



Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Meeting
January 24, 2023, 4:15 pm
Law and Justice Center, Atrium Conference Room, First Floor

Mission: The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council exists 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

Suzanne, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order and read the mission statement.

2. Introductions – All

Members Present: Leah Lindgren, Tom Cordingley, Brett Petty, Anne Peterson, Kevin Downs, Leo Dutton, Suzanne Seburn, Sue Podruzny, Andy Hunthausen

Members Absent: Mike Menahan, Mark Piskolich, Andy Shirtliff, Mike Sanders, Gina Boesdorfer

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

Guests in Attendance: Bradley Bragg, Troy Christenson, Drenda Dieman, Dana Toole, Morgan Davis

3. Action Item: Approval of Meeting Minutes – Suzanne Seburn

November 22, 2022 – Minutes were approved.

4. Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Update – Tom Cordingley

Tom and Kellie gave a brief update on the CAC and described the history of the CAC.

5. For Discussion -- All

- a. MAT Bridges Program: Kellie and Brad summarized challenges and barriers with the MAT Bridges program that prevent inmate access to the program. One of the biggest barriers is the lack of a prescribing doctor/nurse in the Detention Center. HIA and PureView do not 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 for appointments, however there are only two transport officers. CJS is looking into whether current MAT grant funding will cover the insurance cost. Brad stated that individuals are screened at booking, and Bri confirmed that the data shows those who do start the program typically start the same day they are booked. An additional barrier is that Department of Corrections (DoC) doesn't currently allow suboxone. Sue suggested CJS and DoC connect and increase coordination in this and other areas.
- b. Opioid Settlement Funds: Kellie shared that the Behavioral Health Systems Improvement Leadership Team (BH-SILT) is interested in partnering with the CJCC to discuss thoughtful ways to address opioid misuse in the community, including possibly collaborating with Broadwater 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. Some preliminary suggestions include funding for the Journey Home and crisis teams. Sheriff Dutton asked that funding for law enforcement who frequently encounter opioids on the job be considered. Drenda stated the intent of the partnership is to explore all ideas. The CJCC and BH-SILT will make funding recommendations to the County Commission and the Commission will make the final decision.

- c. Addition of Public Health Officer to CJCC Membership: Kellie recommended adding the Public Health Officer position to the CJCC and noted having a public health officer as a CJCC member is considered a best practice. Lewis and Clark County's Public Health Officer, Drenda Nieman, introduced herself and spoke to connecting the work that the CJCC and CJS are doing with the work Public Health is doing, thereby increasing impact, decreasing duplication of efforts, and making smarter, more efficient use of resources. The group gave unanimous consensus to adding Drenda as a member to start the process.
Sheriff Dutton asked if the addition of a new member would require a change to the bylaws and if the County Commission would need to approve those bylaw changes. Kellie said she would inquire and report back with the answer.
- d. Detention Center Overdoses: Brad addressed the recent overdose incident by two female inmates. Both inmates survived, with multiple doses of Narcan and CPR administered to each. Brad stated the Detention Center has identified how the drugs were smuggled inside. The Sheriff applauded the life-saving actions provided by the other incarcerated individuals and the Detention Staff.
Drenda noted the Public Health epidemiologist has seen a recent spike in overdoses deaths.
- e. Human Trafficking:
 - i. Dana Toole from the Department of Justice (DoJ) gave a brief presentation on human trafficking in Montana, including what constitutes human trafficking, human trafficking data in Montana, and possible legislation (HB 112) that would hold the customers of human trafficking more accountable by changing the number of instances of purchasing sex from two instances to be considered a felony down to one.
 - ii. Dana requested that the CJCC members let DoJ know about human trafficking from the local perspective.
 - iii. Sheriff Dutton highlighted language barrier issues and difficulty using the Language Line in dangerous situations or conditions, such as bad weather.
 - iv. Suzanne suggested looking at campaigns used in other areas that focus on helping victims escape. Specifically, she referenced promoting the silent, single-handed gesture for help.
 - v. Currently there are six human trafficking task forces in Montana. Missoula's is the largest and Helena does not have one.
- f. Detention Center Body Scanner: Captain Bragg discussed the purpose of the body scanner and the Sheriff's rules on who must go through the body scanner. Suzanne shared concerns regarding the requirement for Public Defenders and other court officials to be put through the scanner in order to speak privately with their clients. She asked if there has been any concern from other agencies. She highlighted the health risks associated with repeated exposure to the scanner and the limited number of private meeting spaces for public defenders to meet with Court Ordered defendants. There was no resolution to this discussion.

6. Criminal Justice Services Update – Kellie McBride

- a. Draft Annual Report: 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.
- b. Data Initiative Update – *Skipped due to time.*
- c. Behavioral Health in Detention Center Update – *Skipped due to time.*

7. Old Business

No old business to discuss.

8. Public Comment

No public comment.

9. Next CJCC Meeting: March 28, 2023, 4:15 pm

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:47pm.