



STATE OF WASHINGTON
SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

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SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

July 16, 2020 9:00am-1:00pm

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Members Present:

Elyse Balmert
Joshua Choate
Linda Farmer
Robert Gelder
Brad Manke
Brad Meryhew
Michael O'Connell
Jedd Pelander
Mac Pevey
Jennifer Ritchie
Roger Rogoff

Members Absent:

WCSAP
Rob Gelder
Richard Torrance

Members Represented By

Proxy:
David Flynn (Lowell Porter)

Staff:

Leah Landon

Guests: Jamie Weimer, WASPC; Terrina Peterson, WASPC; Alex Mayo, Washington Voices; Corey McNally, DOC; Shoshana Kehoe-Ehlers, ODP; Kelsey-anne Fung, Senate Committee Services; Sonja Hardenbrook, Snohomish County DPA; Devon Gibbs, King County DPD; Sophia Byrd McSherry; Holly Coryell, SCC; Daniel Davis, Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Chris Jackson; Jay Murphy, WA Voices; Dan Yanisch, SCC; Kevin Black, Senate Committee Services; Jennifer Williams, DOC; Theo Lewis, DOC, Cathi Harris, DOC, Dominic Winter, DOC

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Call to Order

Brad Meryhew called the meeting to order and asked Leah Landon to discuss tips for participating in the virtual meeting. Meeting participants were asked to mute their microphones when not speaking, and asked to use the chat function through Microsoft Teams to ask questions, make comments, etc. The meeting was recorded and can be provided upon request. Brad Meryhew introduced himself, and then invited other members and guests to do the same.

Brad Meryhew provided an overview of the meeting agenda before moving into introductions.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Brad Meryhew asked the Board to approve the meeting minutes from June 24, 2020.

MOTION #20-7: MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 24, 2020 MEETING MINUTES.

MOVED: Jedd Pelander

SECONDED: Mac Pevey

ABSTAINED: None

PASSED: Unanimously

Meeting Objectives

Objective 1: Presentation from the Prosecution

- Presenters:
 - Jennifer Ritchie, King County Prosecutor's Office
 - Joshua Choate, Washington State Office of the Attorney General
- Jennifer and Josh provided a presentation on prosecuting LRA SVP cases in Washington. Their PowerPoint is available upon request.
- Members were invited to ask questions throughout the presentation.
- There was a request for additional information on the cost of LRAs versus the cost of total confinement.

Objective 2: Sub-Committee Updates

Brad invited each of the sub-committee chairs to provide the Board with updates on their work.

- **Treatment, Discharge Planning, and Conditions of Release Sub-Committee**
 - Last Meeting: July 14, 2020
 - Next Meeting: July, 28, 2020
 - Chair: Michael O'Connell
 - **Michael O'Connell** provided an update on committee progress. Michael said the last meeting had two presentations, one of which was from Jennifer Williams who talked about the current state of discharge planning and the other from Jennifer Ritchie and Devon Gibbs on HB 2851. Michael added that he was impressed by the amount of work and collaboration seen with HB 2851, and that this bill seems like a good starting point for making recommendations.
 - **Jennifer Williams** provided an additional overview of the sub-committee timeline and provided clarification on the document she reviewed during the sub-committee meeting. Jennifer said the group started identifying sticking points in what is happening in the current system and that members were asked to send in additional sticking points to Leah for review at the next meeting. Jennifer added that the current timeline is very fast-paced and not what is typically seen in a facilitated meeting.

Good of the Order:

- **Jedd Pelander** said a few things came up in the chat regarding SVP court and that he would like to hear more about this and it may be a topic for further discussion.
 - **Brad Meryhew** asked what specifically Jedd wanted to hear more about.
 - **Jedd** said the pros and cons of the model and what it would look like. It sounds like there was agreement among others about this being beneficial so it might be nice to flush this out a bit and hear more about it.
 - **Shoshana Kehoe-Ehlers** Said this is something that has been percolating and what is making her think, is the directive from the Senate Way and Means Committee is specific but what we are finding is that there is a lot that can be done around this statute. Shoshana added that after the current project, the group may be able to carry on some of the additional work.
 - **Joshua Choate** said his understanding is the SVP court has been a background idea for a number of years and has never come to a fully formed state so there may not be much to present on the history, but it would be worthy of discussion. Josh added that he agrees with Shoshana, and it would be helpful to preserve some of the issues being discussed so they could be dealt with in the future after the current work is done.

Next Steps

- Next Full Board Meeting
 - Thursday, August 20th, 2020 from 9:00am-1:00pm
- Meeting Minutes
 - **Leah** also notified the Board that she will prepare the meeting minutes within the next week and have them out for review.
- **Leah** will work with **Terrina** to finalize the recommendations for the Community Notification and SCC Releases sub-committee and send those to the SOPB for review prior to the August 20, 2020 meeting.

Meeting adjourned by Brad Meryhew at 1:00pm.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

/s/
Chair Brad Meryhew

August 20, 2020
Date