

**Anaconda-Deer Lodge County  
DUI Task Force Meeting Minutes  
10:00 am Thursday April 13 2023  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Community Center Conference Room**

**Board Members in Attendance;** Ben Krakowka, County Attorney; Vera Hoscheid, Victim's Witness Advocate; Debbie Robinson, Public Health Representative; Mike Beausoleil, Commissioner District Five

**Absent:** Bill Sather, Chief of Law; Sgt. Dave Oliverson, Montana Highway Patrol

**Members of the Public:** Jaycee Jette, Katie Gruss, Keith Lopez LAC

**Call To Order:** County Attorney Ben Krakowka called the meeting to order at 10:10a.m.

**Approval of Minutes from March 9 2023, DUI Task Force Meeting**

Vera Hoscheid motioned to approve the minutes from March 9<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Deb Robinson, Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report**

County Attorney Ben Krakowka reported a balance of \$27,247.20. Sue Konicek related the fact that there are several invoices as yet unpaid. Ben Krakowka volunteered to approach Chief Sather with the invoices.

**MIP/DUI Report**

County Attorney Ben Krakowka updated DUI and MIP reports for February 23.

2023	DUI	MIP
January	12 (5 ALDC, 7MHP)	2 (MHP)
February	5 (ADLC)	1 (ADLC)
March	8 (ADLC)	14 (ADLC)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25 (18 ADLC, 7MHP)</b>	<b>17</b>

During the MIP/DUI report Ben Krakowka reported that two of the eight DUI charges from March were felony charges. He explained that one of them was the individuals' second felony DUI and that the Judge has recused himself from the case. He also explained that one of the 14 MIPs issued in April (primarily alcohol and marijuana together) was a felony possession of the prescription drug Vivance which is similar to Adderall but with a slow release.

**Unfinished Business –**

- A. A vote was held to approve DUI TF fund spending in the amount of \$900 (1<sup>st</sup> place: \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$250, 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$150) for prize money for the Southwest Montana Prevention's Red Carpet Video Contest for Jr and Sr. High Students. Mike Beausoleil made a motion to approve. Seconded by Vera Hoscheid.

- B. Katie Gruss gave an update regarding the Coffee with A Cop event to be held April 22<sup>nd</sup>. She reported that Chief Sather has not responded to emails asking for Law Enforcement Officers to attend the event. This has made planning for the event difficult as she is unsure if officers will be in attendance. There was discussion about possibly postponing the event. Kim, the owner of Coffee Corral has made special arrangements to be open and have an employee present on April 22<sup>nd</sup> when she would normally be closed. Because of this fact and the difficulty of rescheduling it was decided to hold the event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> as planned. Heather Edwards will be asked to send an email to the officers in an attempt to get them the information about the event.
- C. Ben Krakowka reported that Officer Marc Arment is willing to serve as the representative from local Law Enforcement on the DUI Task Force. His presence will allow Chief Sather to step down as the Chairperson of the DUI Task Force. Ben Krakowka reported that Chief Sather is willing to do so.

Keith Lopez who was in attendance at the meeting spoke about his qualifications to serve on the DUI Task Force. He is a licensed addiction counselor. He is currently the Clinical Director at the WATCH program. He has 12 years of experience as a counselor and previously worked for with Western Montana Mental Health at Tri-County Addiction Services. He previously served on the DUI Task Force. Mr. Lopez has submitted a letter of interest regarding the position to the Task Force which will be passed on to Ben Krakowka to submit to the County Commissioner.

The matter of both Mr. Arment and Mr. Lopez becoming official members of the DUI Task Force will come before the County Commission meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **New Business**

- A. Sue Konicek discussed the Fentanyl/Opioid awareness media campaign which is being undertaken by a coalition of local community members and stakeholders. The group has just started efforts to create the campaign. When the campaign has been developed further there will be opportunities for the DUI Task Force to become involved with the campaign. Ben Krakowka expressed that the DUI TF should only be involved in the campaign if it explicitly addresses impaired driving.

**Miscellaneous Announcements** – No miscellaneous announcements

**Public Comments** – No public comments.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11 in the third floor conference room at the Community Service Center, 118 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **Adjournment**

Deb Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mike Beausoleil.  
Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

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Sue Konicsek, Secretary  
DUI Task Force

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Chair