

CASCADE COUNTY DUI TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

May 27, 2014

Law Enforcement Recognition Ceremony

At 3:30 p.m. Task Force coordinator Jerry Kelley welcomed those in attendance to the Law Enforcement Recognition ceremony. The following individuals were recognized for their dedication in combating drunk and impaired driving:

Cascade County Sheriff's Office: **Deputy Steve Brunk**

Great Falls Police Department: **Sr. Police Officer Frank Torres**

Adult Probation and Parole: **Officer Kenny Lamere**

Montana Highway Patrol: **Trooper Don Lee**

Trooper Don Lee was not able to attend, so Captain Hitchcock from the Cascade County Sheriff's Office accepted the award on his behalf. The honorees were each presented with a plaque along with gift items donated by Bennett Motors, Crystal Inn, Electric City Conservatory, Fast Car Wash, Fuddruckers, Great Harvest, Heritage Inn, Holiday Inn, State Farm, The Sting, SWAT, and the Town House Inn.

Call to Order

At the conclusion of the Law Enforcement Recognition ceremony, Task Force President Jane Weber called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m. at the Great Falls Pre-Release Center, noting that a quorum was present to conduct business.

1. Roll Call

DUI Task Force Members

Cascade County Attorney designee: Ashley Wilkinson – **Present**

Cascade County Sheriff designee: Deputy Travis Grove – **Excused Absence**

City of Great Falls Chief of Police designee: Captain Tim Shanks – **Present**

Great Falls City Attorney designee: Cassidy Blomgren – **Present**

State of Montana Highway Patrol District II Chief designee: Trooper David Baggs - **Absent**

Great Falls Victim-Witness Services designee: Savannah Hilton – **Excused Absence**

State of Montana Adult Probation and Parole Regional Administrator designee: Wayne Bye – **Present**

Montana Tavern Association Home Safe Program designee: Vince Kyle - **Present**

Gateway Recovery Center designee: Barbara Bessette - **Present**

Benefis Health Systems, Inc. Chemical Dependency Unit designee: J.T. Lute – **Present**

Great Falls Pre-Release Services, Inc. designee: Lisa Meyers - **Present**

Great Falls Public Schools designee: Danielle Funseth – **Present**

Airmen Against Drunk Driving designee: Staff Sergeant Charles Marino Franco – **Absent**

Citizen Members: Jim Whitaker – **Excused Absence**; Corin Fisch – **Present**; Kristi Jo Anderson – **Present**

Cascade County Commissioner: Jane Weber - **Present**

Task Force Coordinator: Jerry Kelley - **Present**

NOTE: Danielle Funseth notified Jane Weber that she will not be in attendance at the June, July, or August meetings.

Members of the Public in Attendance

Donita Morris - Gateway Community Services

2. Approval of Minutes from April 22, 2014

Tim Shanks noted that the April 22, 2014 minutes incorrectly specified that the Drug Recognition Expert Conference would be held in Denver; however it will actually be in Phoenix. Danielle Funseth pointed out that Item #6, Contract of Choice, incorrectly stated that the letter and contract was sent to every 8th grader this spring. However, the letter and contract was actually sent to all 8th, 9th, 10th, and 11th graders for a total of 2,844 students. They will be distributed to all 7th and 8th graders in the fall. **JT Lute motioned to accept the minutes dated April 22, 2014, as amended. Tim Shank seconded. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.**

3. Financial/Budget Performance Report and Requests for Payment/Purchases

Ashley Wilkinson reviewed the financial information with the Task Force. The only transaction since the last meeting was receipt of \$10,075 for DUI reimbursement fees.

LERC Plaques: Jerry stated that the plaques for the Law Enforcement Recognition ceremony cost \$60 each for a total of \$240. **Tim Shanks moved to approve the purchase of the plaques for the Law Enforcement Recognition ceremony in the amount of \$240. Wayne Bye seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

Tribune Contract: The Task Force discussed the renewal of a contract with the *Tribune* for 6 ads that would be published Memorial Day, the 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, New Year's Eve, and St. Patrick's Day. Jerry Kelley showed Task Force members a sample of the ad which will be slightly different each time. Jane Weber pointed out that this is different than the other monthly ads the Task Force purchases. The cost is \$61 per time for a total of \$366. Mr. Kelley noted that we missed Memorial Day. Jane Weber requested that Jerry Kelley cut out all ads and keep them in a file. Ms. Weber stated that she would like the DUI Task Force Logo in every ad. **JT Lute motioned to renew the contract with the *Tribune* for the ads. Lisa Meyers seconded. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.**

4. Report from the Task Force Coordinator

PSA: Jerry Kelley reported that the Public Service Announcement is complete and has begun airing on television. Task Force members discussed the production and agreed that it was a success. Jerry Kelley thanked Barbara Bessette and Lisa Meyers for helping with it.

