

**Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
DUI Task Force Meeting Minutes
10:00 am Thursday June 8 2023
3rd Floor Community Center Conference Room**

Board Members in Attendance; Ben Krakowka, County Attorney; Debbie Robinson, Public Health Representative; Mike Beausoleil, Commissioner District Five, Keith Lopez LAC

Absent: Marc Arment ADLC Housing Officer, Sgt. Dave Oliverson, Montana Highway Patrol, Vera Hoscheid, Victim's Witness Advocate

Members of the Public: Katie Gruss

Call To Order: County Attorney Ben Krakowka called the meeting to order at 10:03 am

Approval of Minutes from May 11 2023, DUI Task Force Meeting

Keith Lopez motioned to approve the minutes from May 11, seconded by Mike Beausoleil. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

County Attorney Ben Krakowka reported a balance of \$23,620.57. This balance reflects all of the recent spending. There are no outstanding 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)	2 (ADLC)
April	1(ADLC)	15 (ADLC)
May	2 (ADLC) 2 (MHP)	3 (ADLC)
TOTAL	37 (28 ADLC, 9 MHP)	23 (21 ADLC , 2MHP)

Ben Krakowka reported that there were three MIPs in May: one alcohol, one marijuana, one combination alcohol and tobacco. There were two DUIs: one of them had .097 BAC. Mr. Krakowka reported that this was the second lowest BAC for a DUI this year. This, in his estimation reflects good work on the part of LE as they are paying close attention to drivers who are close to the legal BAC limit, rather than only pulling over drivers who have been drinking to extreme excess. Mr. Krakowka explained that The Montana Highway Patrol reported two additional DUIs (one alcohol, and one marijuana) in May.

Approval of the Financial and MIP/DUI reports was motioned by Deb Robinson and seconded by Keith Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business –

- A. Report about the Red Carpet Video Event. Sue Konicek and Katie Gruss spoke of the success of the contest and the evening. The winning video was described as well as the appeal of the prizes which were matched to the individual contestants. Deb Robinson expressed admiration for the videos created by the youth.
- B. Discussion and vote were held regarding the contribution of \$600 toward reimbursing the police department for three officers attendance at the Desert Snow training. Ben Krakowka explained that Desert Snow is an interdiction training which trains LE officers to identify drivers who are transporting dangerous drugs. The training helps LE officers gain information that will be the basis for investigations.
- C. There was discussion about ARIDE training which Officer Arment spoke about at the May 11th meeting. Officer Arment was interested in financial assistance for this training from the DUI TF. At this point the cost of the training is unknown. The training will occur in August. Ben Krakowka explained that ARIDE trains officer in practices which are a step beyond those included in the SFST (Standard Field Sobriety Test). It provides training regarding additional tests which indicate if an individual has been using stimulants or depressants. It also provides training regarding the efficacy of blood tests versus breath tests in certain situations. The training will allow for better testimony from the officers. The hope is that if two officers can be trained in ARIDE, perhaps one of them will volunteer to take part in DRE training. Ben Krakowka expressed that he will reach out to Marc Arment in order to determine the cost of the ARIDE training.

A motion was made by Deb Robinson a to table the vote regarding the spending of funds on the ARIDE training until the cost has been ascertained. Keith Lopez seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mike Beausoleil to approve the spending of \$600 to reimburse the police department for a portion of the cost for the Desert Snow training. Seconded by Keith Lopez Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- A. Katie Gruss spoke about the new Communities That Care (CTC) coalition and the need for Key Leaders. She explained that the coalition will follow evidence based practices which when followed to fidelity in other areas, has reduced risky behaviors in youth such as alcohol and tobacco use by 30%. Ms. Gruss has recruited some key leaders from different sectors but a few sectors are still not represented. She is seeking key leaders from the education sector and local government and Law Enforcement. Ben Krakowka suggested asking Mark Arment or Officer Ives. Heidi Nielsen was suggested as a possible Key Leader.

Miscellaneous Announcements –

- A. Mike Beausoleil inquired about the Opioid Money which will be coming to the county. Ben Krakowka explained that it will be used to fund various projects which will in effect make up for the extra finances which have been spent in order to deal with opioid related issues in the county. He gave the example of buying new LE equipment or new technology for the courtroom. Some of the money can also be directed to treatment providers. When asked about local treatment providers in the county, Mr. Krakowka reported that we rely heavily on treatment services in Butte. Ms. Robinson asked if any of the money will be directed to prevention efforts. Mr.

Krakovka explained that it is his understanding that most prevention money from the Opioid funds will probably need to come from the state level.

Public Comments –

Discussion was led by Katie Gruss, speaking as a concerned parent, about the Junior class party which was held on May 20th at Storm Lake. Ms. Gruss expressed great concern about the fact that she understood that three officers arrived at the party between 4 and 6 am. There were 60-70 students and a great deal of underage drinking occurring. Law Enforcement failed to issue any MIPs. She feels that the message sent to youth that they will not be held accountable for underage drinking (and drinking and driving) is incredibly detrimental—and dangerous—for our youth and our community. A week or two later the Senior party was held during which a sexual assault occurred. She made the point that no one was held accountable for underage drinking at the first party and this encouraged youth to behave irresponsibly at the second party as they knew there were to be no consequences. She expressed great frustration that the LE officers did not perform the duties of their job at the Junior party and that it was extremely fortunate that no one was hurt or killed due to drunk driving leaving either party.

Much discussion followed regarding the cultural norm that underlies this lax attitude of parents and Law Enforcement and the community in general regarding underage drinking. It was agreed by all that this is an incredibly difficult issue to tackle and it does fall within the duties of the DUI TF to attempt to address the issue in some manner. Ms. Konicek brought up the idea that although it will take a long time to change attitudes, media campaigns or other efforts to bring awareness to this problem may be worth pursuing. Ms. Konicek expressed the need to keep this topic as a discussion point for the DUI Task Force. It will be discussed further at future DUI TF meetings.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for July 13 in the third floor conference room at the Community Service Center, 118 E 7th Street.

Adjournment

Deb Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Keith Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

Sue Konicek

Sue Konicek, Treasurer
DUI Task Force

Ben Krakowka, Chairperson
DUI Task Force