



Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2024, 4:15 pm
Law and Justice Center, Atrium Conference Room, First Floor

Mission: Lewis and Clark County's 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

- Susanne Seburn called the meeting to order and read the mission statement.

2. Introductions

- a. Members Present: Brett Petty, Suzanne Seburn, Tom Cordingley, Mike Sanders, Leah Lindgren, Tom Rolfe, Drenda Niemann, Judge Piskolich, Troy Christiansen (Proxy for Leo Dutton) Sarah Kamis (Proxy for Gina Boesdorfer), Judge Peterson
- b. Members Absent: Sue Podruzny, Leo Dutton (Excused), Mike Sanders (Excused), Kevin Downs, Wilmot Collins
- c. Staff Present: Kellie McBride, Bri Lake, Jillian Danesi, Brandi Spangler
- d. Guests Present: Mark Nay, Amy Reavis, Morgan Davis, Nicole Gomez, John Lytle

3. Action Items – Judge Menahan

- The meeting minutes for November 28, 2023, were approved.

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

- Missoula Tour- to better understand the intersection of houselessness and the criminal justice system, the CAC took a fieldtrip to Missoula, in December, to learn how Missoula leaders are working with their houseless population. Members started the day meeting with City of Missoula staff. They toured YWCA Missoula's Family Housing Center, jointly run with Missoula's Family Promise, which serves up to 31 families. They toured Homeward's Blue Heron Place Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Blue Heron PSH is a partnership between Homeward and Missoula Authority, combining intensive case management and supportive services for Missoula's long-term unhoused neighbors. A lunch meeting with Missoula's CJCC coordinator allowed Lewis and Clark County CAC members to share the importance of providing a citizen voice to the CJCC. The afternoon ended with a tour of The Povarello Center homeless shelter and kitchen.

5. *Pretrial Services Program – Kellie McBride

- a. Working Group Meeting: Kellie thanked the CJCC for putting together the Pretrial Working Group. The first meeting was held and was productive. Judge Menahan explained the history of CJS being a pilot program using the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) as a tool and explained the process of the Office of Court Administrator (OCA).

The group is exploring a way to attach the PSAs to court documents so they can reach District Court judges. The group plans to meet quarterly and as needed. He also explained the “step down” process in which defendants ordered to mandatory drug tests may step down when testing negative for a period of time to less frequent testing or eliminate testing at the Pretrial Officer’s discretion. This would alleviate the lengthy process of amending court conditions. Judge Menahan added that some Pretrial clients are required to check in more than a convicted felon is required to check in with their probation or parole officer.

- b. Technical Assistance: Kellie is writing to the National Institute of Corrections for on-site technical assistance.

6. Hometown Helena – Bri Lake

- Bri and Kellie are presenting at Hometown Helena on Thursday, January 25 at 7am at the Montana Club. Bri will be presenting the five-year report for CJS. They urge members to participate to answer questions.

7. Save the Date – Kellie McBride

- Kellie announced the NNCJCC Annual meeting will be held in Helena June 4-6. They would like a CAC panel to attend.

8. Community Services update is postponed until the next meeting

9. Old Business

No old business.

10. Public Comment

No public comment.

11. Next CJCC Meeting: March 26, 2024, 4:15 pm

12. Adjourn

*Selected CJCC priorities for FY24 and FY25
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