

Minutes  
Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association  
Board Meeting Butte, Montana  
November 20, 2009

**Directors Present**

Leo Dutton-----President  
Daryl Anderson-----Past Pres.  
Tony Harbaugh-----Sec/Treas

Dave Schenk-----1<sup>st</sup> Vice  
Blue Corneliusen-----2<sup>nd</sup> Vice  
Vern Burdick-----3<sup>rd</sup> Vice

**Sheriffs**

Rusty Jardee  
Chris Hoffman  
David Castle  
Jim Cashell  
Cliff Brophy

**Undersheriffs & Deputies**

Greg Hintz  
Dennis McCave  
Brian Gootkin  
Dan Birdsill  
Dave Rau

**Detention Officers**

Kathy Frame  
Tim Neiter

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

\*\* Motion by Greg Hintz to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Gootkin Motion Passed

**Guests:**

John Walsh, Butte Silver-Bow Sheriff, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the board for coming to Butte for a board meeting.

Jay Hansen, Beaverhead County Sheriff, asked that MSPOA examine the issue of small Sheriffs offices losing officers to larger agencies that pay better salaries. The issue was referred to Government Relations committee.

Rube Wrightsman, Sanders County Undersheriff, introduced Deputy Doug Dryden who will be running for Sheriff in Sanders County in 2010. Rube expressed concerns about reserve officers going under POST authority and the definitions in the statutes that will burden small counties that rely on their reserve officers. This issue was referred to Programs and Services Committee. Greg Hintz will look at meeting further on this after the MACo Risk Conference in Missoula.

Butch Huseby, MHP, thanked MSPOA for the invitation and advised that they will continue to attend our meetings. Butch further advised that the National Troopers Conference will be held in Kalispell next May.

Kevin Olson, MLEA, gave an academy update. He advised that construction is going well on the new building. It is fully enclosed and should be done by April. The wastewater treatment project should be complete by December 1.

Kevin would like the Association to display our banner in the new building along with other association's banners.

Kevin thanked the board for agreeing to purchase a cargo trailer and one set of MPAT equipment.

He advised that basic will graduate 53 officers on December 11 and that CDOB is now a four week course.

The academy is exploring the need for prisoner transport driving training and they are developing a law enforcement traffic safety course.

Carl Hotvedt, MSSB/911, gave an interoperable radio update and advised that sustainability is currently the big issue for their group.

Becky Berger, 911, gave a statewide update and advised that E911 for land line should be completed statewide by January 1.

Jon Grainger, DOL, discussed open range issues, herd district issues, and explained the new estray sale notices that will go to Sheriffs via email.

Bob Clark, Lewis and Clark County Sheriffs Office, gave an update on the law and justice interim subcommittee of the legislature. He advised that they are looking at SJR 39 (study of all DUI laws) and SJR 29 which requires retention of DNA for analysis.

Bill Slaughter, MT Meth Project, advised that Meth use by MT youth from 2005-09 is down by 63%. Slaughter is requesting a donation of \$2500 from MSPOA for the MT Meth project.

#### Report of the President:

Sheriff Dutton advised that the dates of June 22-25, 2010, are locked in for the joint Law Enforcement Summit with MPPA and MACOP at the Red Lion in Helena. Leo advised that the training will focus on officer safety and health issues.

Leo advises that Attorney General Bullock will be forming his advisory council and will name officers to those seats.

#### Appointments and Liaisons:

**DES/SERC – No Report**

**MBCC** – Jim Cashell advised that their next meeting will December 10.

**Coroners** – No Report

**MLEA** – this committee will cease to exist and become part of the Attorney Generals advisory council.

**NSA** – No Report

**WSSA** – Tony Harbaugh advised that the conference will be the first week of March in Las Vegas and that the web site is [WesternSheriffs.org](http://WesternSheriffs.org).

**POST** – Dennis McCave advised that the next meeting is December 17 and will focus on CDOB curriculum.

**Search and Rescue** – Cliff Brophy advised that they will meet in Helena in January. DES needs a name submitted to consider for a full time temporary position to coordinate with sheriffs, S&R and DES.

