

## CASCADE COUNTY DUI TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2014

### **Call to Order**

Task Force President Jane Weber called the meeting to order at 3:30 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 – **Present**

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

**Great Falls City Attorney designee:** Cassidy Blomgren – **Excused Absence**

**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 – **Excused Absence**

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

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

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

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

#### Members of the Public in Attendance

Paul Cory and John Hayes

### **2. Approval of Minutes from May 27, 2014**

JT Lute motioned to accept the minutes dated May 27, 2014, as presented. Wayne Bye seconded. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

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

Ashley Wilkinson reviewed the ledger sheet, pointing out that the plaques for the Law Enforcement Recognition Ceremony were originally \$280.00, but Double G Engraving discounted them to \$240.00. \$61.00 was paid for the May *Tribune* ads. A payment was recently made to Charter Media in the amount of \$1,770.50 for advertising that does not yet show on the ledger.

Jerry Kelley stated that he received a billing statement for future advertising in the CMR Stampede. Mr. Kelley pointed out that the Task Force normally pays those bills at the beginning of the school year in the fall. President Weber asked Jerry Kelley to obtain written bills with the number of issues for the CM Russell *Stampede*, the Great Falls High School *Inawa*, and the Belt High School newsletter and present those for payment at the August DUI Task Force meeting. Barbara Bessette offered to contact Keith Moyer in Belt and ask him to send the Task Force a bill indicating the number of issues.

#### 4. Report from the Task Force Coordinator

**FY 2015 Annual Plan** - Task Force members each received a copy of the 2013-2014 Annual Plan and were asked to submit any suggested changes to Jerry Kelley. A committee consisting of Jerry Kelley, Lisa Meyers, Barbara Bessette, and Wayne Bye had previously reviewed and amended the plan for 2014-2015. Mr. Kelley projected the committee's proposed Annual Plan for 2014-2015 highlighting changes the committee suggested onto a screen and reviewed it with Task Force members at the meeting this date. The following changes were made:

Page 3, Performance Measures, Reduce alcohol related crashes: Jerry Kelley will insert the data for 2013 crashes and footnote the information source.

Page 3, Performance Measures, Assist with conducting a minimum of fifteen Responsible Alcohol Sales "Let's Control It" training sessions per year was changed to read: *Assist with conducting state approved Responsible Alcohol Sales training as needed.*

Let's Control It: Replace *Let's Control It* with *state approved Responsible Alcohol Sales training* throughout the entire document.

Page 3, Program Administration/Coordination: Removed the following two sentences: *Addressing the many problems, methods and processes of this plan requires some expenditures for planning, coordinating and administering. The plan supports a part-time (.25 FTE) coordinator, part-time (.25 FTE) secretary and an occasional statistician.*

Pages 5-8, Graphs: Jerry Kelley stated that he spoke to Pam Buckman who is the Occupant Protection Program Manager from the Department of Transportation, and she told him to leave the graphs as they are.

Page 9, Cascade County Overview: Changed estimated population from 81,327 to 82,384.

Page 9, Paragraph 4: Add the following sentences after *but increased to 163 in 2011:* *The number of alcohol related crashes in Cascade County decreased by 24 comparing 2012's 93 crashes to the 69 in 2013. This was a 25.8% decrease over the previous year.* Mr. Kelley will contact the State Highway Traffic Safety office and get updated information on the county rankings in the state and update this paragraph.

Page 9, Cascade County continues to be challenged with: Replace the numbers with bullets. Change *underage persons in possession to minors in possession.* Remove *"refusals to submit to breath testing"*.

Page 10, Cascade County DUI Arrests: Add: *308 in 2013.*

Page 10, Cascade County Breath Test Refusal Rate: After the first sentence add: *In 2013, that number was 49.3%.*

Page 11, Cascade County's Average BAC: Add: *In 2013 the average BAC was 0.174.*

Page 11, Reduce alcohol-related crashes, Problem: Delete the entire paragraph except: *In 2010 the alcohol-related crash rate decreased 1.1% to 7.3% and decreased again in 2011 to 6.9%.* Add: *There*

was a 25.8% decrease in alcohol related crashes from 2012 to 2013. In 2012, there were 93 alcohol related crashes while only 69 in 2013. Law enforcement agencies arrested 372 drivers for DUI in 2012 and 3089 drivers in 2013. In 2012, there was an average of 31 arrests per month, while in 2013 the average was 26 per month. Although the average was lower, there continues to be a large number of drivers who drink then drive.

Page 11, Process: Add: *social media*.

Page 12, 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph - Process: Replace *High Plains Warrior* with *The Guardian*. Remove *Commander's Calls*. Add *social media*.

