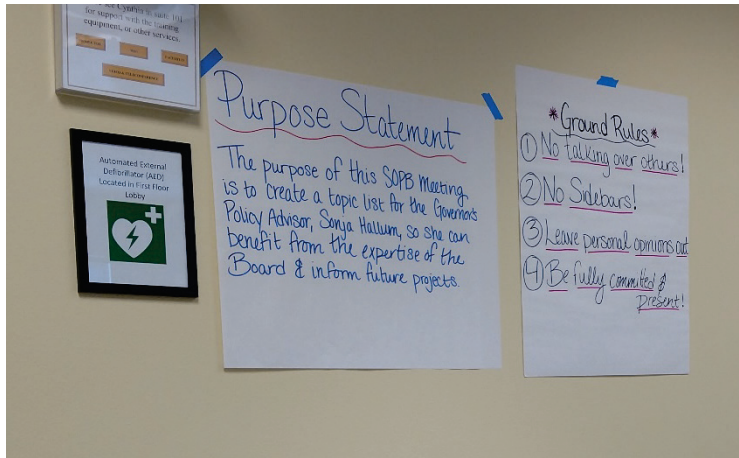
SOPB Chair Term

Keri and Leah discussed the upcoming end to Keri’s term (ending January 2018). Nominations and elections will take place in January 2018 and questions can be sent to either Leah or Keri.

Review Meeting Objectives and Meeting Strategy

Purpose statement: *“The purpose of this work group is to create a topic list for the Governor’s Policy Advisor, Sonja Hallum, so she can benefit from the expertise of the Board and inform future projects.”*

Leah explained to the Board that they would be using the same process used at the September meeting, and she would continue to facilitate the discussion in hopes that they could delve deeper into each area of sex offender management and determine the five highest priority areas for improvement within each.



Exercise #1

The exercise facilitated for the group involved the following approach:

- At the September meeting the Board created six “buckets”, each representing a main area within sex offender management.
 - Supervision
 - Sentencing
 - Registration
 - Juveniles
 - Sex Offender Treatment
 - Civil Commitment
- At the September meeting, Board members had participated in an exercise that developed themes for areas of improvement within each bucket.

- Using that list, Leah asked each member to select the top five areas for improvement within each bucket. Each member completed this exercise individually, and results were given to Leah.
- Once all members had turned in their votes, Leah and Keri worked together to tally the top five areas within each bucket. Leah then placed the results on chart paper in front of the Board, so they could see the overall results. The results are shown below (in the case of a “tie” more than 5 topics were placed on the chart paper):
 - Registration and Community Notification
 - Registration of low risk juvenile offenders (7 votes)
 - Collateral consequences for offenders (5 votes)
 - Registry becomes diluted (4 votes)
 - Inconsistent practices (4 votes)
 - Offense and not risk-based (3 votes)
 - Lack of court discretion (3 votes)
 - Lack of oversight for SCC unconditional releases (3 votes)
 - Sentencing
 - Judges’ discretion (7 votes)
 - Lifetime supervision (6 votes)
 - Treatment alternatives for non-contact sex offenses (6 votes)
 - Impacts of sentencing on supervision (5 votes)
 - Risk vs. crime title (5 votes)
 - Treatment
 - Treatment too expensive (6 votes)
 - Inconsistent treatment intensity (5 votes)
 - Lack of providers (5 votes)
 - Not enough space in DOC SOTP for low risk offenders to receive treatment (5 votes)
 - People need to wait to enter the system for any type of intervention (5 votes)
 - Supervision:
 - Lack of training for CCOs (8 votes)
 - Lifetime Supervision (7 votes)
 - Availability of DOC SOTP (7 votes)
 - Residency Restrictions (5 votes)
 - DOC restrictions unrelated to risk (5 votes)
 - Juveniles
 - Registration for low risk juvenile offenders (8 votes)
 - Public Disclosure for Level 1 offenders (7 votes)
 - Need a good static/dynamic risk assessment (6 votes)
 - Collateral consequences for offenders (4 votes)
 - Access to justice for petitions of juvenile relief (4 votes)
 - People need to wait to enter the system got any type of intervention (4 votes)
 - Civil Commitment
 - RCW 71.09 needs to be updated (7 votes)
 - Bureaucracy vs. treatment and risk assessment (5 votes)

- Empirically supported assessments and treatment programs (4 votes)
- Public doesn't understand the process (4 votes)
- Unconditional releases (4 votes)
- Juveniles subjected to the process (4 votes)

Exercise #2

The exercise facilitated for the group involved the following approach:

- After prioritizing the top items from each area, Leah facilitated a larger discussion with the Board regarding what each item selected should look like. The Board moved through each topic area, discussed the corresponding items, and how each item should be framed in the letter to the Governor's Policy Advisor.

