

**Marion County
Public Safety Coordinating Council
Draft Minutes
SEPTEMBER 13, 2005**

Attendees:

Kathy Bebe, Walt Beglau, Rod Calkins, Faye Fagel, Judge Hart, Seantel Heisel, Ruth Hewett, Commissioner Patti Milne, Dan Murphy, Pete McCallum, Ed McKenney, Chief Jerry Moore, Joe Parrott, Anna Peterson, Bob Royer, Chief Scott Russell, Judge Tripp, Under Sheriff Mike Wilkerson.

Guests:

John Lenssen, State of Oregon, Department of Education

Staff :

Dan Estes, Hitesh Parekh

After introductions, John Lenssen from the Oregon Department of Education said that he was here to share some information with the MCPSCC on the no meth issue. John said that he is also a member of Jefferson Together where he had sponsored several meth forums, and that he also sat on the Governor's Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee. He mentioned that when schools call him and ask what to do about meth, he advises them not abandon what's already known about alcohol and drug prevention, and that schools shouldn't rush into scare tactics. He emphasized that the things to focus on are community partnerships, education and support for parents, universal tools that focus on prevention and refusal skills, and how to respond to peer groups. These are all valuable skills to teach youth. John added that he also advises schools that parents and youth should look for norms in schools; and highlight the fact that meth use is not a norm among students and the community, that it leads people down a path of destruction.

John mentioned that he was not here to educate the council about meth. He just wanted to make a strong statement that as the MCPSCC works with others it should not abandon what is already known about drug abuse and prevention. Research has programs and strategies that are proven to work. Those schools using federal funds, are now required to implement evidence based programs with their students. John said that he wanted to express his willingness to be a resource from the DOE and a partner to the MCPSCC. He mentioned that the DOE had put out a policy statement in collaboration with the Department of Human Services on effective approaches to substance prevention. He would be happy to e-mail it to council members if they are interested.

Commissioner Milne thanked John for the information and mentioned that it was timely as the MCPSCC was in the process of working with schools on the no meth issue.

Chief Jerry Moore said that he had breakfast with Sheriff Ramirez and Kay Baker and they had talked about meth education in the schools. He added that kids don't always get the message, and that the three had not come up with a great solution yet.

John Lindsey said that there are excellent books and materials for kids. Rather than have a separate, formal no meth, event meeting, it is better to go to a natural parent event, and expose parents to this information.

Chief Jerry Moore said that the *Back to School Night* is coming up shortly. Many parents will be there. Even a one- page flyer listing resources, websites, would be great as a hand out.

Commissioner Milne thanked John for visiting the MCPSCC. She then asked Kathy Bebe, Pete McCallum and Ruth Hewett to share what happened at the meeting to talk to schools about a no meth meeting.

The Education Sub-Committee of the MCPSCC consisting of Commissioner Milne, Kathy Bebe, Pete McCallum and Ruth Hewett met with School Superintendent Maureen Casey to discuss opportunities for presentations to education groups. The Willamette Education School District has 21 school districts representing 3 counties in Oregon. The WESD has monthly meetings with: Superintendents or the Executive Committee, high, middle and elementary school principals, and Special Programs, including early intervention. Ruth added that meetings are also held with 35-50 physicians who deliver services to special needs children.

Ruth said that there are three programs of interest were mentioned by Superintendent Casey regarding drug issues:

(1) Child Abuse Prevention: Grant from Grand Ronde for community based meetings engaging law, service agencies, education, serving children and families in this region.

(2) Birth to 5: Pilot program to refer children to appropriate places for assessment who have been removed from their homes. Department Human Services is the main partner who will refer the children to the appropriate agencies for help. Most are drug related cases. (Issues they are currently aware of are drug arrests and the placement of children in foster care.)

(3) Permission to use some special education dollars for meth affected children.

The Salem-Keizer School District has monthly meetings with principals, counselors, and alternative education specialists. The 24-J SD has drug and alcohol specialists, alternative education specialists, health aids and Youth Services Teams or YSTs in every school. Many students expelled from school have drug related issues, and are referred to this team.

