

SKAMANIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
240 NW Vancouver Ave.
Stevenson, WA 98648
Agenda for July 5th, 2023

Commissioner meetings are open to public attendance with limited available seating. If you would like to attend remotely, you may do so by using ZOOM with the following numbers:

To Join with Audio Only:

1 346 248 7799 US 1 312 626 6799 US
 1 646 558 8656 US 1 669 900 9128 US
 1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 889 0632 1210

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88906321210>

If you wish written comments to be listed on the agenda, they need to be submitted to the Clerk of the Board by noon on Wednesday preceding the Tuesday/Wednesday meeting, otherwise they will be held for the following Tuesday/Wednesday. Email comments to: sackos@co.skamania.wa.us When a holiday falls on Monday, the regular meeting is held on Wednesday of that week.

Wednesday, July 5th, 2023

9:30 AM Call to Order
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Public Comment (3 minutes)
 Written Public Comment Submitted by Staci Patton

Voucher Approval

Payroll Approval

Meeting Updates

Adjourn

Note: Agenda subject to change. Times listed are estimates only. The Commission reserves the right to move agenda items as needed and during the meeting, and may add and act on any item not included in the above agenda. Minutes are available at www.skamaniacounty.org on the Commissioners web page. If necessary, the Board may hold executive sessions on scheduled meeting days. Board of Commissioners meetings are recorded and audio may be heard at www.skamaniacounty.org.

Lisa Sackos

From: staci patton [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 12:45 PM
To: Lisa Sackos; Tom Lannen; Asa Leckie; Richard Mahar; Adam Kick; Jeanette Foster; lbutcher@skamaniadvsa.org; Mitch Patton; Pat Rice; Curtis Esch; Liz Green; greg@cheneylawfirm.com; Waters, Rep. Elect Kevin; lynda.wilson@leg.wa.gov; paul.harris@leg.wa.gov; Toby Nixon; Cess Wood; Mosbrucker, Rep. Gina; Corry, Rep. Chris; J Brekke; Farley Dudley; Pedersen, Sen. Jamie; chris.lanz.law.office@gmail.com; todd.pascoe@pascoe-law.com
Subject: Fwd: GREG CHENEY
Attachments: Agreement Renewal - District Court - Indigent Defense.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Lisa,
I am writing to you, because the commissioners rarely respond anymore so I want to make sure my concerns are passed on (since the commissioners are the ones who approve greg cheneys contract).
In his role as a "indigent defense" attorney, public funds are used for him to fight for the rights of one group of people (defendants). In his newly elected role as a state rep (of which again, he is receiving public funds), he is supposed to be fighting for the rights of ALL citizens of Washington....I find this a huge conflict of interest, one that I will be bringing to the attention of the State legislature before the next session starts. I actually do think I remember hearing, during one of the police accountability bill hearings that I watched, a different lawyer making a comment about a proposed bill and another rep saying "dont you have a conflict?". The response if I remember correctly from that lawyer was, they were wrapping up the couple cases they had, and wouldnt be taking anymore cases.
Thank you for always listening to my questions/concerns and being polite to me. It is appreciated.
Staci

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lisa Sackos** <sackos@co.skamania.wa.us>
Date: Thu, Jun 22, 2023 at 10:51 AM
Subject: RE: GREG CHENEY
To: Staci Patton [REDACTED] >

Good morning, Mrs. Patton,

Mr. Cheney's indigent defense contract for District Court goes before the BOCC for approval. I have attached a copy of the most recent contract that was approved on November 22nd, 2022.

Thank you,

**AGREEMENT RENEWAL FOR LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF INDIGENT
PERSONS IN THE SKAMANIA COUNTY DISTRICT COURT AT PUBLIC EXPENSE**

WHEREAS, the Court has set standards and costs to represent indigent persons accused of crimes in Skamania County District Court and

WHEREAS, the Court believes that a contract on the terms and conditions proposed would be in the best interest of justice, and financially advantageous to Skamania County, now therefore,

THE COURT herein grants to Greg Cheney the Public Defender contract for a period of 12 months, beginning January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023. Total compensation \$45,600.00, payable in equal installments by the 15th of each month. Greg Cheney shall represent all indigent person entitled to such representation In Skamania County District Court of the State of Washington. In multi-defendant and/or multi-party cases or where conflicts of interest violate the Rules of Professional Conduct, separate counsel shall be appointed and paid for by the Court.


Because Skamania County and the Court are on an annual budget from January 1, of each year, this agreement is deemed to run from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

PROVIDED, cases assigned in 2023 and concluded by March 31, 2024, are considered compensated by contract payments made in 2023. In the event a case assigned in 2023 remains pending after March 31, 2023 for good cause, counsel will be relieved of responsibility or an additional fee arrangement will be negotiated. Greg Cheney's duties include preliminary appearance/arraignment/plea and trial dockets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, as well as those duties set forth in the courts historical request for proposals.

The attorneys providing service under this agreement shall be fully qualified to perform such services per CrRLJ 3.1 and the Washington Standards for Indigent Defense. Individual itemized billings for each client are not required to be submitted to the Court. If the defense caseload increases during 2023 by more than fifteen percent of the prior five -year caseload average, additional compensation may be allocated on a per incident basis. The Court reserves the right to assess attorney's fees to indigent defendants in the Court's discretion.

Due to constitutional and case law interpretation of the right to counsel, the Court reserves the right to terminate this agreement upon a lack of diligence or other cause which would be found to be a failure to provide effective representation.

Dated this 22nd day of November, 2022.




Greg Cheney




Skamania County District Court Judge

SKAMANIA COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Chairman **Richard Mahar**



Commissioner **Robert Hamlin**

Absent

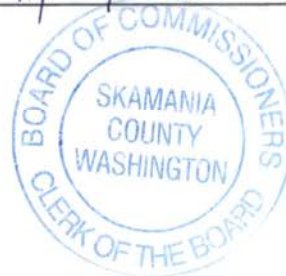
Commissioner **T.W. Lannen**

APPROVED AS TO FORM ONLY:



Prosecuting Attorney

Date 11/22/2022



ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board **Lisa Sackos**