

JAIL OPERATING CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(JOCAC)

Monday, January 5, 2026, 1:00 PM

Hybrid from the John Gumm Building and Civic Center, Scott Jorgensen, Nancy Ward, Rosemary Lohrke, Dan Clark, Margaret Magruder, James Macfarlane, Sarah Hanson, Amy Hansford, Lindsay Elder, and Jacyn Normine met for the scheduled JOCAC meeting.

Call Meeting to Order

Scott Jorgensen called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Commissioner Claire Hall. Claire passed away late last night at Providence Hospital in Portland. She served as a Lincoln County Commissioner for over 20 years. Claire prioritized others before herself, led with kindness, and created countless services to improve the lives of her community.

Approve Agenda

Nancy Ward moved to approve the agenda as presented. Rosemary Lohrke seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

Election of Officers

Scott Jorgensen announced he would be willing to serve as Chair for 2026/2027.

Nancy Ward moved to nominate Scott Jorgensen as the JOCAC Chair. Rosemary Lohrke seconded. All in Favor. The motion carried.

Rosemary Lohrke moved to nominate Claire Catt as Vice Chair for 2026/2027. Nancy Ward seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

Welcome, New Finance Director Amy Hansford

Chair Jorgensen introduced Amy to the JOCAC members. Amy provided a brief background on her work history and how she came to live here in St. Helens—excited to be here. Amy began as the County Finance Director in early December 2025.

Visitor Comments – 3-minute limit

No visitor comments.

Approve Minutes from the August 25, 2025, meeting

Nancy Ward moved to approve the October 6, 2025, minutes as presented. Rosemary Lohrke seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

Assistant Finance Director, Lindsay Elder

Financial Report Review. Lindsay provided Q1 and Q2 FY 25/26 reports. She explained that she printed the Q2 report this morning and that it was only a draft. A discussion was held regarding the timeline for finalizing the quarterly report. After the discussion, Nancy Ward moved to change the regular scheduled meetings to the third (3rd) Monday of each quarter (Jan., April, July, & November) contingent on it working with Claire Catts' schedule. Rosemary Lohrke seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

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Discussion Items

Amendment to JOCAC Ordinance

County Counsel, Sarah Hanson, provided a draft Ordinance 2026-1, " In the Matter of Amending the Columbia County Jail Operating Fund Advisory Committee Ordinance". JOCAC reviewed the proposed Ordinance that would change committee seats from nine (9) to five (5).

A discussion was also held on whether the Chair and Vice Chair should serve one (1)- or two (2)- year terms, and whether the term expirations should remain on June 30 or be amended to December 31, 2025, with election of Chair and Vice Chair to coincide with term expirations. From a financial standpoint, it would not make a difference either way.

Sheriff Pixley would like to add a requirement to the Ordinance that all JOCAC members tour the jail facility within three (3) months of their appointment to the advisory committee.

Counsel will prepare the Ordinance 2026-1 with changes and present it to the County Commissioners for Approval.

County's Process for Volunteer Appointments

A discussion was held on the volunteer appointment process. Following the discussion, JOCAC determined that the current process is acceptable. Still, they would like to see something in writing and an acknowledgment form confirming that the applicant has read the purpose of the committee, board, or commission before requesting recommendations. County Staff will develop the written process and an acknowledgment form to be included in the volunteer application.

Captain Macfarlane

Updates from Captain Macfarlane covered staffing: a couple of deputies are currently attending the academy, and a couple more will participate in a couple of months. And the jail's video storage project. Cameras operate 24/7 in the jail, and footage is used for training and security purposes. The current storage program is failing, and the new video storage project is underway.

A moment of silence was held in memory of John Ray, who passed away on December 11, 2025. John Ray was a gifted man; there was nothing he could not do. John Ray started full-time in the Jail in July 2017. John Ray is leaving behind a legacy of commitment and service.

Commissioner Magruder

Thanked everyone for their participation today and encouraged them to teach others about their communities and get them involved.

County Counsel, Sarah Hanson

With no specific comments, Sarah asked whether anyone had any questions for her. With no questions, we moved on.

Other Business

- JOCAC has requested a special meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. to sit with Sheriff Pixley and go through his budget one-line item at a time. If they have specific questions, they were asked to email Sheriff Pixley or Jacyn Normine in advance so he would have the information at his fingertips. A Special Meeting Notice will be issued.
- The next regular scheduled meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., Contingent on Clarie Catt's schedule.

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ADJOURN

With no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Under ORS 192.640(1), the right to reserves the right to consider and discuss additional subjects that may arise after the agenda is published, in either open or executive session.

NOTE: blue hyperlinks are live documents; select Ctrl + Click to follow the link.

DRAFT