

**Minutes of March 7, 2016 Meeting
Between JO CO Managers & Co-Authors Of *Study Design***

March 8, 2016

Purpose: **Explain Idea For Listening To The Public:** *Study Design* (Appendix A)

Date/Time: Monday, March 7, 2016, 1:30 p.m - 2:15 p.m.

Place/Room: Josephine County Courthouse, Room 157

Participants: Josephine County Management Team; and Co-Authors Of *Study Design*, Jon Whalen and Mike Walker.

Agenda:

The Co-Authors of *Study Design* contacted the members of the Josephine County Management Team as stakeholders in defining JO CO's public safety issue, and in seeking solutions for it as JO CO Managers; they wanted to get together and brainstorm ideas. The Co-Authors of *Study Design* believed that the JO CO Management Team's August 19, 2014 recommended strategy elements to identify mandated and elective PSS (Appendix B) would be foundational in developing a minimally acceptable level of public safety services (MALPSS) analysis. The Co-Authors would be interested in any necessary or mandated services the team's work unit identified.

- Agenda 1. Five (5) minutes for Mike Walker and Jon Whalen to get Management Team back up to speed.
- Agenda 2. Management Team brainstorms for a bit to figure out the most effective way to get information [mandated and elective PSS] to *Study Design*, without it being redundant, superfluous, etc.

13 Participants (Appendix A) At Meeting table clockwise from Jon Whalen:

Nate Gaoiran, Management Team
Larry Graves, Management Team
Sarah Wright, Management Team
John ?, Management Team
Lisa Pickart, Management Team
Jim Goodwin, Management Team
?, Management Team
?, Management Team
Keith Heck, JO CO Commissioner
Diane Hoover, Management Team
Rob Brandes, Management Team
Mike Walker, Co-Author Of *Study Design*
Jon Whalen, Co-Author Of *Study Design*

Absent:

Vic Harris, & Arthur O'Hare

Unknown: Dennis Lewis, Ryan Johnson, Connie Roach, & Robert Rice

Accomplishments:

Agenda 1. Jon Whalen and Mike Walker spent approximately Five (5) explaining their round table thoughts on *Study Design* (Whalen) and minimally acceptable level of public safety services (Walker).

A summary of the questions from the management team and responses from Whalen and Walker over approximately 40 minutes follows.

1. Differences between the Davis's Master's research paper on public opinion, a proposed MALSS educational study, and *Study*. The final *Study* product of *Study Design* is to document a comparison analysis of the "publicly" identified range of alternative solutions for the public safety issue. The *Study* will be accomplished by documenting: 1. the publicly identified issues, range of JS&PSS alternative solutions, and affected conditions; and 2. analyzing the impacts of each alternative evaluated by condition indicators and standards through a combination of citizen input and professional expert investigations. Davis's research paper on public opinion and the proposed MALSS educational study are independent pre-*Study* research projects.

2. Management Team members (MTM) continually asked what Whalen and Walker (W/W) what they wanted. The answer from W/W was the same as their January 20, 2016 letter/email to all MTM.

"We would be interested in any necessary or mandated services your work unit identified."

W/W were not interested in the MTM doing any additional work. They were only interested in any *necessary or mandated services your work unit identified* (from January 20, 2016 letter/email). The reason they used those terms was because of the MTM's recommendation to the JO CO that a future committee perform certain tasks, and the partial response of the Chair of the JO CO Board of County Commissioners (BCC; Appendix B).

- From MTM: **Identify what county services are mandated by state law and what level of those services is optimal.** (emphasis added) Determine what it would cost to provide these **mandated services at an appropriate and sustainable level.** (emphasis added)
- From JO CO Chair of Board of County Commissioners: Commissioner Walker urged the Managers to have ongoing conversations with their liaisons as they move forward and asked them to **provide a one page summary or outline showing what they felt were necessary or mandated services** (emphasis added), anything in their purview and how they thought it should be delivered would be helpful to the Board

The response from the MTM was that they identified *necessary or mandated services* for their work units through the annual JO CO budget process.

W/W further clarified they statement, "*We would be interested in any necessary or mandated services your work unit identified.*", by again defining *Study Design's* purpose which was informed decision-making by the public, especially during levy votes.

