



Work Session Summary Minutes

OREGON

Sheriff's Office Quarterly Update

November 7, 2024. 1:30 PM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Kevin Cameron, Colm Willis, and Danielle Bethell.

Board's Office: Jan Fritz, Alvin Klausen, and Trevor Lane.

Sheriff's Office: Jacob Ramsey, Lisa Gabel, Jeremy Landers, Jason Bernard, Jay Bergmann, and Nick Hunter.

Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

Summary

The office is in its first year of a three-year accreditation cycle, focusing on meeting standards in policies and annual reviews of pursuit policy, use of force, and anti-bias crime reporting. Enforcement statistics highlighted over 10,000 calls in July and August, with 13 guns recovered in three months due to increased patrols. The jail's population is averaging around 420, with a focus on direct supervision to improve operations. Code enforcement is addressing historical cases, and a new tool is helping resolve nuisance properties. The board emphasized the need for a detailed budget review to address financial challenges and improve efficiency.

Accreditation Process and Standards

- Three-year cycle and standards to be met.
- Cycle ends September 2026, and the goal is to avoid last-minute scrambling.
- Accreditation helps standardize policies and enhance community understanding.
- Annual reviews of certain standards required including:
 - Pursuit policy, use of force, and anti-bias crime reporting.

Challenges with Accreditation Standards

- Complexity of use of force policy:
 - Wording can be challenging to implement due to human performance limitations.
- Accreditation manager role in managing documentation is crucial.
- Northwest Accreditation Agency (NWA) is now responsible for accreditation.

Enforcement Updates and Call Statistics

- October call statistics decreased from busy summer months.
- 4002 grant-funded positions being filled.

- Focus patrols and gun violence reduction.

Collaboration with Salem PD and Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program

- Ongoing monthly meetings with community partners.
- Goal to have five LEAD program navigators.
- Need for collaborative effort on crime and drug dealers.

Public Perception and Communication

- Public perception concerns and need better communication.
- Efforts to share information from the Ben McBride report.
- Frustration from East Salem residents.
- Need for clear communication about ongoing efforts

Jail Updates and Direct Supervision Philosophy

- Third-quarter statistics on bookings, releases, and average population.
- Implementation of direct supervision model to improve facility management.
- Focus on staff care and transparency with the community.

Exit Surveys and Staff Retention

- Use of exit surveys to identify themes and improve retention.
- Plan to conduct exit interviews for better insights.
- Importance of staff care and addressing issues promptly

Code Enforcement and Community Engagement

- Update on code enforcement workload and staff changes.
- Resolution of a historical crime nuisance property.
- Concerns about graffiti in the East Salem service district.
- Slow progress in restore court and need for more accountability in graffiti cases.

Budget and Financial Challenges

- Need for detailed budget review for each division.
- Goal to understand system, priorities, and financial needs.
- Importance of becoming more productive with resources

Meeting Conclusion and Next Steps

- Plan to schedule budget review meetings for each division.
- Emphasis on understanding the system, priorities, and financial needs

Action Items

- Provide a breakdown of the "other" category in the enforcement call volume data, including mutual aid and civil service details.
- Schedule a meeting with Salem PD and Kaiser to discuss a collaborative drug enforcement task force.
- Provide a quarterly report on drug overdoses and related incidents in the jail.
- Explore options for community involvement in graffiti abatement, potentially through a program similar to "kid court" or "peer court".
- Schedule budget review meetings for each division of the Sheriff's Office to discuss priorities, revenues, and expenses.

Adjourned – time: 2:44 p.m.
Minutes by: Mary Vityukova
Reviewed by: Gary White

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