



Montana Association of Counties

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Justice & Public Safety Committee

September 17, 2018

Missoula, MT

12:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Obert, Chair, Broadwater	<input type="checkbox"/> Daren Schuster, Chouteau
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Krausz, Vice Chair, Custer	<input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Shupak, Stillwater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Barron, Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duane Simons, Mineral
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jerry Bennet, Lincoln	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Stempel, McCone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Bullock, Carbon	<input type="checkbox"/> Terry Vermeire, Anaconda-Deer Lodge
<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Hoffman, Ravalli	<input type="checkbox"/> Leo Gallagher, MT Co. Attorneys Assoc.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ed Joiner, Rosebud	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Gootkin, MSPOA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nicole Rowley, Missoula	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant, DES Coordinators

1. **Roll Call & Introductions:** Chair Obert called the meeting to order. Roll call and introductions were conducted.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Shupak moved and Commissioner Krausz seconded to approve the minute of the February 12, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Resolutions:**

- **Cost of Care for Animals Seized in Alleged Animal Welfare Violations:** Commissioner Rowley moved, and Commissioner Barron seconded to “Do Pass” the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Destruction of Public Records Requiring an Order of District Court to Probate Court:** Nicole Rowley and Chris Loundsbury, COO, Missoula County, explained the intent is to strike out “if the digital records are maintained”, since it is redundant with current statute. Commissioner Barron moved and Commissioner Shupak seconded to recommend a “Do Pass as Amended by the Resolutions Committee”. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Expert Witness Costs in Criminal Cases:** Leo Gallagher reported that the County Attorney’s Association supports the concept but it’s not on their legislative priorities list. He provided information that when the state assumed District Court costs in HB 124 in 2001, it was place in the law that they shall pay for witness fees (MCA 3-5-901). However due to budget cuts, the Court Administrators and Judges are no longer allowing claims for the witness fees. Sheryl Wood noted that MACo could not bring legislation to require the state to pay costs that are already required in statute? She suggested adding it as a policy statement: “Be it resolved that MACo will work with the court administrator’s office to ensure full funding for

district court costs as cited in 3-5-901”. Commissioner Joiner moved and Commissioner Shupak seconded to add the policy statement. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Public Safety Dispatch & e-9-1-1 hours of work:** Bill Barron explained the need for more flexibility with scheduling for 911; however, federal law only allows this (overtime based on 80 hours/2 weeks

vs 40 hours/week) for fire protection and law enforcement with the power to arrest. He would like to then move this to a policy statement: "Support working with NACo and the federal government to allow public safety telecommunicators to work the same 80-hour 2-week schedule as all emergency and public safety services". Detention officers do not fall under this schedule either since they do not have the power to arrest so they were removed from the original language. Department of Labor would be the appropriate place to address this, per Chris Lounsbury, COO of Missoula County. Discussion ensued about SRS vs PERS for public safety communication officers. Commissioner Krausz moved and Commissioner Shupak seconded to approve making the resolution a policy statement. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Committee Policy Statements: The Committee reviewed their Police Statements and made the following changes:

- **#12 – Extension of the "84-16" enhance wireless account:** Committee recommended striking, as this formula of funding was repealed in HB 61 (2017).
- **#17 – Funding for State DCI & Criminal Prosecution Bureau:** Committee recommended striking "to offset the use of resources in oil-impacted areas of Montana".
- **#20 – Expert Witness Costs in Criminal Cases:** Add new policy statement.
- **#21 – Public Safety Dispatch & e-9-1-1 Hours of Work:** Add new policy statement

Commissioner Krausz moved and Commissioner Shupak seconded to approve the MACo Justice & Public Safety Committee Policy Statements as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Association Reports & Updates:

- **Sheriffs & Peace Officers Association:** Sheriff Gootkin reported that a Public Safety Coalition was formed after the last session to be more effective. The Sheriffs will be sponsoring legislation to require minimum qualifications to run for Sheriff.
- **CIT Montana:** Deb Matteucci provided information on mental health services and the shortfall picked up by law enforcement and first responders. CIT MT will hold Academies in 8 counties next year. Currently, about 6 areas have standing CIT teams and CITM would be happy to help more areas help set up a team and/or provide training. Jane Weber asked about a refresher training. CIT MT is working on a re-certification, what timeline this should follow, etc. There's a curriculum review for trainers but not a refresher for participants currently. Sheriff Gootkin added that commissioners should support this in their communities as a cost-effective measure, and it's the right thing to do.

6. Juvenile Detention Funding: Discussion was held regarding the lack of funding being provided for Juvenile Detention Services. Sheriff Gootkin and Deb Matteucci reported that the budget was cut 36% of the costs, putting significant fiscal strain on counties, resulting in multiple juvenile detention facilities having to close. As adult facilities need more beds, it is putting more pressure on juvenile beds. Commissioner Weber reported on how Cascade County created a crisis response team. Now mental health teams respond to CIT requests and mental health professionals conduct the assessment.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

GUESTS	
Name	Representing
Kevin Krausz	Custer County
Roman Zylawy	Mineral County
Deb Matteucci	CIT Montana
Jane Weber	Cascade County
Bill Slaughter	Granite County
Joan Bjarko	Daniels County
Chad Campbell	US Senator Jon Tester
Rom Catlett	US Senator Steve Daines
Casey Collins	US Congressman Greg Gianforte
Mike Pence	Flathead County (Administrator)
Kimberly Burdick	MT APCO
Susan Bomstad	MT APCO
Shannon Therriault	Missoula City/County Health Dept.
Jeff Durrah	Missoula City/County Health Dept.
Ken Wall	MT State Library Commission
Chris Loundsbury	Missoula County (COO)
Janice Hoppes	Pondera County
Deb Brandon	Toole County
Mark Peterson	Hill County