W/W shared that many individuals and groups must feel they had another agenda beyond their statement in the January 20, 2016 letter/email to the MTM.

The Hugo JS&PSS Exploratory Committee has been trying to understand the public safety issue since 2013. For example, some of the Committee's core beliefs are that all citizens, voters, votes, and values are legitimate. Our 2015 JS&PSS *Study Design* idea flows from this center, which is a long-term strategy, not a quick fix. The idea's goal is an independent, philanthropic-funded, socio-economic impact *Study* to be researched and written from a neutral point of view. This means representing fairly, proportionately, and, as far as possible, without bias, all public views that have been published by reliable sources on the public safety issue.

In summary, what W/W heard from the MTM was that any *necessary or mandated services* their work unit identified were in their submitted budget documents, and they had not offered any supplemental documentation to the BCC as a result of Cheryl Walker's urging of August 19, 2014. In hindsight, the W/W feels "necessary or mandated services" were the equivalent of the MTM's August 19, 2014 recommended strategy elements for a future committee to identify mandated public safety services. It appears this committee was never formed.

- From MTM: **Identify what county services are mandated by state law and what level of those services is optimal.** (emphasis added) Determine what it would cost to provide these **mandated services at an appropriate and sustainable level.** (emphasis added)

3. MALPSS Educational Study. W/W believe that understanding the public safety issue and designing a solution(s) are complicated tasks. Their rationale for this position is that there are substantial differences between Oregon counties in terms of their geographic and demographic characteristics, historic crime rates, willingness to tolerate certain levels of crime, local priorities, especially past and present funding of various public safety services. For example, given these, and other, substantial differences, how would the Governor of Oregon proclaim a public safety fiscal emergency for one or more counties where fiscal conditions compromise a county's ability to provide a minimally adequate level of public safety services (MALPSS; 2013 Oregon House Bill 3453)? Locally we believe that understanding how to determine whether JO CO is providing the MALPSS is a difficult task indeed. An independent MALPSS educational study, without the governor's intervention, is another proposed OSU RSP project to be completed independent of the *Study*.

4. Studies & Information. Nate Gairan, Director, JO CO Community Corrections, offered to provide several documents describing the JO CO Community Corrections Program. W/W responded that they would be grateful for any vetted information that the MTM felt were applicable to the public safety issue. They would publish it on their "Studies & Information" web page for review and consideration by the future *Study's* Team.

Studies & Information

Justice System Exploratory Committee

Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015

http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JSPSS_Studies.htm

Agenda 2. Management Team brainstorms for a bit to figure out the most effective way to get information to *Study Design*, without it being redundant, superfluous, etc.

Jon and Mike assume agenda item 2 was accomplished after the agenda 1 part of the meeting was over and they left at 2:15 p.m.

Mike and Jon felt the meeting, especially the table talk during the question and answer session, was perfect for their purpose of trying to explain their *Study Design* idea, especially the concept of MALPSS as an educational tool.

Recorders:

Mike Walker, Chair
JS&PSS Exploratory Committee
Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

Jon Whalen, Member
JS&PSS Exploratory Committee
Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

Email copies:

c/o Rob Brandes, Director
Josephine County Public Works Department
JO CO Management Team

Keith Heck, Commissioner
Josephine County, Oregon

Appendix A. Handout For March 7, 2016 “Study Design” Explained To Josephine County Management Team

03/07/2016. Explain "Study Design" To Josephine County Management Team

Public Meeting Presentations

Justice System Exploratory Committee

http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JSPSS_Presentations.htm

Justice System & Public Safety Services *Study Design: 2015*

Hugo JS&PSS Exploratory Committee

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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

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Agenda:

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Agenda 2. Management Team brainstorms for a bit to figure out the most effective way to get information to *Study Design*, without it being redundant, superfluous, etc.

Invited Participants of the Management Team: On January 20, 2016 thirteen members of the Josephine County Management Team were invited by individual letter/email to have a meeting with the Hugo JS&PSS Exploratory Committee.

Rob Brandes, Director, Josephine County Public Works Department; Sarah Wright, Parks Manager, Josephine County Parks; and Arthur O’Hare, Finance Director, Josephine County Finance Department responded. During the response period Rob Brandes ended up coordinating a combined meeting for all the management team invited. He set the date and the agenda which was agreed to by the Committee. The date was set for March 7, 2016 and it occurred on that date.

