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## Josephine (JO) County (CO) Justice System (JS) & Public Safety Services (PSS)

### JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services<sup>1-4</sup>

The 2012 expiration of federal funding for services resulted in two JO CO proposed levies as a solution. They both failed. “Is JO CO providing a minimally adequate level of public safety services?”

### JO CO Board of County Commissioners

<http://www.co.josephine.or.us/SectionIndex.asp?SectionID=104>

The Board of Commissioners is the governing body of Josephine County. All commissioners are elected on a non-partisan basis.

**Simon Hare Chair Commissioner** Southern Oregon native, Simon Hare and his family have a long history and deep roots in Josephine County. His grandfather, Edward Hare, moved the family to the Illinois Valley and the "Oxbow Ranch" from the Napa Valley in 1958.

He spent his childhood on the family's cattle ranch with his parents, Denny & Evie and his brother David and sister Maria. Starting with 4-H and later in high school with FFA, he cultivated a connection to the land and a love for farming and agriculture. He continues to spend much of his free time replacing fences and keeping things running on the family farm.

This fondness for a rural lifestyle played a significant role in his decision to attend Oregon State University... not their history of winning college football games. While in college he was able to pursue one of his lesser-known talents as a singer in OSU's Chamber & Jazz Choirs. During his Junior year he was honored to lead the prestigious choral department by being elected President.

In 2002 he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business. After spending the summer working on the ranch he traveled east to fill a position as a legislative intern in Senator Gordon H. Smith's Washington, D.C. Office. His desire to make a difference in rural America, lead him to a position with the Rural Electric Cooperative Association. He spent 6 years with NRECA's government relations office, working on rural electric cooperative legislative issues.

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## Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee (HJSEC)

**Hare** (continued) In 2008 he returned to Oregon looking for a change of pace and to be closer to home. The degraded state of the community was the inspiration that moved him "off the couch" and into the arena of local politics.

Commissioner Hare took office after winning the general election for position #1 in January 2011. Since that time he's piloted very challenging times in Josephine County. He continues to be a proponent of small, fiscally responsible government, a long-term funding solution for the county.

**Cherry Walker Vice Chair Commissioner** For 30 years Cheryl has worked to improve the quality of life for people living in rural communities through access to education and health care, and increased economic opportunities.

Graduated from Arizona State University, magna cum laude, with a BS degree in Agriculture Industry, Cheryl worked with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) where she started as an Agriculture Management Specialist in the 1970s. She later managed a statewide program of property management and contracting services for the USDA. She transferred to Oregon in 1988 where she accepted a position as Hearings Officer for the National Appeals Staff of the Farmers Home Administration (USDA). Cheryl also received a Certificate in Administrative Law Adjudication from the National Judicial College, Reno, Nevada and attended Willamette University College of Law.

In 2000 Cheryl was elected to the Oregon State Legislature where she served until January, 2003. During the 2001 legislative session she was Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil Law and served on four other committees.

In 1999 Cheryl spent six weeks in southern Africa where she explored and documented the culture and economy in four different nations: South Africa; Zimbabwe; Namibia; and, Botswana. In February 2003 she traveled to Cuba with her husband where she studied the government, culture, and healthcare system. She has also traveled in England, Scotland and made two trips to Mexico, one as a Rotary International Group Study Exchange Leader to study the rural culture. In 2007 she and her husband returned to Africa for six weeks and located a village in Botswana where they built a day care center that was completed in 2010, with an afterschool program for AIDs orphans aged 6 – 12.

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## JO CO Board of County Commissioners (BCC)

**Walker** (continued) Since 1988 Cheryl has worked on various community projects in the Rogue Valley and has served on the boards of many local non-profit organizations. She also served as Chair of the Josephine County Planning Commission and as a member of the Josephine County budget committee. Her dedication to our community is evident in her involvement in many local organizations and charitable events including: American Association of University Women; Zonta Club of Grants Pass; Bright Futures Foundation; Rotary Club of Grants Pass; Josephine Community Library; to name a few.

Her interests include photography, travel, reading and keeping in touch with her children and 12 grandchildren.

**Keith Heck Commissioner** Born in Wisconsin to a dairy farmer and his wife, Keith's family moved to Mentone, CA where he lived until age 17 when he enlisted in the USMC. Upon honorable discharge he and Carol were married in 1963, adopted their two children, Cary and Renee', from whom they enjoy 8 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. He served as a pastor for 29 years.

Keith and Carol, along with their grandson Reid, moved to Josephine County in 1996. He pastored Sovereign Grace Baptist Church for 2½ years as well as starting as the Executive Director of the Gospel Rescue Mission in 1997. He has served on a wide variety of community non-profit boards.

He looks forward with a great sense of optimism to our County's future. "A more responsive community to being actively involved in serving and solving problems I have not seen. Together we can accomplish much for the benefit of all in our wonderful County."

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1. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS). July 9, 2013. *Justice System Exploratory Committee*. Hugo, OR.

2. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission*. Hugo, OR.

3. HNA&HS. July 9, 2013. *All Voters & Votes Are Legitimate*. Hugo, OR.

4. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Government Needs Support*. Hugo, OR.

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## Exploratory Committee's Mission

**Mission** An independent Justice System and Public Safety Services Exploratory Committee (*Exploratory Committee*) to investigate the JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) issue was formed under the leadership of the Hugo Neighborhood Association and Historical Society (HNA&HS).

Big picture ideas for the exploratory effort include the following.

1. Identifying the JS&PSS issue.
2. Identifying the JS&PSS sub-issues for research and analysis.
3. Identifying a range in level of services
4. Identifying a range of cost for services.
5. Identifying revenues for services.

The ultimate goal is an adequate justice system and public safety services. Is it possible to have a higher level of service for a lower cost? The purpose of the *Exploratory Committee* is to gather information adequate enough to understand the JS&PSS issues. This includes educational outreach efforts.

The *Exploratory Committee's* purpose is limited to investigating and researching the JS&PSS issues. It will not make evaluations of right or wrong, nor make recommendations on how to vote.

The contents of this brochure are expressions of the opinions and beliefs of those that contribute based on their thoughts and experiences. Hopefully, their efforts will assist the public toward informed decision-making.

- Donations Are Not Tax Deductible -

Edited by Mike Walker, Member, Exploratory Committee

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### HNA&HS Officers

Wayne McKy, Chair  
Lis Butowitsch, Treasurer  
Mike Walker, Education Chair



### Exploratory Committee Members

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Wayne McKy, Member  
Karen Rose, Web Master  
Jon Whalen, Member

### *Justice System Exploratory Committee*

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/justicesystemexploratorycommittee.htm>

### Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/>

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# JOSEPHINE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Brochure Br. III.D.13.2  
Justice System & Public Safety Services Series



Photo by Bryan Cline

**Very Draft October 3, 2013**

*Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee*