

Minutes - January 19, 2006

**Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officer Association
Board Meeting Fairmont Hot Springs, Montana**

Directors Present

Tom Skinner, President
Jim Cashell, Past President
Tony Harbaugh, Sec/Treas

Bill Barron, 1st Vice
Dennis McCave, 2nd Vice
Daryl Anderson, 3rd Vice

Sheriffs

Rusty Jardee
Dave Castle
Cliff Brophy
Cheryl Liedle
Dave Schenk

Undersheriffs & Deputies

Blue Corneliusen
Greg Hintz
Brian Gootkin
Leo Dutton

The meeting was called to order by President Skinner and roll was called.

**** Motion by Cliff Brophy to waive the reading and approved the minutes of the previous meeting.**

2nd by Greg Hintz
Motion Passed

Guests:

Chris Christensen and Becky Berger, 911, updated the board on the cutovers to CenturyTel. They are going to Missoula to do the cutover and then on to Chinook. Chris advised that Senator Burns has gotten another 1 million dollars allocated to the project.

John Strandell, DOJ, advised that the courtroom security assessments will be conducted over the next few weeks. Results of these assessments will be made to the Montana Supreme Court.

John advised that the MT All Threat Intelligence Center, will compile a database on individuals that may present a threat to courts and judges.

John advised that the crime scene vans are available and are stationed in Helena and Billings. He further advised that the mobile command post is also available upon request. It is stationed at Ft. Harrison.

John advised that the sexual and violent offender registry now has a full time agent assigned and he is traveling the state tracking the offenders that need to register. There are currently over 5,200 offenders in Montana.

John noted that the Justice Conference will be in Helena the first week in May.

Bill Slaughter, DOC, advised that the prisoner transport contract with Transcor was extended six months, then DOC will take over their own system. DOC has offered to transport local prisoners when possible. Slaughter would like to form a prisoner transport advisory board.

Bill explained the prison rape elimination act, PREA. He explained that we must train to these standards and use them or Montana will lose federal funding to many areas of state government. This act includes staff on offender, staff on staff, and offender on offender.

**** Motion by Dennis McCave that President Skinner send a letter of support for PREA grant funds to train and buy equipment for jails and the prison.**

Second by Greg Hintz

Motion Passed

Discussion with Slaughter over what constitutes “emergency capacity” in the prison. When this is declared this causes a back up in County Jails.

Ray Barnicoat, MACo, thanked the board for partnering with MACo on the Loss Conference.

Treasurer’s report was given by Tony Harbaugh.

Report of the President:

Tom Skinner reported that he, Cliff Brophy, and Tony Harbaugh attended the Department of Livestock training session in Lewistown concerning quarantines for livestock disease and the enforcement of them.

Communications and Liaisons:

SERC –Cliff Brophy will attend the February meeting

MBCC – Jim Cashell reports they subcommittee on physical fitness is meeting January 20 in Great Falls with representatives from other states attending. Next board meeting will be March 9 in Helena. The board also hosted a meeting in Billings December 9 on jails and over crowding issues. This group will meet again to make recommendations.

POST – Greg Hintz and Alan Horsfall reported that the POST council seats will expire on February 9. They expect an almost entirely new council. The draft of new

administrative rules will be ready to go to MBCC soon. Horsfall would like us to look at it first for our input.

**** Motion by Dave Castle to send a letter to the Governor from MSPOA explaining that we would like Greg Hintz and John Grainger kept on the POST Council as per administrative rules and further ask that Dennis McCave also be reappointed.**

Second by Dennis McCave

Motion Passed

WSSA – Tony advised that they annual conference will be February 21-23 in Las Vegas, NV.

Special Olympics – ** Motion by Dave Castle to support Special Olympics at last years level.

Second by Bill Barron

Motion Passed.

Coroners – NR

MLEA Advisory – Alan Horsfall reported that Kevin Olsen has proposed a mitigated fitness conversion plan to the POST Council on behalf of MLEA.