The WESD and 24-J believe separate meetings with the above mentioned groups would be appropriate. Workshops could also be presented at the annual /n

Service Day. Packets could be prepared for student to take home at the beginning of the school year or provided at the "Back to School Nights" for parents.

The group discussed current school drug policies:

1. What policies are currently in place in schools?

2. What is the process if a student or staff member is suspected of D/A abuse?

(A 24-J staff immediately reports the issue to the DHS if a student is involved, and then reports the issue to the resource officer in the students' school.)

3. Policies affecting D/A abuse are provided to all school boards from OSBA. Local boards can adopt the policies or modify to suit their district needs. Uniformity is guaranteed regarding legislative action and requirements in Oregon's laws.

Ruth mentioned the positive support that the MCPSCC could give schools such as the Anti-Drug Tool Kit, web page; (The WESD and 24-J will provide links to their own web page. The 24-J adds weekly articles on their web and the PSCC can submit articles around the meth issue for their web page); A Clearing house offer; Information on previous presentations to chambers, city councils etc. so educators know community leaders are with them on this issue, and the Anti-Drug Strategic Plan.

Additional concerns raised by the Marion County PSCC were:

Do school personnel know the signs ie; what to look for to determine if a child or adult is using meth? Is there a need for training on this issue? (The Marion County Health Department has staff trained in recognizing personnel using drugs. They also have crisis teams trained around these issues). Who is offering services on D/A issues in the Districts?

Ruth mentioned that as far as the next steps go, Commissioner Milne will send a letter to the WESD and 24-J which will include, but not be limited to:

Role of PSCC; background information on our strategic plan, what has been done to date, information on the tool kit, web page, and clearing house offer.

The letter will assure educators that the MCPSCC is here to help, and will list resources the council can provide. We will inquire what they can use and if they need a facilitator for a meeting.

The letter would ask for the school's help in making meth a high priority and request the schools join the MCPSCC in their effort.

The MCPSCC will request information on what the schools currently have in place, who is doing what in the school districts, and if possible, a copy of the school districts' current drug policies. Ruth added that presentations to the groups will be based on

identified needs gathered from the previous mentioned groups after they have received the letter, and have had time at one of their meetings to process their own needs. Ruth said that the MCPSCC would make several tool kits available to the WESD and 24-J SD.

The letter will be sent to Maureen Casey for the WESD and a copy to the 24-J, attention Kay Baker. *(A draft of the letter will be sent first to Maureen Casey and Kathy Bebe for any additions or suggestions.)*

Ruth stated that the Committee would meet again in November to assess the information. If there is agreement, John Lindsey, who expressed an interest in serving on the committee, would also be included.

John Lindsey said that throughout the state and in Marion County, for the last 7-8 years, state agencies have been unable to provide training for alcohol and drug prevention. About 8 years ago, state agencies made a major shift to focus on violence prevention. As a result, the A&D prevention suffered. So from his perspective, training should focus on meth and also A&D prevention.

Commissioner Milne said that the Council now had a quorum, and asked the members to review the minutes from the July 12 and August 9, MCPSCC meetings.

Faye Fagel made a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion seconded.

Minutes approved.

Commissioner Milne said that she had a few comments to share with the Council, and that she had personally delivered the mid year report of the MCPSCC to the cities in the county. She added that in the mid-year report where the Council shows what the different communities did as a result of the MCPSCC visits- this section would need to be updated. This is because there are some additional actions that cities are taking. For example, the City of Aumsville, has an ordinance to hold their tenants responsible. This helps protect landlords, and also gives them a tool to ensure that the tenants they are renting to are not involved in meth activities.

Chief Scott Russell said that the Woodburn Meth Forum is planning a business breakfast event on Oct 4. Over 40 other businesses are already involved, and it is in conjunction with the local chambers greeters program. Chief Russell said that he would be contacting others to help. Commissioner Milne said that in conjunction with the Woodburn Chamber, Elizabeth Vega of American Diagnostics, will be recognizing some local businesses for their drug policies.

Anna Peterson said that the City of Salem Council will be announcing its anti-meth proclamation on the first Monday in October, and that council members asked the No Meth Task Force to join with them in recognizing business leaders who have been particularly supportive in the anti-meth effort. Another thing that the city is doing is

establishing a process for a rental licensing program for single and duplex family housing, and the city has asked that No Meth to be a member of this task force.

Chief Moore added that this is a not a mandatory licensing, just licensing for locations where there are some issues. These specific locations are deemed nuisance properties. This will not apply to just any rental property.

Anna added that the No Meth Task Force and the Community Action Drug Prevention Network are hosting another training. This includes discussion about drug free work places. The training will be held on Sept 22 at the Wittenberg Inn in Keizer. Anna said that training was held in Keizer, aimed at the business community, but a lot of kids and adults turned out. There will also be another drug free workplace training program on Sept 29.

Anna mentioned that Dick Withnell and Larry Tokarski had formed an organization to create a foster care receiving policy. She said that on Oct 20, NO METH was inviting ministers, and faith based organizations to a call to action. Each entity and their respective congregations would be asked to locate one foster care home.

D.A. Walt Beglau also had a few informational updates. Walt said that he wanted to be sure that everyone was aware that the DA has elevated a position in the department to act as a drug endangered children's prosecutor. The goal of this position would be to handle cases involving drug-endangered children, and also be a point of contact for all of the community wide efforts underway as far as meth is concerned. Sara Morris, a Deputy DA will be in this position. This has now become a central piece in the DA's office.

Walt also added an update on SB 301, and said that the Sheriff wanted to make sure we got this message out. SB 301, known as the use of force bill looking at creating, enhancing, and improving statewide use of force for law enforcement, protocols and dedicating resources, had failed in the legislature. There are other controversial pieces to the bill. Walt added that we would still need to do something as a county, for example, to look at how our homicide assault team works etc.

Walt also said that he had received many calls around meth; one of the gentlemen that approached him was Mr. Dave Galati of the COG and suggested that the county hold a tri-county think tank about meth. Walt said that he would bring this to the council at a later time.

Rod Calkins said that he had spoken with Judge Graves and that they have hired someone to resume staffing for the drug court. This position was vacant for a year.

Under Sheriff Mike Wilkerson gave an update on the Sheriff's Mental Health Task Force. The Under Sheriff said that the Sheriff's Office and the Health Department had formed a task force a few years ago to look at the increasing numbers of those mentally ill

incarcerated in the county jail. The task force had decided that this was a complex issue and not an easy fix, so the NIC was contacted for technical assistance. The National Institute of Corrections is a resource for local law enforcement agencies. The NIC awarded Marion County some resources, and a professional to study this issue by the name of Margaret Severson. Margaret has an extensive medical background, and after a site visit, one on one interviews, and meeting with a broader work group, she developed an extensive report with many recommendations.

The report recommended internal and external policy changes, and involved other county jurisdictions such as the courts and health department. Mike said that the Marion County Sheriff's Office had developed a matrix with some recommendations and was working through it. One of the recommendations was case management. This recommendation will result in a group of county individuals going to visit King County in Washington. Approximately 25 people are going to Kings County to review their system. The essential question is how can the mentally ill population be managed? Mike added that he would share what happened once he gets back from King County.

Mike then gave an update on the Polk County sex offender issue. He handed out a copy of a letter to Polk County. He said that the letter was a follow up response to the Polk County LPSCC sub-committee. This meeting was a result of about 2 years worth of frustration between Marion and Polk County. Polk County had a record of using the Mission in Marion County as a transition house for their predatory sex offenders. When the Sheriff's Office discovered this, they became concerned that Polk County was using Marion County resources. The Sheriff's Office then asked Polk County to come up their own resources to address their sex offender needs.

Marion County offered Polk County a transitional housing grant of \$100,000 to assist them with this issue, which they refused. Then about a year ago, Marion County asked the State of Oregon, Department of Corrections to intervene. The DOC is the oversight agency that provides supervision to offenders in both Polk and Marion county. Mike said that there is a provision in the administrative rules that if two counties cannot reach agreement, then they can request mediation from the DOC. The DOC found Polk County in violation of the administrative transfer rule by residing these offenders in another county. Mike added that Sex-offenders need to be kept in sight and under control. The DOC then put Polk County on a work plan. But when the Sheriff's office met with them recently, Polk County had not done very much. Polk County was still using the Mission in Marion County to house offenders, even though the numbers housed had dropped from 18 to 5 or 6.

The Sheriff's Office then went to discuss this with the Polk county LPSCC which suggested that perhaps the Marion County Housing Division could exchange some housing for jail space, since Marion county needs Polk county jail space. The Sheriff's Office told them that this was not acceptable. The letter that the Mike had handed out

to the MCPSCC was a follow up to this last meeting with Polk County. Polk County is now working with the DOC to provide transition housing out of their jail for their sex offenders for up to 90 days. The state would rent their jail space and work with Polk county sex offenders to provide housing, treatment, disclosure, polygraph tests etc. The Under Sheriff added that this plan will hopefully be launched by the first of the year. This is just a progress report.

Finally the Under Sheriff distributed some handouts and said that the Sheriff sits on the Public Commission of the Oregon Legislature. This Commission will review how the legislative process could be made better. The Under Sheriff added that the Sheriff would be happy to entertain any suggestions from the MCPSCC. Commissioner Milne mentioned that John Lattimer also sits on this Committee.

Commissioner Milne thanked the Under Sheriff and then asked the members if there were any other additions to the agenda. Hearing none, she asked Dan Estes to present his item.

New Legislation:

Dan Estes said that on Aug 16, 2005 the governor signed into law the meth package that the Governors' Legislative Task Force had been working on. Dan then handed out the highlights of SB907 and HB 2485 and went over some of the changes.

Dan also mentioned that now that the new legislation had passed, and the MCPSCC has a strategic plan going, it may be time for the council to measure its effectiveness. Commissioner Milne agreed and said that it was a good idea to have benchmarks, and that perhaps the council could make this a directive in the 2006 Strategic Plan.

Under Sheriff Wilkerson said that there is a process on the way to measure efforts, and that this was the state legislation that created evidence based practices. He said that the council could work with the Health Department, Sheriff's Office and the OYA on this.

Commissioner Milne agreed and said that if there already is a subcommittee on this then Dan Estes could coordinate with all those involved.

Walt Beglau added that as his office has to implement the new legislation, staff is creating a draft of the impacts of the new crimes, as this will impact everyone in the system. It is critical for law enforcement agencies to know that something is now an "A" felony as opposed to a "C" misdemeanor.

Judge Hart asked if Walt could distribute this information to the courts too.

Walt said that he would send out this information on e-mail. The information may not be complete, but will have most of the elements. Once the statutes come out, his department will review these. Walt added that he will also be talking to police chiefs about training their officers as a result of this new legislation.

Scheduling of Next MCPSCC Meeting

Commissioner Milne reminded the members of the MCPSCC that the next meeting of the Council will be at the Coffee Creek Correctional facility. She asked all those who wished to attend to complete a LEADS security clearance form and return it to Under Sheriff Mike Wilkerson. Commissioner Milne also reminded members of the MCPSCC that the State of Oregon was holding a convention of Local Public Safety Councils on Oct 17 in Deschutes County.

Status Report of the Anti-Drug Strategic Plan Toolkit

Dan Estes mentioned that the toolkit is coming together. The group is trying to drive people to a web based resource that can be updated. The kit should be available by the end of Sept or Oct 1. Ruth Hewett asked how prepared the county was in an emergency in light of what had gone on in New Orleans.

Judge Tripp said that the State would be coordinating an emergency scenario on October 8

Commissioner Milne added that Commissioner Brentano is the Commissioner who is in charge of the emergency planning in the county.

Adjourned.