



STATE OF WASHINGTON

SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

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Minutes

Benchmarks Committee

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Burien Criminal Justice Training Center

Members Present:

Russ Hauge
Bev Emery
Kecia Rongen
Andrea Piper
Brad Meryhew

Staff Present:

Shoshana Kehoe-Ehlers
Andi May

Others Present

Amy Pearson, OCVA; Lindsay Palmer, KCSARC; Dianne Ashlock, DOC; and Peggy Smith, ISRB.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Bev Emery called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

II. REVISE AND ADOPT AGENDA

The agenda was adopted in its original form.

III. REFLECTIONS, OBSERVATIONS, AND A PROPOSAL ON BENCHMARKS DESIGN TO DATE.

A. Introduction

Ms. Emery opened this agenda item by speaking about the purpose of the Sex Offender Policy Board and how the Benchmarks Committee acts as an extension of the Full Board.

She emphasized that the three Committees (Benchmarks, Registration and Notification, and Sex Offender in the Community) assist the Board in making recommendations to the Legislature rooted in evidence based research and best practices. Ms. Emery reviewed the history of why the Benchmarks Committee chose to first look at the *Reentry and Supervision* components of the sex offender management system.

Ms. Emery then proposed taking this Committee in a different direction. This Committee is better suited to assist the other SOPB committees organize their data and research, suggest how they can best use their this to develop their recommendations and then assist them in identifying measures for their recommendations. SOPB staff will then take the BM work product and include it in report to the Legislature.

There was some discussion about whether *Reentry and Supervision* be separated off into its own Committee. The BM Committee will act as the underpinning of the system and help the committees in completing their final products. BM would also come up with how to broadly measure the effectiveness of the Board recommendations in the future, for e.g. 10 years from now.

B. Suggested New Format

- Refer to Ms. Emery's Handout regarding Community Notification of Juvenile Sex Offenders. It lays out a suggested format in detail when developing a benchmarks measure.
- The following is the suggested format:
 - What is the System Action;
 - How do we Measure this;
 - Perform an Analysis;
 - Conclusion;
 - Recommendation;
 - Discourse;
 - Pros/Cons; and
 - Cost.

- The goal will be to apply this format when developing benchmarks for the other committees' proposals/recommendations for any change to the sex offender management system.

C. Putting Format into Practice

The Committee then practiced using this format on the Juvenile Workgroup's 2SHB 2714 Proposal to eliminate the 90 registration check-in requirement for Level 2 and 3 offenders.

- System Action:
 - Rate/level of FTR pre/post.
 - Cost-analysis (Law Enforcement time and resources).
 - How many address changes actually take place?
- Purpose: Verify Residence.
- Measure: How many probation violation hearings are taking place after take away the 90 day check-in.
- Analysis:
 - Cost-analysis (LE time)
 - Duplicative
 - Not intended for Juveniles
- Conclusion: There will be no check-in because it does not serve the intended purpose. This law/policy is really intended for adults.
- Recommendation: No 90 day check-ins for Level 2 Juvenile SO;

D. Mapping (Large Sex Offender Management System Map)

The Committee then started mapping out the entire system and assigned a component to members based on their expertise. The members will map out their components in further detail. Recommend that the members refer to CSOM materials addressing their component(s). These materials are available on the CSOM website. The Juvenile Map will be separate from the adult map.

The following committee members and staff will map out the component next to their names:

- Lindsay Palmer and Andrea Piper: Victims (not juvenile offender victims);
- Russell Hauge: Reporting, Investigation/Victim Response; Prosecution/Adjudication;
- Brad Meryhew: Supervision
- Peggy and Department of Corrections Member: Incarceration and Reentry/Determinate Plus (ISRB)/Supervision
- Maureen Saylor: What does a Treatment Course Look Like for Adults and Juveniles and What are the tools used; and
- Shoshana Kehoe-Ehlers/Shannon Hinchcliffe: Juvenile SOM

IV. 2009 SOPB LEGISLATIVE REPORT ~ INCLUDING BENCHMARKS WORK

The Committee started discussing this agenda item. The introduction of the 2009 end-of-year Report to the Legislature should include the need to shift the paradigm to reintegration to treatment and reintegration and get away from the stranger danger; to the standard offender in the system and the day-to-day services that are necessary. Look at it terms of community safety; and the fact that the labeling process likely drains resources from public safety resources.

V. REENTRY AND SUPERVISION ~ NEXT STEPS

Revisit at the next meeting.

VI. SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT PROVIDER SURVEY ~WHERE IT FITS IN BENCHMARKS' WORK

The Committee discussed the WSU's findings in its sex offender treatment provider survey on sex offender reentry and supervision.

The Committee members provided some helpful feedback. They recognized that this was just a pilot project to determine if this survey style data gathering tool is effective. There was some surprise and concern that WSU found gaps in communication between Treatment providers and DOC/CCO's. Because treatment is a community issue as well, these results will be shared with the SOPB Sex Offender Community Committee

The SOPB will request that WSU include an executive summary in their final SOTP survey report.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business raised by the members.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made during this period.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Emery adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE BENCHMARKS COMMITTEE

Bev Emery

Date

Shoshana K. Kehoe

Date

