

Agenda

2026 WCJC – Full Council Meeting

May 27, 2026 at 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

In person option: Holmes & Shipley Room
4500 SW Research Way Corvallis OR 97333

Meeting Room is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

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Meeting ID: 844 7001 1831

(Chair May Alter the Agenda)

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes for the February 25, 2026 Full Council Meeting and the April 22, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting
3. Juvenile Services and Local School Districts Roundtable – Gabe Shepherd, Board of Commissioners; Derik Hering, Juvenile Services
4. Other
5. Adjournment

MINUTES
2026 WCJC - Full Committee Meeting
February 25, 2026 at 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Gabe Shepherd, Jason Harvey, Ryan Joslin, Joel Pickerd, Luis Maciel, John DeVaney, Derek Hering, Fredreick Edwards, Jef Van Arsdall, Rick Crager, Marilyn Smith, Marcia Harnden, James Yon, Jay Hughes, Ian Kellems, Jennifer Humphreys, Melissa Harder, Karsen O'Bryan, Keri Smith, Merideth Schrepfer, John Phillips IV, Scott Smith

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes: January 28, 2026.

MOTION: Crager motioned to approve the January 28, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Committee Introductions

Introductions were made.

3. Updates from the Executive Committee Meeting

Shepherd reviewed the previous Executive Committee meeting discussion and action items. Attorney General Dan Rayfield was unable to visit this meeting and staff will work to reschedule a future meeting Rayfield can attend.

4. Overview of the Work of the Willamette Criminal Justice Council (WCJC)

Shepherd shared a presentation, discussed the functions of a Local Public Safety Coordinating Council and the structural changes to WCJC.

DeVaney described the Justice Reinvestment Program (JRP) funded pretrial services managed by the jail. The jail operates up to 10 ankle monitors that are ordered by the court. Law enforcement is alerted for victim proximity or exclusion-zone violations. The

ankle monitors integrate the Ally application, which allows victims of the those wearing the monitors to see the bracelet's location and receive proximity alerts. For individuals not on ankle monitors, weekly, biweekly, and monthly check-ins verify compliance and connect them with needed resources to maintain compliance with their court ordered conditions. Pretrial services previously utilized a court reminder system, but after July 2025, the courts moved to automatic enrollment and the jail did not want to duplicate the court's system.

Pickerd outlined two current JRP funded programs. The Transitional Housing program, which utilizes 15% of the total grant award, provides housing support for individuals reentering from the Department of Corrections who do not have housing and who contractually agree to program rules. This program recently expanded to include Adult Treatment Court candidates. Approximately 6% of JRP grant funding is used for Treatment Programming, which funds a trained parole and probation deputy to facilitate cognitive behavioral therapy to address risky behavior of an individual and improve behavior outcomes. Additional funding of the JRP award is reserved for victim services and approximately 21% supports Parole and Probation programs, with the remainder supporting jail-based services. The estimated annual award of approximately \$500,000 is split between the Jail, Parole and Probation, and Victim Services. Funding for Victim Services is routed to the District Attorney's Office advocates.

Edwards asked if pretrial services provided by the jail are offered to juveniles.

Van Arsdall stated the jail does not work with youth in that capacity, and any services would need to be offered by the Juvenile Department.

Edwards asked if the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community partake in any of the program services.

Van Arsdall confirmed that anyone who is released from prison, the Benton County jail, or a court hearing have access to the same resources.

Hughes asked if it was possible to use the ankle monitors for house arrest as a sentence option.

Van Arsdall stated the idea had not yet been discussed, but will look into it.

S. Smith asked about the current stage for the JRP's biennium budget and how the upcoming budget is developed.

Van Arsdall stated in previous years, former Commissioner Xan Augerot and Van Arsdall would work on the budget, then present it to WCJC for review and approval.

Pickerd added during the 2025-27 budget, the Sheriff's Office received a semiannual report, which assists in determining funding results and a mission evaluation.

Crager asked if regional approaches are allowed for a JRP.

Pickerd believed a regional group cannot not exist, because the grant was awarded specifically to Benton County. Pickerd requested a discussion regarding the utilization of JRP funding at an upcoming WCJC meeting.

Shepherd agreed.

DeVaney mentioned the Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) program at the jail has extra dosages of Sublocade that are expiring at end of April. The program is figuring out how to utilize the medication before it expires.

Joslin asked about the program limitations for utilizing the Sublocade shots.

DeVaney stated the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has specific requirements the prescribing doctor for the program has to follow.

Joslin mentioned the Deflection program and Drug Treatment program could potentially utilize the extra dosages.

DeVaney discussed the logistics if the programs had a need.

Shepherd reviewed the LPSCC membership structure, the WCJC bylaws, which were updated in 2025, and the members of the executive and full council committees. Shepherd reviewed topics that were discussed during the executive session meeting for upcoming WCJC meetings. Shepherd asked for additional suggestions from committee members.

Edwards expressed support in discussing Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activity in Oregon.

Yon expressed support for ankle monitoring in place of the jail for certain crimes.

Shepherd asked about the relationship between the Juvenile Department and the local school districts, and if it were possible to engage in that discussion by inviting all of the superintendents within the community to a meeting.

Crager agreed and suggested starting conversations with an overview of the current data.

Harder believed the Corvallis School District had a positive relationship with the Juvenile Department and agreed it would be an important topic to invite the surrounding superintendents to discuss.

Phillips IV discussed the Oregon Youth Authority and the importance of communication between the schools and juvenile services.

S. Smith asked if the CJC has any language that limits the direction of funding towards juvenile services.

Pickerd was not aware of any limitations that addressed juveniles.