**MACo** – Greg Hintz advised that the Risk Management Conference will be held at the Missoula Hilton January 20-22, 2010.

**Operation Lifesaver** – Daryl Anderson suggests an \$800 contribution at the 2010 summit at it was agreed that we ask MACOP and MPPA to contribute to the BBQ as well.

**Special Olympics** – Dan Birdsill advised that the summer games will be in Bozeman this year and he will try to attend the kick off event.

**Private Security** – Leo Dutton advised that they are meeting quarterly and primarily reviewing complaints.

**MDT/Traffic Safety** – No Report

**IR** – No Report

**State IR** – Leo Dutton advised that the Governance committee is working on sustainability.

**DOC** – Dave Castle advised that the committee is meeting and planning. He feels that we need to ask for more representation on that board.

**Concealed Weapons** – Dave Schenk advised that we need to ask the Governor to reestablish this committee.

**911 Advisory** – Vern Burdick advised that the current grant dollars have been dispersed.

Committee Reports:

**Programs and Services** – Greg Hintz advises that they will be asking the Law Enforcement museum board for a business plan before considering further contributions.

**Public and Community Relations** – Brian Gootkin advised that the applications notices have been sent out for scholarship, officer of the year, and distinguished career officer awards.

**Board and committee development** – Dave Schenk advised that the committee will be updating the phone tree and they plan to organize additional search and rescue training in conjunction with board meetings.

**Government Relations** – Jim Cashell requested that anyone with issues to be considered for legislation get them to the committee as soon as possible.

**Funding and Fiscal** –

\*\* Motion by Cliff Brophy to pay the annual dues to the National Sheriffs executive directors association for three years for Smith and McGowan, and evaluate annually, and to pay for one trip per year to attend their annual conference.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Greg Hintz

Motion Passed

\*\* Motion by Greg Hintz to consolidate financial records and reports in Smith and McGowan’s office database and hire Helena accountants to handle taxes and accounting portions and keep Miles City Accountants for payroll and quarterly reports.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Cliff Brophy

Motion Passed

\*\* Motion by Greg Hintz to order 1000 calendars to promote MSPOA to its membership.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian Gootkin

Motion Passed

**By Laws** – No Report

**Necrology** – Tony Harbaugh noted the passing of former Garfield County Sheriff Ed Dobler.

Old Business:

Dennis McCave advised that Kathy Frame will be the new liaison to the jail peer review advisory committee.

**Director's Report:**

Kathy McGowan advised that they are working on the electronic monitoring grant to keep the mentally ill out of jails. She advised that MBCC wants to get involved and may add additional funds to the \$200,000 grant.

She advised that the law and justice interim subcommittee will need our input on DUI issues. Kathy handed out a final wrap up sheet for the STEP grants and advised that the grant has been renewed.

Jim Smith noted that the racial profiling work done by MSPOA is making great impacts by creating working relationships between Sheriffs and the Tribes.

He advised that the MONTS project ends February 28, 2010, but we may be able to extend the project at no cost.

Smith and McGowan noted that sponsors are needed for the 2010 law enforcement summit.

**Other Business**

Dave Castle advised the board of an issue in his county where the authority of the Sheriff is being challenged. This issue could impact all Sheriffs statewide. Sheriff Castle advised that when Sheriffs and County Commissioners differ on an issue the County Attorney must defend the County Commissioners. He is asking for help from the board.

\*\* Motion by Tony Harbaugh that MSPOA go on record in support of Sheriff Castle's position in defense of the authority of the Sheriff.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Greg Hintz

Motion Passed

It was agreed that government relations committee needs to look at this issue for possible legislation.

Chris Hoffman, advised that Mike McMeekin, Missoula County Sheriff, is chairman of the multi agency command group. Chris advised that anyone with concerns on fire issues such as reimbursements, please contact Sheriff McMeekin.

Treasurers Report was given by Tony Harbaugh.

\*\* Motion by Jim Cashell to approve the Treasurers Report

2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Birdsill

Motion Passed

Next meeting January 27 and 28 in Miles City.

Meeting adjourned.