NSA – NR

Search and Rescue – NR

MACo – Greg Hintz attended the meeting in Billings in September and advises that the conference in Great Falls will be February 13 and 14.

Operation Lifesaver – Daryl Anderson advised that the December meeting was postponed and will be rescheduled

MACo Risk Management – Greg Hintz advises that this conference has over 150 in attendance

CJIS – NR

NLECTC – NR

Private Security – Cheryl Liedle advised that the committee is looking at a possible statute change for “casual employment” for peace officers. They are proposing to eliminate this language. It was recommended that this issue go to Government Relations Committee.

Senior Homeland Security Advisory Committee - Cheryl Liedle advises that money for the inter operable communication consortiums may now come through this committee.

MDT/Traffic Safety - Dave Castle advise that they want to develop and state wide comprehensive safety plan that would 1) reduce alcohol related accidents, 2) increase safety belt usage, 3) reduce single vehicle accidents, and 4) reduce fatal accidents involving trucks. Dave will continue to attend.

Governors Summit on Emergency Preparedness - Greg Hintz advises there conference will be held May 23 – 26 in Billings with training on pandemic flu, law enforcement mutual aid, interoperable communications, and agri-terrorism. Greg is the agenda chairman for the committee.

Old Business:

Cliff Brophy reports that Danny Ames, Stillwater County UnderSheriff, has retired and February 18 will be his retirement party in Laurel at DJ's.

Dennis McCave advises that as per DOC suggestion three subcommittees are being formed for the prisoner shuttle. These will deal with Standards, the web site, and coordination. It was discussed that a secure message board on the MSPOA website could be established to use for coordinating prisoner transports. The committees will meet again February 3 in Bozeman.

Dennis McCave advised that the Jail Standards are going to be updated and NIC is willing to be involved along with MACo.

Committee Reports:

Programs and Services –A seconded motion was brought to the board to send a letter of support to Burns and Rehberg to support the 8 million dollar request from Congress to fund the Pictometry project and make it available to all counties.

Motion Failed

Greg Hintz advised that the TAC Advisory Committee is ready to update the RED Book. Greg and Willis Hintz are seeking grants through DOC to help fund the update. They will meet January 20 in Great Falls. SWAT instructor school is scheduled June 19-23.

The Marshall Service will put on a one day court security class sometime in early April.

**** Motion by Cheryl Liedle that we support this training.**

Second by Blue Corneliusen

Motion Passed

Public and Community Relations – Bill Barron advised that he will be working on getting the scholarship announcements out.

Board and Committee Development – Rusty Jardee advised that the long range planning will be held in conjunction with the next board meeting March 21-23 in Ekalaka.

Government Relations – Cheryl Liedle advises that there will be a meeting concerning the wage and hour issue in Lewis and Clark County on February 3 at 1:00 p.m. Location to be announced.

**** Seconded motion to the board to send a letter to the County Attorneys Association seeking an opinion or asking them to seek an AG opinion regarding the Lewis and Clark deputies issue.**

Motion Passed – Greg Hintz will deliver the letter to Fred VanValkenburg.

By Laws – NR

Funding and Fiscal – NR

Directors Report – Jim Smith advised that they Step Grants for DUI overtime patrol are available in the amount of \$90,000 January through September of 2006. Applications have been sent out with a dead line of January 31. It was noted that President Skinner and Secretary Harbaugh will have administrative authority to sign for these grants.

Two DUI arrests and prosecution workshops are being held with MDT grants and there was discussion of partnering with MDT to create a new public service announcement.

Jim noted that detention officers have until May 1 to decide to go with SRS or stay in PERS.

Kathy is attending MACo Human Services meetings and needs our statistical data regarding state hospital patient transports.

Kathy advises that MACo has a standard contract to use when sending officers to the basic academy. Government Relations committee will look this over.

Next meeting schedule for Ekalaka, Montana, March 21-23, 2006.

Meeting adjourned.