



County Mental Health Local Advisory Council

Minutes

Monday, February 6th, 2023

Zoom Virtual meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88465507144?pwd=L1pCL2g2OEVvSzZlCM1M2Qkp2b1ZiQT09>

1:30-3:00pm

Return to: L. Daggett 415 6th Ave. S. Great Falls, MT 59405.



Attendance Randy Lynes, Shown Matsko, Tom Osborn, Ginny Carnes, , Landon Koteski, Susie McIntyre, Capt. John Schaffer, Linda Daggett, Greg Tilton, Commissioner Rae Grulkowski.

Guests Present Cassidy Bloomgren, Julie Prigmore

Call to Order Randy Lynes, Vice Chair, began the meeting at 1:35 PM. Jennifer Whitfield was out of town.

Public Comment There was no public comment.

Introduction Randy introduced and welcomed Commissioner Rae Grulkowski our new Member representing the County Commission. The Members introduced themselves and welcomed her.

Minutes from January 2023 and Finance Report from November, December 2022 & January 2023

Shawn presented Minutes and Finance Report. There were some questions about the financial report. We did spend \$2,000 in mini-grants, but it was unclear what the balance was. The last reported balance in November was \$5,251.67.

Motion & Joint Approval of Minutes and Finances The Minutes and Finance report were approved as presented.

New Business

Board Membership: Randy reported:

- Alluvion: Cassidy, representing Alluvion, has submitted the application and it is pending.
- Legal: Greg reported that Attorney Scott Radford may submit an application. Cassidy will inquire at the County Attorney's office to see if anyone there would be willing to serve on the LAC.

Mini-Grants: Randy reported that Jennifer Whitfield sent an email notification and on Friday, February 3rd, 2023 calling for new proposals that qualify for our \$1,000 mini-grants.

Grant Writing: Greg has been working with a grant-writing team that would be available as resources to other mental-health focused groups to obtain grants.

Continued Business

Strategic Plan – Randy reminded the group that, as part of our plan, we need to update the Resource Guide.

Work Group Update Randy, Ginny, and Greg created a list of community mental health entities to outreach with training and educational links that may benefit them. They will contact the County webmaster to clear sites for use on their webpage.

Website/Facebook Jennifer Whitfield did email Jane Wilson for more information regarding access to the Facebook page.

Representative Reports

North Central MT – Crisis Intervention Collaborative (NCMT-CIC) Captain Schaffer and Cassidy Bloomgren reported:

Mobile Response Team

- The MRT is now considered a necessary part of the Police Dept., rather than an extra service. It has been very beneficial to policing.
- The Team did 317 calls last year.
- They did 162 follow-up calls, an improvement from last year.
- There is more emphasis on syncing with the Sheriff's office to get more out into the County. Landon reiterated the need to get more services to the outlying areas.
- The Collaborative is working with the National Crisis Intervention Collaborative and the State Board met 2 weeks ago to get established. They are getting data collection pieces and other ways of intervention.
- Regarding Peer Support: They need to formalize the use of Peer Supporters, but they will be a part of the follow-up rather than the crisis calls.

Mental Health Court

- There is one person in the Court and they are working to get 2 more. They have seen success with the current person participating.
- Judge Bolstad would like to expand Mental Health Treatment Court.
- To qualify, the participant must have a mental health diagnosis and at least a misdemeanor.
- Capt. Schaffer encouraged Members to refer anyone who may benefit from the Court.

Central Service Area Authority (CSAA) Report Greg reported:

- They are organizing testimonies for the Legislative session.
- One of the priorities is support for LACs, establishing them for the Counties that don't have them, and getting those voices to the Legislature.
- Shelly Aune from Mental Health America Montana presented in support of a new group: Montana Alliance for Prevention. Its purpose is to gather statewide all those groups who are working on the same mental health issues, to create a single-purpose voice.
- Gaps in services from county to county especially effect youth. CSAA is working to close these gaps.

MT Peer Network Report Ginny reported:

- The Network has started doing family support with the Family Support Project. Training for the family members of the mentally ill and creation of a Task Force is the goal.
- Ultimate goal is gaining State certification for Family members who are trained. The State Board of Behavioral Health seems receptive.
- They supporting a current bill in Legislature asking that current Peer Supporters are licensed, not just certified.
- Ginny announced this is the last month she will be on the Peer Support Board as Treasurer. She has served for 5 years. She was congratulated by the group.

Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC) Report Jennifer Whitfield did email the report to the Members.

Healthy Lives/Vibrant Futures No changes.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Randy reported that the Spring Family to Family classes will begin March 15th at 8:30.

NCILS/Library/Provider Project Tom and Susie reported:

- Susie reported that the Library Project funding 2 Peer Supporters has helped the both the Library staff and the clientele with mental illness.
- The Library is proposing a mil levy in order to continue funding for Peer Supporters and have asked the City Commission to put it on the June ballot. Susie has received some push-back on the Levy from the community groups as she presents this.
- Tom is preparing a Pilot Project report for the Peer Support project and will submit it in March.

Community Reports/Announcements from Board Members

Ginny announced that the Kalispell County Commission has put out a letter against helping homeless people.

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 by Randy Lynes, Vice Chair. Next meeting is March 6th, 2023 at 1:30-3:00PM via Zoom.

Randy Lynes, Vice Chair

Date

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