5. Other

No other business was discussed.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Gabe Shepherd, Chair

MINUTES
2026 WCJC - Executive Committee Meeting
April 22, 2026 at 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Gabe Shepherd, Chair; Jason Harvey, Vice Chair; Ryan Joslin, District Attorney; Jef Van Arsdall, Sheriff; Joel Pickerd, Sheriff's Office; April Holland, Health Services; Rick Crager, Board of Commissioners Office; Keri Smith, Benton County Circuit Court; Jay Hughes; Fred Edwards; Luis Maciel, Oregon Youth Authority; Derik Hering, Juvenile Services

Guests: Zack Reeves, CFM Advocates; Scott Smith; Shelby Shulpe

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Shepherd called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes for the February 25, 2026 Full Council Meeting
Removed from the agenda**

The approval of the February 25, 2026 Full Council meeting minutes was moved to the next Full Council meeting on May 27 to be voted on.

**3. Legislative Updates Regarding Criminal Justice – Zack Reeves, CFM
Advocates**

Democrats hold a supermajority in both chambers; however, Oregon requires a two-thirds majority present on the floor to conduct business. Democrats have not met the two-thirds requirement in either chamber, thus requiring at least two Republicans present to provide quorum for the House and the Senate. Oregon voters passed a ballot measure approximately two years ago that limits the number of unexcused absences each legislator can have to 10 each session before becoming ineligible to run for reelection. Short sessions, limited to 35 days, were created in 2010 to balance the biennial budget that is crafted during the long session in odd number years. Since its inception, the short session has been more commonly used to pass bills at a quicker rate due to the shortened timeline. Those bills can then be reexamined during the long session.

Reeves stated the predominant issue of the 2026 short session was the management of budget challenges tied to federal tax changes. The actual amount of cuts made were less than originally expected. Lawmakers passed Senate Bill 1507, which disconnected the State from a number of federal tax changes. This saved the State approximately \$300 million in tax revenue that would have been lost from changes in the federal tax code. Balancing the budget relied on: holding positions vacant, reducing agency spending, and shifting and backfilling existing funds.

Reeves reviewed items regarding public safety that were discussed and voted on during the 2026 short session. Senate Bill (SB) 1516 dealt with regulating the use of automatic license plate readers. There is concern about the potential use of data collected from the license plate readers being shared with federal immigration authorities. SB 1516 was negotiated during the session to become implementable by local public safety agencies, and reasonable with data type and storage requirements. The excluded uses of the data collected include anything contrary to Oregon Shield Law and additional demographic data is not allowed to be shared. SB 1570 requires hospitals to create policies for protocols when law enforcement is involved; it is a response to federal law enforcement presence in healthcare facilities. SB 1537 has been considered over several sessions; it relates to a new category of crime for threats made to public officials. The bill has not yet moved forward, but will likely return in 2027. House Bill (HB) 4148 passed, which changes the allocation of locally collected transient lodging taxes from 70/30 to 50/50; the additional funds to local governments will be spent on responses to tourism in communities.

The 2027 session will begin in approximately nine months. Issues that will potentially be discussed in 2027 include: Cryptocurrency kiosk regulation or prohibition, peer support confidentiality legislation fix, drone use expansion, and an additional Benton County Circuit Judge position. Reeves believed that the judicial positions are usually added on an as-need basis based on case volume. State agencies are currently compiling their ideal budgets for the 2027-29 biennium, then sending it to the Governor. The Governor then packages all of the agency requested budgets into a Governor's requested budget that is released in December to mark the beginning of the budget discussions. The Chief Justices' recommended budget is considered a more low-profile document, but it is where the court positions are housed. The Chief Justice will submit the budget package to the legislator, who then crafts the budget for the Judicial Branch. Reeves stated if WCJC is interested in advocating for an additional judge in Benton County, the advocacy process should begin with the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD) sooner rather than later.

Shepherd stated the addition of a fourth judge in Benton County is an item WCJC discussed in 2025; Circuit Court judges have expressed interest in the idea as well. Shepherd asked K. Smith about the feasibility to advocate for a fourth judge given that the County may have 3.5 FTE in judges when Judge Demarest transitions into a senior judge position to administer the Adult Treatment Court program.

K. Smith does not know what FTE Judge Demarest will have after the end of the year; that information will need to be confirmed. K. Smith believes the County has a need for

a fourth judge, but suggested Shepherd reach out to Judge Donohue regarding the specifics.

Shepherd agreed.

Van Arsdall expressed a concern that if the County obtains a fourth judge, the jail will need to become a priority to accommodate for an increased processing rate.

Joslin agreed that there needs to be a fourth judge and a new correctional facility. Best case scenario, the new facility would happen a few years after the addition of a fourth judge.

Shepherd is not confident the bid for a fourth judge will succeed, but beginning the planning process now will assist later on as the process moves forward.

Hughes confirmed support if there is a request for a fourth judge.

Shepherd suggested meeting with Reeves and Harvey to strategize and then report back to WCJC.

Joslin offered court data reports to assist with the process.

Harvey asked about the concerns regarding drone use.

Reeves stated there were concerns regarding the use of drones for immigration purposes.

The Sheriff's Office has two drone groups: Patrol and Search and Rescue; the groups have differing rules on drone usage. Van Arsdall discussed the importance of drone usage as an asset to the Sheriff's Department and offered to provide Reeves with more information regarding how the Sheriff's Office drones are used.

4. Other

Shepherd reviewed the 2026 WCJC agenda schedule with the committee.

5. Adjournment

Chair Shepherd adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Gabe Shepherd, Chair