Results

- Registration and Community Notification
 - The Board determined that the underlying issue for this bucket is the effectiveness of the registry, and that the other topic areas are consequences of a potentially ineffective registry. For example, the ineffective registry may lead to lack of court discretion, inconsistent practices, being offense not risk based, and registration of low risk juvenile offenders. In turn, this can cause harm in the form of collateral consequences for offenders.
 - In the letter to the Governor's Policy Advisor this topic area will be discussed as one larger topic, the effectiveness of the registry.
- Sentencing
 - Items in this topic area will remain on their own, and will be discussed individually in the letter to the Governor's Policy Advisor.
- Treatment
 - The Board determined that the underlying issue for this area is the availability of treatment, with main issues being a lack of providers, not enough space in DOC SOTP, and inconsistent practices. This may lead to expensive treatment in the community, and an inability for some to access the treatment they need.
 - In the letter to the Governor's Policy Advisor, this topic will be discussed as one larger topic, the availability of treatment.
- Supervision
 - Upon further discussion, the availability of DOC SOTP was removed from this list.
 - Residency restrictions will be placed within the discussion for DOC restrictions that are unrelated to risk.
 - Lifetime supervision, lack of training for CCOs, and DOC restrictions that are unrelated to risk be discussed individually in the letter to the Governor's Policy Advisor
- Juveniles
 - Registration for low risk juvenile offenders will be discussed individually in the letter.

- Public Disclosure for Level 1 offenders will be discussed individually, and will reference public disclosure for adult offenders, and the impact this may have on diluting the registry.
- The need for a good static/dynamic risk assessment will be discussed, and lack of availability and resources will be mentioned.
- Mechanism and attainability for juveniles to petition for the relief of the duty to register will be discussed individually.
- Civil Commitment
 - The Board determined that many of the concerns surrounding civil commitment can be addressed with a full review of RCW 71.09. As such, the letter to the Governor's Policy Advisor will address this topic more broadly, and focus on a review of RCW 71.09.

Next Steps

- Leah will create a draft of the letter to the Governor's Policy Office for the Board's review.
- Leah will schedule the January Board meeting.

Juveniles	Civil Commitment
○ Reg for LR juv. (8)	○ RCW 71.09 needs to be updated (7)
○ PD for Level 1 (7)	○ Bureaucracy vs. Tx & risk assessment (5)
○ Need a good static/dynamic assessment (6)	○ Empirically supported assessments & tx prog. (4)
○ Collateral Cons. (4)	○ public doesn't understand process (4)
○ Access to justice for petitions of juv rel. (4)	○ Unconditional Releases (4)
○ Wait to enter system for interventions (4)	○ Juveniles subjected to process (4)

Registration/Com. Not.	Sentencing	Treatment	Supervision
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Registry becomes diluted (4) ◦ Collateral Conseq. (5) ◦ Reg. of LR Juv (7) ◦ Inconsistent Prac. (4) ◦ Offense not risk (3) ◦ Lack of court disc. (3) ◦ Lack of oversight for unconditional SCC releases (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Lifetime Superv. (6) ◦ Risk vs. Crime (5) Title ◦ Judges' Discretion (7) ◦ Impacts of Sentence on Supervision (5) ◦ Tx Alternatives for non-contact (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Incons. Tx intensity (5) ◦ Tx too expensive (6) ◦ Lack of providers (5) ◦ Not enough space for LR tx in DOC to get tx (5) ◦ Wait to enter system for intervention (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Lifetime Sup (7) ◦ Lack of training for CCOs (8) ◦ Anal. of DOC SOTP (7) ◦ Residency Rest. (5) ◦ DOC restrictions unrelated to risk (5)

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

Chair Keri L. Waterland

Date