Page 13, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph – Process: Replaced 500 “Contracts of Choice” with 400. The actual Contract of Choice will be published as part of the Annual Plan as Page 14.

Page 15, 10<sup>th</sup> paragraph – Process: Replaced *Great Falls Police Department* with *law enforcement*.

Page 16, Process – Recognize the law enforcement: Add: *In addition, a prosecuting attorney will be recognized beginning in 2015. Gifts will be donated from local merchants as well as plaques from the Task Force.*

Page 16, Education Alcohol Sellers - Method: Change 200 clerks to 2,000 clerks. In the first paragraph of the next paragraph of Process, replace *conducting* with *assisting with*.

Page 18: Replacing with 2014-15 Budget.

Pages 19 & 20: Task Force Members' Contact Information will be updated.

Page 21: DUI Task Force Meeting Schedule will be updated.

**Wayne Bye motioned to approve the Cascade County DUI Task Force's Annual Plan for 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015 with the proposed changes. JT Lute seconded. There being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.** Jane Weber stated that the County Commissioners will consider the Annual Plan for approval to be submitted to the State on July 2nd.

**State Fair Display** – Jerry Kelley reported that the Task Force received permission to display the crashed vehicle on the fairgrounds at the State Fair this year. JT Lute will transport the vehicle and submit his mileage for reimbursement. Mr. Lute will pick the vehicle up July 24<sup>th</sup>, which is the day before the fair. It will be parked by the Highway Patrol, and it will not need to be manned. Jane Weber asked Jerry Kelley to call Al Recke and ask him about the location of the informational banner that is always posted with the crash vehicle. The Task Force will supply the Highway Patrol with surplus giveaway key chains, carbineers, flashlights, etc. to distribute. Jerry will keep a supply on hand for distribution throughout FY 2015.

**Concept of a Community Donor Committee** – Jerry Kelley suggested forming a committee to solicit donations as needed. Mr. Kelley commented that we already have 10-12 main contributors. After further discussion, **Kristi Jo Anderson motioned to form a donor committee. Lisa Meyers seconded. Kristy Jo Anderson, Vince Kyle, and Lisa Meyers volunteered to be members of the donor committee. The motion passed unanimously.**

**GF Tribune Monthly Ads** – Jerry Kelley notified the Task Force that it is not under any kind of contract with the *Tribune*. Lisa Meyers met with Trish Russett, who is in charge of advertising and marketing for the *Tribune*, regarding various ways to promote the Cascade County DUI Task Force. Ms. Russett offered to provide the Task Force with a free audit of its website. Lisa Meyers recommends establishing a website wherein the Task Force can easily be found via major search engines. In addition, links to groups related to the Task Force could be on the website. Ms. Meyers learned that the Task Force can purchase a website for \$750.00, and own it after one year. Task Force members agreed to invite Trish Russett to the July meeting to present some options. This would be voted on at the August Task Force meeting. Task Force members discussed other advertising avenues as well as the benefit of continuing to contract with Charter Media in FY 2015.

**Concept of Round Robin** – Jane Weber suggested utilizing a roundtable discussion at each Task Force meeting where each member would take turns bringing up anything DUI related, keeping it to 1 minute or less per person. Task Force members agreed that this would be effective.

#### **5. DUI Statistics and MIP-A Statistics**

Travis Grove reviewed the statistics for April and May with Task Force members. Officer Grove stated that the total DUI arrests for May went up to 38 compared to last year's 27. The average BAC for May increased to 0.176 compared to 0.167 in April.

#### **6. March/April/May Stats from Airmen Against Drunk Driving**

SSGT Charles Marino Franco had provided Jerry Kelley with the information that 6 Airmen called for rides home in April and 22 in May. There were no reported DUI's.

#### **7. Kudo Cards**

No Kudo cards were awarded this past month.

#### **8. Public Comment**

John Hayes commented that the amount of alcohol being consumed in licensed establishments continues to drop every year, adding that the Tavern Association is down 50% in sales in the last 11 years. However, the consumption of alcohol has not decreased, so people are actually drinking elsewhere. Mr. Hayes suggested that good things are happening at the bars because both bartenders and patrons are becoming more aware.

#### **Round Robin**

Tim Shanks mentioned that he is going to jail tomorrow in support of Muscular Dystrophy. Barbara Bessette announced that National Trails Day was June 7<sup>th</sup> and 190 people participated. Gateway Community Services gave away 40 t-shirts to youth with the Above the Influence insignia. Corin Fisch reported on her counseling service's progress of treating people with DUI's.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Jim Whitaker motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m. Vince Kyle seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**    July – **Lisa Meyers**    August – **Vince Kyle**    September – **Travis Grove**

**The next regularly scheduled meeting will be July 29, 2014 a 3:30 p.m.**