

Clallam County Sheriff's Citizen Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2025

I. Call to order

- i. Alan Barnard called to order the regular meeting of the Citizen Advisory Committee at 1708 hours on March 27, 2025 in the Board of County Commissioners meeting room.

II. Roll call

- i. The following members were present: Alan Barnard, Steven Blakeman, Michael Blaise, Charles Meyer, Walter Morton, and Lourene O'Brien.
- ii. The following members appeared via Zoom: Frederic Abt and Babara Sandford.
- iii. The following staff members were present: Sheriff King and Kari Cincotto.
- iv. There was a quorum established for this meeting.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

- i. Minutes from the January 23, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved with date change under III. i. from January 23, 2025 to October 3, 2024.

IV. Sheriff King

a. Accreditation

- i. On-site visit/inspection is April 9, 2025.
 - 1. Questions:
 - Blaise: What is the purpose of accreditation?
 - King: It reduces liability and means \$50,000.00 for the Sheriff's Office.
 - Blaise: Are insurance rates reduced as a result of accreditation?
 - King: Risk goes down, but not rates. We receive more support being accredited and it lets the public know that we are operating under best practices.
 - Blaise: Do you publish the results of accreditation in newspapers?
 - King: Yes, and on our Facebook page. We may also put something (decal) on our law enforcement vehicles.
 - Morton: Is accreditation annual?
 - King: It's every four (4) years. It's an intense two (2) month process.
 - Meyer: Are you familiar with the ISO standard of quality?
 - King: Accreditation is like the ISO standard. It's a very high-quality standard. Deputies will be quizzed during the

on-site visit. It is a great exercise and process to see where more training may be needed.

Meyer: I inspected military institutions. Does this accreditation team have published criteria?

King: Yes, it does.

b. Joint Public Safety Facility (JPSF)

- i. Additional dollars have been requested in the amount of \$2 million for the new JPSF.

- 1. Questions:

- Blaise: May the current joint public safety facility be retrofitted?

- Barnard: No, the current building is unable to withstand an earthquake.

- King: The soil is unstable. A Cascadia event is why the new JPSF is needed. The goal is for us to receive sixty percent (60%) of the design documents from the architects by April 11, 2025.

- Barnard: has the location of the new JPSF been finalized?

- King: Yes, it's by the Airport Garden Center (2100 Edgewood Drive, Port Angeles, WA). It's important for the JPSF to be as close to the airport as possible for resources. Geological studies have been performed on the site showing that the area is stable.

- Barnard: Should a nine plus (9+) earthquake occur, the airport has over a ninety percent (90%) level of tolerance.

c. Animal Solutions Advisory Committee

- i. The Humane Society is slowly opening again and is restructuring how they operate.
- ii. There are still challenges with dangerous dogs.
- iii. Pacific NW Vet Hospital has been providing shelter space for little to no cost along with WAG.
- iv. The Animal Solutions Advisory Committee members, WAG and Dr. Allen have held spay/neuter clinics.

- 1. Questions:

- Blaise: Who determines an animal is dangerous?

- King: The Sheriff's Office (Animal Control Deputy) may declare a dog dangerous. For example, inflicting a severe bite on a human or killing livestock are reasons to declare a dog dangerous.

- Barnard: Does the city handle dangerous dogs?

- King: Yes, but they do not have the transportation equipment like the Sheriff's Office does. It's important for the Sheriff's Office to have a designated Animal Control Deputy. We are working with Civil Service to re-classify an animal control deputy under corrections. This will allow the animal control deputy to have a greater salary. The

salary for the animal control deputy has always been a challenge.

Blakeman: The paper says the Human Society has unionized. Did you see that?

King: No, I didn't see that, but I do know that the new management team at the Humane Society has a good vision.

d. Clallam County Jail

- i. \$1 million was received last week from the Heath Care Authority (HCA) and another \$1 million is expected in the future.
- ii. The goal is to begin billing Medicaid by July 1, 2025. This may save the County one half (1/2) million dollars. The jail budget is currently over \$1 million dollars.
- iii. King 5 news visited the jail last Tuesday and documented the treatment that is currently being provided. Both Snohomish and Kitsap Sheriff's Office's are interested in our program.

V. Sheriff Personnel Changes

- a. New Assignment
 - i. Sergeant Shaun Minks to Administrative Sergeant – Effective 2/25/25
- b. New Personnel
 - i. Jail Control Room Technician, Melissa Clark – Hired 2/18/25
 - ii. Patrol Deputy, Jeffrey Erskine – Hired 3/1/25
 - iii. Jail Nurse, Megan Root – Hired 3/1/25
 - iv. Jail Nurse, Lance Doyle – Hired 3/1/25
 - v. James Wilson, Jr., Corrections Deputy – Hired 3/17/25
- c. Promotions
 - i. Deputy Steffen Estep to Patrol Sergeant – Effective 3/3/25
 - ii. Jail Nurse Stephanie Jackson to Jail Nurse Manager – Effective 3/1/25
- d. Resignations
 - i. Corrections Deputy, Brayden Hagerty - Effective 2/19/25
- e. Retirements
 - i. Patrol Deputy, Jim Dixon – Effective 3/31/25

VI. Upcoming Events

- a. Law Enforcement Torch Run – June 17, 2025
- b. Canoe Journeys – July 30, 2025 through August 5, 2025
 - i. Lower Elwha will be the destination.
 - ii. Predicting ten thousand (10,000) people will attend.
 - iii. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be activated for this event and the EOC volunteers along with Program Coordinator, Justine Chorley, will manage the EOC during this event.
 - iv. The Sheriff's Office boats will be in the water and working with the coast guard.
 - v. The First Nations tribe in Canada is also expected.

VII. Roundtable

Meyer – Invites the Sheriff's Office to look at the insert located in both the Peninsula Daily News and Sequim Gazette regarding the article that he wrote about the difficulties fire departments are facing regarding emergency management issues.

Barnard – It is comprehensive.

Blakeman – Asks, who provides religious services in the jail?

King – Our chaplains

Blakeman – Who is the contact?

King – Chief Wenzl

O'Brien – Inquires if there is an active 12-Step program in the jail.

King – Yes, (the program) is challenging because the inmates bail out or are released.

O'Brien – Inquires if REDISCOVERY is currently doing evaluations.

King – Yes, they are.

Blaise – Inquires where inmates may receive resources to programs upon release.

King – From the REDISCOVERY program and our mental health case workers. Upon release, REDISCOVERY will drive them from the jail to get care/services. Also, HCA will help us build a plan for the inmate upon release.

Morton – I learned a lot. I also spoke to a deputy in Forks who was helpful, and I had a good experience.

Blaise – I appreciated being here and meeting.

VIII. Comments from the Public – No public in attendance.

IX. Next meeting scheduled for May 29, 2025

X. Adjourn