



**Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting
January 20, 2022 - Noon
Law and Justice Center Atrium**

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Citizen's Advisory Committee, and the Department of Criminal Justice Services exist to improve the safety of the citizens of Lewis and Clark County and ensure the equitable and efficient treatment of defendants, offenders, and victims.

1. Call to Order & Reading of the Mission

Tom Cordingley, Chair, called the meeting to order.
The Mission Statement was read by Teresa Charlton.

2. Introductions

Members present: Tom Cordingley, Carolyn Belling, Teresa Charlton, Karen English, Moffie Funk, John Lytle, Mike Mahoney, Theresa Ortega, Joanne Romasko

Members absent: Stephanie Ballenger-Brooks, Tina Eblin

Staff in attendance: Jillian Danesi, Bri Lake, Kellie McBride, & Alexia Clark

Others in attendance: Detention Center Captain Brad Bragg, Lieutenant Troy Christensen, CJCC Chair Judge Menahan, Lutisha McFarland, Gary Mihelish

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Tom Cordingley

- September 16, 2022: Approved
- October 21, 2022: Approved

4. Tentative: Presentation from PureView

PureView unable to attend.

5. Update on MAT Bridges Program – Kellie McBride

Kellie summarized current challenges with the MAT Bridges program. HIA and Pureview don't have the malpractice insurance necessary to provide telehealth services to individuals detained in the detention center. Officers can transport inmates to and from HIA/Pureview appointments and there is a sliding scale that is still applicable to inmates. However, there are only two transport officers. For these reasons, CJS is looking into whether current MAT grant funding will cover the insurance cost.

6. Opioid Settlement Funds – Kellie McBride

The opioid settlement money is Kellie shared that the Behavioral Health Systems Improvement Leadership is interested in partnering with the CJCC to discuss thoughtful ways to address opioid use in the community, including possibly collaborating with Broadwater County and Jefferson County to make a more robust effort. The current amount allocated to Lewis and Clark County is anticipated to be around \$90k/year over the next 18 years.

7. CJS Updates – Kellie McBride

Kellie shared the draft of CJS annual report write-up which summarizes CJS accomplishments in the last five years since the Department was established. Kellie reiterated the levy requirements and how CJS continues to meet those requirements. Kellie highlighted Judge McMahon's upcoming Behavioral Health Court and CJS's role, including dedicating one pretrial officer to provide case management services. Judge Menahan commented on the difficulty in providing mental health resources using traditional models since Helena doesn't always have enough people that meet the criteria established by those models and praised Judge McMahon for looking for solutions 'outside of the box.'

8. Non-Agenda Items

- Group will monitor possible legislation that would provide needed upgrades to Warm Springs currently being looked at.
- Theresa shared a 'street' update from peer support specialists with Good Sam's. She highlighted concerns, including individuals being dropped off at Good Sam's from the State Hospital without calling ahead or on a Friday afternoon when there's nobody around to assist. Theresa also brought up issues with trying to assist individuals on the violent offender registry, even if they're gone many years without any other offenses. Currently, there is no split between violent and sexual offenders and Good Sam's does not provide services to registered sex offenders.
- Theresa also noted that both peer support specialists were part of the Behavioral Health Court team.
- Theresa provided an update on Our Place. Our Place is intended to support treatment, education, and recovery, but has experienced an increase in individuals coming in for non-grant supported activities. A second, low-barrier facility would be solution.

9. Public Comment

Gary is a member of Judge McMahon's Behavioral Health Court team and shared his support for all the work being done there. Gary brought up concerns about inmates being released to the street without treatment or support which can lead to individuals cycling in and out of the detention center. One possible solution would be a program allowing individuals to access Medicaid 30 days prior to release. Gary also asked whether inmates' families could pay for inmate medication. Captain Bragg answered that yes, family could pay but that life sustaining prescriptions would always be provided for.

10. Next Meeting – February 17, 2022

Meeting to be held at Our Place.

11. Adjourn