

**Marion County
Public Safety Coordinating Council
Draft Minutes
NOVEMBER 8, 2005**

Attendees:

Kathy Bebe, Walt Beglau, Dick Cowan, Faye Fagel, Seantel Heisel, Ruth Hewett, Pete McCallum, Ed McKenney, Patti Milne, Chief Jerry Moore, Jim Murchison, Dan Murphy, Bert Ortiz, Joe Parrott, Anna Peterson, Sheriff Raul Ramirez, Bob Royer, Judge Susan M. Tripp.

Guests:

Frank Martin, OYA, Chief Scott Russell

Staff:

Dan Estes, Hitesh Parekh

After introductions, Ruth Hewett made a motion to approve the September 13 minutes. Motion approved after correction noted.

Public/Member Comments:

Frank Martin from the OYA introduced himself and said that he would be temping for Seantel Heisel while she is away. Frank said that he had worked with the OYA for 13 years and that he had worked in community resources, performance standards, and has also been a field officer.

Pete McCallum said that the Woodburn Task Force had a very successful anti-meth showcase last year, and that a number of the MCPSCC members were there. They had a very good turn out and three interest groups made presentations. Chief Russell made a presentation on the basics of meth, and there were also presentations on ID theft and drug free work places. There were many exhibits. Commissioner Milne said that it was very well done and put together.

Walt Beglau said that he has been speaking with Karin Immergut. She is the U.S Attorney for Oregon, and Walt said that he had some conversations with her about public safety issues. Walt invited her to the December 13th MCPSCC meeting, along with her assistant Diane Peterson.

Walt also mentioned that he has established a drug endangered children position in his office, and he has been quantifying the number of children taken into protective custody though a quarterly report. Walt handed out the report and said that as of September 30, 2005, 887 children had been taken into protective custody, and that this number should reach 1,000 to date.

Walt also said that Dave Galati of the MWVCOG had contacted him about a tri-county regional approach to the meth problem, and that Walt had invited him to the Steering Committee of the MCPSCC to talk about this.

Walt added that as part of the ORS, the grand jury must tour every correctional facility in the county. The grand jury has toured the county jail and said in their report that they found that everything was in great working order and that the staff was very knowledgeable.

Judge Tripp commended Walt for the drug endangered child prosecutor in his office. She said that the prosecutor has been working on juvenile and adult cases together and that ultimately the family wins. She cited an example of a 7-month year old pregnant mother who had tested positive for meth who was in need of services, and how the drug endangered child prosecutor had worked with the mother.

Bend Local Public Safety Conference

Sheriff Ramirez gave an overview of the Bend conference. It was noted that compared to the other public safety councils, the MCPSCC was well ahead on fighting meth. Also several of the counties requested Marion County's Strategic Plan. As a consortium of public safety councils, these councils are in the position to take potential legislative issues to the state legislature next year.

King County Mental Health Trip

The Sheriff stated that for the past 2.5 years a mental health task force had been reviewing mental health issues in the county jail. There are an estimated 35-40% of offenders with mental illness in the jail. One county, King Co. in Washington has also studied this issue and come up with changes to the system. The Sheriff as well as over 23 leaders from the community, including Judge Graves, and Walt Beglau, went to Washington to see first hand how their system works. King County has discovered that by not issuing a FTA for an offender, the system saves time and costs. Also, there were several mentally ill individuals that cycle through the system. The Sheriff said that as a local example, in 2004, his office had tracked one individual that had been arrested 52 times in Marion County.

One way of relieving this was to have a mental health advocate who is also trained in crisis intervention. In January 2006, the Sheriff's Office will be hosting a countywide training for law enforcement, and a 4-hour orientation for how to deal with the mentally ill out on the street. 21 of the deputy officers in the Sheriff's Office will be trained. A mobile crisis response team will be providing a responding officer in triage capacity. The Sheriff said that Steve Gorham, a defense attorney, also accompanied them to Washington state, and that Steve was very pleased with the system.

Walt said that he was confident that we have to embrace a different method when dealing with the mentally ill.

Coffee Creek Tour

Members of the Council said that the Children of Incarcerated Parents tour was an eye opener, and that there were 400 people on the waiting list for the program. Only a limited number of mothers could get into the group. The group agreed that it was a great tour.

Anti-Meth Toolkit

Dan Estes said that they have created a sample toolkit. A website will also be available that Dan Estes is being trained to develop.

2006 Strategic Plan of the MCPSCC

Commissioner Milne said that as the Council was coming closer to the end of the calendar year, it was time to begin thinking about the 2006 Strategic Plan. She added that the Marion County CFC had just developed their strategic plan that also focused on meth, and she wanted to make sure that the MCPSCC plan complemented and not duplicated this plan.

Members said that the Council should continue to work with the cities, and there was a concern that the council was abandoning them. Many cities are still just at the beginning stages. With guidance from the Council, tools and support, they will come a long way. There are many more partners we still need to bring in. There is still a lot to do. Meth makers and sellers are ahead of us. We promised the cities that we made a commitment with them, so now we need to go to the next step. Give them resources. Identify what the system needs.

The group discussed what the priorities should be on the next plan. It was suggested that the plan remain dynamic and not get stale. It was stated that whenever the issue of meth arises, another piece, that of mental health also comes up, and that this should be incorporated into the plan next year. There should also be a focus on meth babies and health care, and mental health court, since there are those offenders without medication that have mental health issues. Also look at what makes people NOT want to do drugs. How do we address this piece? We need to address the other two legs of the system- these being prevention and education.

We need to go out every year and have a breakfast meeting. Need to keep the continuity.

Commissioner Milne said that as the calendar year is coming to an end, the Steering Committee meeting on the 22 should be turned into a full meeting of the MCPSCC instead so that we can continue with the 2006 plan. Council members should send any feedback that they have to Hitesh prior to this meeting.

Anna added that on the night of November 7th, the City of Salem took action on a suggested proclamation. Also, the unions agreed to mandatory drug testing amongst public employees. She added that this was only done because the idea came from this body. Also the City of Salem got a national award from the league of cities for its no meth policies.

Adjourned.