

## **DUI TASK FORCE MEETING**

### **MINUTES – March 2, 2022**

The Granite County DUI Task Force met on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. in open meeting at the Granite County Courthouse's District Courtroom for its normally scheduled meeting. The meeting was called to Order by Sheriff Scott Dunkerson at 1:00 p.m. Task Force members in attendance included the following Sheriff Scott Dunkerson; Blaine Bradshaw, Granite County Attorney; Claudette Parke, Granite County Attorney's Office (non-voting); Dirk Sichveland; Dwayne Ulrich (by telephone), Anna Belle Locke, Montana Highway Patrol Sgt. Dave Oliverson, Jackie Bolster, Jen Robinson, Dawn Reis (GC Prevention Specialist) and Christian Norris (Eagle Ambulance).

Sheriff Dunkerson noted that a quorum was present for this meeting.

**Reading of the Minutes:** The meeting minutes from December 1, 2021 were reviewed and approved. A motion for approval of the December 1, 2021 minutes was made by Sgt. Dave Oliverson and seconded by Anna Belle Locke with all voting in favor of the motion.

**FINANCIALS:** Sheriff Scott Dunkerson stated that the balance in the Task Force account is \$2,225.65, a copy of such was provided to all in attendance. Sheriff Scott Dunkerson shared an email that was received showing \$300 reinstatement fees that were received for the task force that quarter and that they would continue to come due to the DUI Task Force Plan that is in effect. Dwayne Ulrich made a motion to approve the task force financials and Christian Norris seconded the motion with all voting in favor of the motion.

**MIP/DUI REPORT:** Sheriff Scott Dunkerson provided the MIP/DUI report for the last 2 months from the sheriff's office with reporting 4 new DUI's in the past few months and no MIP's with one drug case pending. Montana Highway Patrol Sgt. Dave Oliverson shared that they had 15 DUI's in 2021 with three (3) being felony DUI's for Granite County.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Sheriff Scott Dunkerson stated the task force had purchased gift cards from Kikos, as was previously approved, for Designated Drivers and have been given to the Deputies.

Member Anna Belle Locke shared with the Task Force about Kaitlyn Lester's presentation to both schools and how successful it was. Sheriff Scott Dunkerson shared that he had spoken with a student at the Philipsburg School that had definitely been impacted by the presentation.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** The Task Force listed the following upcoming events: St. Patrick's Day and BBQ Cookoff/Car Show on June 18, 2022. Sheriff Dunkerson stated that there would be DUI patrols on that night. Jen Robinson asked what usually happens in Granite County on this night. Sheriff Dunkerson stated that it is usually pretty quiet but the Deputies would be present. Sgt. Dave Oliverson shared that in Butte that most of the MHP Troopers in the area had accepted overtime shifts to cover all the festivities in Butte as they are normally very busy.

In reference to the June BBQ event, Jen Robinson stated her concerns of what she has seen in years past with the amount of alcohol that is served at this event. Sheriff Scott Dunkerson stated

that as the task force has previously approved DUI patrols he would make sure that he would assign one for that specific date.

Jackie Bolster, Granite County DES Coordinator, shared that they would be doing smoke alarm installation throughout the county on May 20-21<sup>st</sup>, 2022, and was asking around for any volunteers that would be willing to help with this project. Anna Belle Locke stated she would ask around the school to see if she could get some volunteers. This project came about due to a child's death last year in Granite County, through the FICMOR review.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Sheriff Scott Dunkerson brought up another way to raise funds for the Task Force as the Ranch at Rock Creek pays a \$35 fee to the Sheriff's Office for alcohol permits for events which funds currently go into the General Fund. Sheriff Scott Dunkerson suggested approaching the GC Commissioners to get permission to budget these funds for FY 2023 for the Task Force use for education and prevention efforts that the task force supports. It could be up to \$1,000 annually. All were supportive of this as Sheriff Dunkerson would approach the GC Commissioners.

Sheriff Dunkerson also stated he would like to see another speaker at the schools before the end of the current school year. There was some discussion among those in attendance and Dawn Reis, who is the Granite County Prevention Specialist, shared that she had lined up for Powell County, Bobby Petrocelli who had lost his wife when hit by a drunk driver and could maybe see about getting him for Granite County Schools. Dawn Reis stated that the cost of the speaker could possibly be absorbed by her budget.

Sheriff Dunkerson also stated that with the changing marijuana laws in Montana, it may be a good time to find someone who could address those issues as well. There was some discussion about how to locate a speaker for such an event. There was discussion about possibly have a Montana Highway Patrol Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) do some speaking at the schools. Sgt. Oliverson stated that both his troopers had completed the training but needed to take the final test.

Dawn Reis stated that she would coordinate with Amanda Bohrer, Anna Belle Locke and Sheriff Scott Dunkerson to set up a speaker. County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw suggested doing one joint event for both schools that could possible address both the alcohol and drug issues.

Dirk Sichveland started a discussion in regards to the cell phone that the task force had purchased for him to use as he provides rides for local residents or others who needed a designated driver as he had not renewed the contract. A motion was made by County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw with Anna Belle Locke who seconded the motion to approve \$100 for Dirk to renew the contract on the designated driver cell phone with sufficient minutes for one year.

Sgt. Dave Oliverson brought up Think Twice being discussed and used in Powell County and that they had been having success there. Dirk Sichveland shared with Sgt. Oliverson that several businesses in Granite County were already participating in the Think Twice program as well. It is discussed that Dirk Sichveland would check with local businesses to see how things were going, including the VFW bar in Maxville, Montana.

County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw made a motion to approve \$300 for Anna Belle Locke to use towards a speaker as was discussed in the meeting today. Sgt. Dave Oliverson seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Jen Robinson asked Sheriff Scott Dunkerson to explain the MIP process at the Granite County Sheriff's Office and if they had a risk assessment included as there had been a recent incident in Anaconda regarding a youth suicide which led Jen to ask questions about the process and if there was a mental health assessment included. Both Sheriff Scott Dunkerson and Sgt. Dave Oliverson shared that if they feel there is a need that the individual is always a continual evaluation done during and after the process for the needs of the youth, including mental health. There was discussion about the missing link when it comes to the amount of youth suicides in the state. It was agreed that is often a difficult question. Sgt. Dave Oliverson stated that the majority of the calls they receive, referencing suicide, that they are really just looking for help and they don't ultimately want to do it.

There was some discussion regarding the Crisis Intervention Training that takes place within law enforcement to assist with these situations. With a youth, the parents are always involved and ultimately have the say in how much law enforcement can actually do.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** None were discussed

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 1:00 pm in the Granite County Courthouse District Courtroom. Meetings are held, per the by-laws, on the first Wednesday of March, May, September and December.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m. with a motion made by Granite County Attorney, Blaine Bradshaw and seconded by Sgt. Dave Oliverson. All voted in favor of adjournment.