Annual Law Enforcement Recognition: Jane Weber thanked Jerry Kelley for organizing the event and acquiring the donations and plaques. Jane Weber thanked Lisa Meyers for handing out the gift bags and Wayne Bye for taking pictures. Mr. Kelley remarked that he is making a "how to list" in order to get more Task Force members involved next year. Jerry Kelley mentioned that he has sent thank you cards to the donors and will submit their names to the newspaper to be acknowledged. Cassidy Blomgren wondered if the Task Force has ever considered recognizing a prosecutor from the City or County Attorney's office. After a short discussion, **Cassidy Blomgren motioned to recognize either a City or a County prosecutor as one of the recipients of the annual Law Enforcement Recognition event. JT Lute seconded. The group discussed and favored recognizing both a City and a County prosecutor. Cassidy Blomgren amended her motion to recognize both a City and a County prosecutor as added**

recipients of the annual Law Enforcement Recognition event. JT Lute seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Community Action Information Board at MAFB: Jerry Kelley reported that he attended a meeting and concluded that he does not see much value in continuing involvement with this group. Topics of discussion include issues on the base such as family violence, drinking and driving, stressors, and reasons people are leaving the military early. Jerry Kelly suggested removing affiliation with the Community Action Information Board from the Annual Plan.

Annual Plan: Jerry Kelley disbursed copies of the Cascade County DUI Task Force's Annual Plan to each member. Jane Weber explained that the Task Force normally approves the plan at the June meeting followed by the County Commission reviewing it and taking action. After that, the Task Force coordinator would send it on to the State. President Weber asked for three volunteers to review and update the plan with Mr. Kelley. Barbara Bessette, Wayne Bye, and Lisa Meyers volunteered. Jane Weber thanked the volunteers and asked that they redline the changes and e-mail it to Task Force Members a week prior to the June meeting.

State Fair Display: Jane Weber commented that in the past the general manager would not allow the crashed vehicle display on the fairgrounds unless someone watched over it at all times. Jane Weber stated that this year the Fair Board is allowing agricultural equipment so she thinks they would allow the crashed vehicle. The group discussed the need for a sign specifying what the display is about, and JT Lute confirmed that there is an educational sign that comes with it. After discussing where the crashed vehicle could be displayed at the fairgrounds, Jane Weber asked Jerry Kelley if he would call the Highway Patrol and ask if it can be near their booth which is across from the Family Living Center. President Weber asked Danielle Funseth to look at the DUI Task Force banner with Jerry Kelley. President Weber asked JT Lute to contact Officer Cal James regarding picking up the display crash vehicle. The fair dates are July 25th through August 2nd, so the crashed vehicle should be in place at the fairgrounds on the 24th. Jane Weber asked JT Lute to give Officer James' contact information to Jerry Kelley for future reference. After discussion and recognizing that key fobs and other trinkets are no longer given away at graduation parties, Jane Weber suggested not purchasing them in the future and giving the ones the Task Force currently has to the Highway Patrol to give away at the fair.

July Meeting: The Task Force discussed whether a meeting is normally held in July, and it was decided that meetings are typically held every month.

5. DUI Stats

Jerry Kelley stated that he did not receive the stats from Travis Grove. Cassidy Blomgren admitted that she did not get the City stats sent to Deputy Grove. Jane Weber asked Jerry Kelley to work with Travis Grove and submit both months of stats at the June meeting.

6. Airman Against Drunk Driving Stats

SSGT Charles Marino Franco did not provide the stats and was not in attendance.

7. Kudo Cards

None were given out. Cassidy Blomgren stated that she is concerned about giving out Kudo cards to witnesses that testify. The Task Force agreed that it would be appropriate to e-mail Jerry Kelley the names of any individuals that were helpful in the prosecution of a case, and he can in turn award a Kudo card to those people. This would only be done after the case is closed.

Sticker Shock Campaign

Danielle Funseth reported on AFY's kid quadrant Sticker Shock campaign. They had 4"x4" stickers printed stating that it is not legal to provide alcoholic beverages to minors. The group received permission from most of the stores in town to place the stickers on their cases of beer. AFY plans to make the Sticker Shock campaign a regular occurrence and will do it again near the 4th of July. Ms. Funseth reported that in the future they want to get the stickers on the cases at the distributors before they reach the stores. They are also going to have table tents made with one side being geared toward parents and one side geared toward kids. Jane Weber wondered if the Task Force can use this as part of its reporting since Danielle Funseth and Barbara Bessette participated. Danielle Funseth responded to the affirmative. Jane Weber stated that she and Jerry Kelley will create an annual report to include these types of stats in addition to the annual plan.

Above the Influence

Barbara Bessette reported that last week was Prevention Week. 120 kids and adults met at Flippin' Family Fun as part of the "Above the Influence" campaign which is led by teens. Ms. Bessette stated that the attendees wrote what they are above and what keeps them drug and alcohol free, etc. Prizes were awarded for answering questions in relation to drugs and alcohol.

National Trails Day

This is June 7th and is sponsored by Get Fit Great Falls in conjunction with Above the Influence. Barbara Bessette reported that they have 12 hikes and 2 bicycle rides planned and will be giving away t-shirts with the Above the Influence logo to the first 75 children who check-in for their hike/bike ride. Ms. Bessette commented that people who are active outside are less likely to get involved in drugs and alcohol. Jane Weber advised that the Task Force can use this activity for reporting purposes.

8. Public Comment

None

Letters to the Editor

June – **Wayne Bye**

July – **Lisa Meyers**

August – **Vince Kyle**

At 4:30 p.m. JT Lute motioned and Danielle Funseth seconded to adjourn the meeting.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 24, 2014, at 3:30 p.m.