

**Benton County Law & Justice Council  
Meeting Minutes – 9/14/16**

**Present:** Chris Skinner, City of Richland Police Department  
Shyanne Faulconer, Benton County Community Programs and Public Relations Coordinator  
Craig Littrell, City of Kennewick Police Department  
Paul Parish, City of Kennewick Council Member  
Judge Alex Ekstrom, Benton & Franklin Counties Superior Court  
Pat Austin, Benton & Franklin Counties Superior Court Administrator  
Jacki Lahtinen, Benton County District Court Administrator  
Katy Butler, Benton County District Court Judge  
Ben Majetich, City of West Richland Police Department  
Rusty Morris, Citizen Representative  
Jerry Hatcher, Benton County Sheriff's Department  
Ray Kofoed, Citizen Representative  
Federick Brink, Citizen Representative  
Eric Hsu, Benton County Office of Public Defense  
Karissa Garza, Benton County Office of Public Defense

**Benton County Gang and Crime Prevention Initiative – Shyanne Faulconer**

- RFP – Gang and Crime Prevention Initiative
- Five programs applied for funding
  1. Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) Program
  2. Human Trafficking Survivor Services
  3. Kiona-Benton Crime Prevention Program
  4. Overnight Emergency Youth Shelter
  5. Prosser Boys & Girls Club – Teen Program
- 2016 budget for all programs – 259,027.50.
- Requests for proposals open 9/1/2016 and deadline is 9/30/2016.
- Projects have end date of 12/31/2016 with possible extension, besides Crime Prevention Program which had 2 year contract.
- There will be a new standardized application to fill out, better way of getting information all at once.
- Find a way by social media, or newsletters to get more applications coming in.

**Mental Health – Katy Butler**

- Mental health has been very successful, has had positive feedback. Many participants getting jobs or beginning school.
- 25 Participants
- Wanting to add a peer support staff in near future, add to budget.
- Support from law enforcement, Benton Franklin transportation.
- Struggles are that of, limited treatment services, Medicare and also limited transportation and counseling.

**Public Safety Sales Tax Updates**

- Having an issue with visibility – agenda is published in the newspaper, not very much publicity.
- Office of Public Defense – budgeting for staff and legal assistance support. An increase for Public Defense appointments.
- Sherriff's office – Adding three more officers, detectives and have an inmate program that creates courses for inmates.
- City of West Richland – Four Sergeants and 2 new officers. Also want to increase staff and expand services.
- District Court – Majority of funding is with Mental Health, have hired two more case workers and support staff.
- Superior Court – The 7<sup>th</sup> judge position was filled in October of 2015 and the Adult Drug Court has been restored to its original capacity of 45 participants which reduces the wait list to a reasonable number of individuals. The Court will be requesting to fill the part-time Court Commissioner position in 2017 through the budget process.
- Kennewick – Ten openings for staff, also starting a cadet program for 18 year olds so they have experience and can apply when 21.
- Clerks - Hired staff, although overtime has been an issue because of dockets. Will use half time in next year's budget for additional hiring
- Richland – Six added officers, using funding for park lighting, providing community safety and also making an impact on child safety over the internet.

**Adjourn meeting at 12:45 pm.**