

**Yellowstone County DUI Task Force**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2012**

**Present:** John Bedford, Monty Wallis, Stephanie Hons, Sharmon Brougham, Jeannie Martin, Barbara Grossman, Tom Keightley, Chris Thompson, Kent O'Donnell, Triniti Halverson, Roger Gordon, Barry Willson, Rod Willson, Darla Tyler-McSherry. **Excused:** Kevin Holland, Keith Edgell, Chuck Bratsky.

Meeting called to order at 12:05 PM.

A motion was made to approve the February meeting minutes. Motion seconded and approved.

The Task Force received an RFP request from Billings PD Officer Tom Keightley. The request is to help support the acquisition of a Police K9. One of their K9s is injured and there is a need to get another dog. Budget shortfalls require them to raise funds from other organizations and private donations. It is not unusual for a K9 to take an average of 60K in drugs off the streets per year and also conduct about 100 public relations visits throughout the community in a year. The presented nexus between DUI and a K9 is they are very valuable in DUI stops in searching and locating other drugs in those situations. At this time we are unsure of the funds available in the RFP line. We will table this request until next month.

The Montana Traffic Educators Conference will be held April 22-24 in Billings. We've been requested to present during one of the educational sessions—Tuesday April 24 from 9:10-10:00 AM. This conference will be held at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center. Chris from the MT Army National Guard will verify they can bring their SIDNE (Simulated Impaired DrivINg Experience) vehicle in Helena to this conference. SIDNE is a modified go-kart that simulates impaired driving. Darla will keep in touch with Chris and will check with David regarding any potential liability issues. Chris will need about four people to help with this project. Additionally, we will provide examples of other resources the conference participants can use in their classrooms, such as the BAC wallet cards, our Your Choice videos, BUI videos, etc. Darla will check with Keith re: availability of Trooper Haynes' car to demonstrate that schools can request to have the car brought to their community.

The discussion on how to raise the profile of DUI issues during the upcoming Legislative session centered primarily on sponsoring another forum. Our previous forum was very well attended and provided an excellent opportunity to educate the community and lawmakers on DUI. Discussion involved changing the format to include a question and answer period and some other changes. The other idea the Task Force is most interested in is to develop a Twitter account to keep people informed and involved. We will continue the conversation on these ideas at next month's meeting

Lauren Little from the Yellowstone County Impaired Driving Court submitted a letter requesting membership to the DUI Task Force. Her letter was electronically forwarded to the Task Force on March 11. A motion was made to accept her application. Motion seconded and approved.

The DUI Task Force received an RFP request from the Yellowstone County Impaired Driving Court. This request is to send Sgt. Ayers from the Montana Highway Patrol to attend the National Drug Court Conference in Nashville this June. This request was electronically forwarded to the Task Force on March 11. At this time we do not know the availability of funds in our RFP line item. Darla will work with County Finance and David Carter to determine availability of funds. A motion was made if funds are available to support this request in the amount of \$1,000.00 with a confirmation of support by email. Motion seconded and approved.

MSU Billings HEROES peer health education organization is working with both local cab companies to relaunch the Jacket Cab safe rides program.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM.