

Wyoming Court Security Commission
Minutes
August 3, 2016

The Wyoming Court Security Commission met on August 3, 2016. In attendance were Director Guy Cameron, Chair, Justice William U. Hill, Judge Wes Roberts, Judge Marv Tyler, Representative Mark Baker, Sheriff Skip Hornecker, and Commissioner Mike Colling. Joe Hartigan, Doug Gumm, Scott Ramsey and Ronda Munger also attended.

Call the Meeting to Order

Director Guy Cameron welcomed everyone and began the meeting by a review of the April 13, 2016 minutes. Corrections were discussed to the minutes. Justice Hill moved and Commissioner Colling seconded a motion to adopt the minutes as amended. The Commission approved the April 13, 2016 minutes as amended on a unanimous vote.

WGA and CCJ/COSCA Conferences in Jackson

Ronda Munger briefed the Commission on the Wyoming Governor's Association (WGA) meeting in June, which was held in Jackson; she also discussed the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) meetings which were held in Jackson in July. The WGA was June 11th through the 14th. Ten individual Governors were in attendance at the conference. The CCJ/COSCA Conference was held July 23rd through the 27th. Forty-six Chief Justices and forty-three State Court Administrators were in attendance. The conferences each posed security challenges, but the Wyoming Highway Patrol and the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security teamed up and both events went off without a hitch. K-9 units and the PRND security protections were implemented and a good, safe time was had by all. On behalf of the Wyoming Supreme Court, Ronda thanked Director Cameron and his team for their work in making the conferences such a huge success.

2015 Wyo.Sess.Laws 477-Courthouse Security Assessments

Director Cameron began his update by expressing his gratitude to the Wyoming Legislature for playing such a critical part in the security improvements that the eight counties have been able to make to the courthouses. Ronda Munger provided an update on the funding expenditures in the following counties:

- Fremont County - The work for the new Justice Center in Fremont County Riverton has been completed.
- Sweetwater County - The construction of a new Justice Complex has begun. The completion of the project is anticipated at the end of 2017 or early in 2018. The Legislature approved approximately 3.4 million dollars for this project. Sweetwater County will provide the rest of the funding, and the total project is expected to cost about 20 million dollars.
- Goshen County – Improvements have been made to the existing courthouse in the amount of \$35,000.
- Albany County – Albany County has been approved for \$95,000 in security upgrades and they have completed about \$15,000 worth of improvements so far.

- Crook County – Security upgrades in the amount of \$85,000 have been approved, and they have spent \$76,000 so far.
- Niobrara County – Security upgrades in the amount of \$74,000 were approved and they have completed about \$35,000 worth of improvements so far.
- Platte County – Approved for \$62,000 and have spent approximately \$47,000 so far.
- Weston County – will be making an application for funds soon.
- Big Horn County – will be making an application for funds soon.
- Park County – Park County had a 50/50 matching scheme and is not sure when or if the appropriated funds will be requested.

At this time, the Legislature has appropriated over seven million dollars over the last several years. The funds discussed will revert if they are not spent by June of 2018. Ronda commended the Commission and the role it has played in the success of the courthouse security assessments and improvements to date.

The Wyoming Supreme Court received another \$50,000 grant from the State Justice Institute to assess another seven counties – Converse, Carbon, Sheridan, Hot Springs, Washakie, Uinta, and Lincoln. Those assessments will be completed in the fall of 2016 and the reports are anticipated to be completed in March or April of 2017. The first round of onsite assessments will begin the week of August 8, 2016, in Converse and Carbon Counties. During the onsite assessments, all courthouse stakeholders will be invited to a kickoff meeting so that they are informed about the process. There will also be onsite assessments done the week of September 19, 2016 and the week of October 24, 2016.

Another source of funding that could be available to the counties is offered through a grant process with Wyoming Office of Homeland Security. Those funds are a separate resource from the state funding discussed. A county can apply through Homeland Security for funds for projects in accordance with grant guidance and participation in the local government annual THIRA (Threat Hazard Identification Risk Assessment).

Annual Reports

Every year, the Local Court Security Committees are asked to provide a report by July 1st. This year, 22 reports have been received thus far and the other two reports are anticipated soon. Director Cameron expressed his appreciation to the local committees and to the judges for taking a leadership role in keeping the courthouses safe. Judge Roberts noted that there is now a circuit judge and a district judge on each of the local committees and he believes that is a good thing. It is his hope that they are all active participants. He also stated that he encourages a diverse membership of county entities and participants. He asked the Commission to take a look at standard 2009-01, which requires the county commissioners to select, appoint and approve in writing the members of the local committees. He believes all those steps are not necessary. He pointed out that there are typically county commissioners on the local committees. Finally, he would like to see the local committees identify, by title, the members of the committees.

The Commission is required by statute to report to the Governor, the Chief Justice, the Joint Judiciary, and the Joint Appropriations on its progress throughout the year. Ronda Munger and Director Cameron are working on that report, which is due September 1, 2016.

PRND Program Update

Director Cameron provided an update on the Preventative Radiological Nuclear Detection Program (PRND). PRND is an initiative that the Wyoming Office of Homeland Security (WOHS) is pursuing and hoping to implement in the courts across the state. This program is designed to look at the latest threat to security across the nation. WOHS is hoping to provide training statewide on the details of the program. Scott Ramsey is the radiological point of contact for WOHS. He works in conjunction with Doug Gumm, who also works in the radiological program. The Commission was briefed on the proposed training curriculum for the PRND. Regional response teams 1, 7 and 8 have already had training. The Campbell County Sheriff's Office has also already been trained. The PRND program was implemented at the Wyoming High School Finals Rodeo, Western Governors Association annual meeting, the Chief Justices and State Court Administrators meeting, Cheyenne Frontier Days, and in a limited manner, the Central Wyoming Fair and Rodeo. The next step for the program is to develop training materials for the local court security committees and local courthouses, with the intent of presenting the information to the judges and local law enforcement agencies in the near future. The initiative is being supported by WOHS.

Most recently the WOHS provided training on workplace violence. The training included all hazards at work, such as active shooter scenarios and other threats and was rolled out statewide. Director Cameron offered to make copies of the DVD of the training to distribute to all of the judges and clerks of court. Judge Tyler and Judge Roberts both welcomed and encouraged the distribution of the DVD.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Court Security Commission will be held sometime in March or April of 2017.

Commission Adjourned