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# Montana Association of Counties

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## MEETING MINUTES

### MACo HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom | September 29, 2020

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#### Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carl Seilstad, Chair, Fergus	<input type="checkbox"/> Scott MacFarlane, Gallatin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair, Lewis & Clark	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Mullen, Jefferson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Armstrong, Valley	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Slaughter, Granite
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gale Decker, Lake	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Juanita Vero, Missoula
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sidney Fitzpatrick, Big Horn	<input type="checkbox"/> Jane Weber, Cascade
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Hart, Madison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joette Woods, Liberty
<input type="checkbox"/> Ed Joiner, Rosebud	<input type="checkbox"/> Roman Zylawy, Mineral

#### 1. Roll Call & Introductions

Chair Seilstad called the meeting to order, and Jason Rittal, MACo Deputy Director, conducted roll call.

**Guests:** Chris Lounsbury, Missoula County Chief Administrative Officer; Rebecca Myers, Northbound Public Affairs; Sarah Converse, MT Economic Developers Association & Sweetgrass Development; Deborah Frandsen, Senator Tester's Office

#### 2. Review Assigned Resolutions

NOTE: Resolutions become legislation and policy statements guide staff regarding MACo's action on other legislation. The Committee was tasked with reviewing their assigned resolution and making a recommendation to drop (do not pass), amend, carry forward as is (do pass), or incorporate into policy statements (do not pass; incorporate into policy).

The committee discussed their assigned resolution that came with a "Do Not Pass" recommendation from the Resolutions & Legislative Committee: Allow for 72 Hours of Temporary Detention, sponsored by Gallatin County (District 9).

Eric Bryson, MACo Executive Director, clarified the purpose and the original "Do Not Pass" recommendation: The resolution was not presented to the Resolutions & Legislative Committee in a way that explained the intent of the resolution. This resolution is in no way intended to incarcerate those with mental health issues. It's about custodial care 72-hours prior to the formal petition process and precommitment diversion opportunities, and it's intended to be optional.

Committee Recommendation: Allow Staff time to draft amendments that reflect the intent—it could then be segregated and presented for discussion at the membership meeting.

NOTE: This resolution was also assigned to the Justice & Public Safety Committee for review.

#### 3. Review/Approve Committee Policy Statements

The Committee amended several of their policy statements:

*#4 – MACo supports local public health departments in their efforts to improve and protect the health of every community by advancing strategies that strengthen the foundation, quality, and performance of*

local public health departments, and for THE STATE to provide adequate state funding for public health services that do not reduce county revenue sources.

#5 – MACo supports the Montana Indoor Clean Air Act, AND VAPING SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE DEFINITION.

#7 – MACo supports the need for the Legislature to define serious mental illness in conjunction with the ~~detention~~ CUSTODY of the mentally ill. Further, there is an urgent need for the Legislature to provide financial assistance relative ~~to the detention of~~ to the seriously mentally ill.

#10 – MACo supports providing adequate funding to chemical dependency treatment programs AND DRUG TREATMENT COURTS throughout the STATE AND IN THE JAIL AND PRISON SYSTEMS.

#16 – MACo supports Medicaid Expansion as long as there is sufficient federal and state funding to support the expansion WITH ADEQUATE MEANS TEST IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE, AND BASIC COVERAGE ONLY.

#17 – MACo supports providing adequate state funding for comprehensive community-based ~~Mental~~ BEHAVIORAL Health Services.

#25 – MACO SUPPORTS THE CONTINUATION OF MEDICARE/MEDICAID BENEFITS FOR DETENTION CENTER INMATES PRIOR TO TRIAL.

**4. Other Business**

The committee had no further business.

**5. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the committee adjourned.