

MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

CONFERENCE CALL

Public Location: Helena Regional Office
139 North Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601

July 12, 2016

DRAFT MINUTES

Committee Members Present

Bonnie Olson (Chair), Marion; Roy Brown, Billings

Other Commissioners Present

Fritz Gillespie (Commission Chair), Helena

Committee Members Absent

Margaret Novak, Chester; Brian Gallik, Bozeman

Agency Team Members Present

Bill Hooks, Chief Public Defender; Kristina Neal, Conflict Coordinator; Chad Wright, Chief Appellate Defender; Peter Ohman, Training Coordinator; Wendy Johnson, Contract Manager; Carleen Green, Accountant; Cathy Doyle, Administrative Assistant; Marsha Parr, Case Management Support; Scott Cruse, pending Chief Administrator

Interested Persons

Malissa Williams, Office of Budget and Program Planning

Jim Taylor, Legal Director, ACLU Montana, was unable to attend but plans to submit written comments on the draft plan.

1. Call to Order

Committee Chair Bonnie Olson called the meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. Approve Minutes of April 26, 2016 meeting (*Action Item)

Commissioner Brown moved to adopt the minutes as drafted. Commissioner Olson seconded and the motion carried.

3. Enhancements to the Draft Strategic Plan

Commissioner Olson invited comments on the current draft plan. Scott Cruse, hired as the Chief Administrator effective August 22, was in attendance and commended

commissioners and staff on their work so far. He noted that there are quite a lot of objectives which have to be measured at the end of the reporting period. He suggested consolidating some of them, and identifying how the objectives and performance measurements specifically further each goal to move the agency forward.

Mr. Cruse listed four things that are important to the agency, all of which are addressed in the draft plan:

1. Promote excellence in legal defense.
2. Promote taxpayer value.
3. Promote transparency and accountability
4. Promote leadership and management.

Mr. Cruse likes to operate on a one-year plan; things might change in terms of revenue stream, workforce, types of cases, etc. within that timeframe. The plan can be revised annually, or successive plans for one, two and five years can be developed. Commissioner Olson said that given the two-year budgeting process, she likes the idea of starting with one, two and five year plans.

The committee worked through each individual goal and objective with input from staff, with a focus on timelines and the ability to achieve each item within the reporting period. Work was completed through Goal 2 on page 6.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at noon. The committee will reconvene by phone in the next week or two for further discussion.

The full Commission will meet by phone in August to approve goals and objectives for the Executive Planning Process submission before the August 31 deadline.