The numbers before the names represent the enquiry letters in serial order sent by the Committee requesting a meeting.

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|-----|--|-----|---|
| 38. | Rob Brandes, Director
JO CO Public Works Dept. | 45. | Vic Harris, Forestry Program Supervisor
JO CO Forestry |
| 39. | Nate Gairan, Director
JO CO Community Corrections | 46. | Ryan Johnson, Building Operations Manager
JO CO Building Operations &
Maintenance |
| 40. | Diane Hoover, Director
JO CO Public Health | 47. | Connie Roach, Assessor
JO CO Assessor’s Office |
| 41. | Dennis Lewis, Director
JO CO Planning Office | 48. | Arthur O’Hare, Finance Director
JO CO Finance Department |
| 42. | Sarah Wright, Parks Manager
JO CO County Parks | 49. | Robert Rice, Building Official
JO CO Building Safety |
| 43. | Jim Goodwin, Director
JO CO Juvenile Justice | 50. | Lisa Pickart, Program Manager
JO CO Veterans Service Office |
| 44. | Larry Graves, Director
JO CO Airports | | |

Appendix B. JO CO Management Team. August 19, 2014. Exhibit A. *Managers Recommendation on Strengthening County Services.*

See JO CO Management Team's recommendations at http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JSPSS_Studies.htm. Selected statements from the recommendations follow.

- It is imperative that the problem solving process be open and inclusive of all segments of our community. The problem of diminished county government services cannot be solved exclusively from within county government. Proactive citizen involvement is crucial as we all work together to chart the course for our future.
- **The citizens of Josephine County need to be clearly shown the benefit (and potential loss) of county services.** (emphasis added)
- A Proposed Strategy. We are proposing a problem solving strategy that focuses on both the immediate problem and also one that will offer solutions for the long term. We believe it is imperative that solutions to the problem of financing county services must be arrived at through a collaborative process involving the public and private sectors. Therefore, we think the keystone of a strategy to strengthen county services should be the formation of an ad-hoc citizen committee with expert leadership and representation from the public and private sectors. The mission of the committee would be to come up with short and long term actions that should be taken to strengthen county services. The committee should be free to consider all options. To that end, the committee will need the resources to assess the problem, consider alternative solutions, establish priorities, and to engage the public in understanding and ultimately supporting the chosen solutions for the health and stability of our County as a whole. The County should provide the resources the committee will need to do its work (possibly by utilizing economic development funds and a professional moderator). Some of the specific tasks, at a minimum, the committee should be asked to undertake are the following.
 - **Identify what county services are mandated by state law and what level of those services is optimal.** (emphasis added) Determine what it would cost to provide these **mandated services at an appropriate and sustainable level.** (emphasis added)
 - **Identify what other county services may be desired by the citizens of the county.** (emphasis added) Determine what it would cost to provide these elective services at an appropriate and sustainable level.

September 3, 2014 *Approved Minutes of August 19, 2014 JO CO BCC's Weekly Business Session. Grants Pass, OR.* http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JSPSS_Studies.htm

General Discussion: August 19, 2014, 11:00 am.— BCC Conference Room
Commissioners Cherry) Walker, Keith Heck, and Simon G. Hare; Linda McElmurry, Recorder
Chair Cherry) Walker called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. See minutes of August 19, 2014 meeting at http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/JSPSS_Studies.htm. Selected statements from the minutes follow.

Managers Recommendation on Strengthening County Services, Exhibit A. Rob Brandes, Public Works Director explained that the genesis of this document was that they, as Department Heads and Program Managers wanted to show their support for the Board and encourage them to take broad steps. He said they were behind the Board with their professional expertise and suggested a good strong first step would be to prepare a draft budget for next year so they were not scrambling in March. He felt the Board needed a lot of institutional knowledge so they would be making a conscious effort to supply the Board with data. The Managers felt there was a need for citizen input because the budget shortcomings would affect the citizens. They will do as much as they can to reach out to those businesses that are affected.

Commissioner Walker urged the Managers to have ongoing conversations with their liaisons as they move forward and asked them to provide a one page summary or outline showing what they felt were necessary or mandated services (emphasis added), anything in their purview and how they thought it should be delivered would be helpful to the Board.