

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**SANTA FE COUNTY**  
**DWI PLANNING COUNCIL**

**November 13, 2014**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico**

This meeting of the Santa Fe County DWI Planning Council was called to order by Chair Tom Starke at approximately 9:00 a.m. on the above-cited date at 2052 S. Galisteo, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

A quorum was achieved with the following members present:

**Members Present:**

Tom Starke  
Richard De Mella  
Erica Abeyta  
Loralee Freilich  
John Mowen

**Member(s) Excused:**

David Saldivar  
Leah Tafoya

**Staff Present:**

Lupe Sanchez, DWI Program Coordinator  
Peter Olson, DWI Program  
Jennifer Romero, Teen Court

**Others Present:**

Christa Kongs, CSV Nurse, Western Governors University  
Shelly Moeller, Contract Program Evaluator  
Shelley Mann-Lev, Santa Fe Prevention Alliance and SFPS  
Juan Valdez, Santa Fe Community Guidance Center and Sober House  
Ted Collins, NM State Police  
Nathan Segura, Santa Fe Sheriff's Office

Those present introduced themselves.

**III. Approval of Minutes: October 9, 2014**

Upon motion by the Chair and second by Ms. Freilich, the minutes were approved without objection.

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved by consensus.

**V. Matters from the Council/Action Items**

**A. Follow up from previous meetings**

Chair Starke noted that alcohol-related crashes are up 35 percent in Santa Fe County. He encouraged the council members to consider this rise in accidents

Captain Collins noted an increase in accidents on Tuesdays and the hours of 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. which appear to coincide with happy hours. With gas prices down, the question of whether there was more traffic on the road was posed. DOT may be able to provide that data.

Ms. Mann-Lev suggested an additional source investigation in relation to crashes.

Captain Collins suggested reviewing the larger picture to ascertain whether all crashes are up.

Chair Starke requested that staff invite the DOT District V engineer to attend a meeting and discuss the crash numbers. Captain Collins said DOT will have data from 2012, not 2014. He recommended talking to local law enforcement for the data.

There is no distinction between drug and alcohol in the data. The report shows "impairment or DWI."

Chair Starke stated the law enforcement subcommittee would work on this and report back in January/February.

**VI. Information Items**

**A. Average Alcohol Consumption**

Chair Starke distributed a page from *Paying the Tab: The Costs and Benefits of Alcohol Control* by Philip Cook, breaking the population into 10 percent groups. The top 10 percent user consumes 73.85 drinks a week, whereas, 80 percent of the population consume at a rate that does not impact the safety of the public.

Ms. Freilich advocated an educational health campaign highlighting the risks of overconsumption.

**B. Community Data Report**

Chair Starke said he heard Ms. Moeller give this presentation to the Prevention Alliance and asked her to provide it to the council.

2014 NOV 13 10:58 AM

Ms. Moeller said she provides evaluation and data resource for the Prevention Alliance and this presentation was created as an update to the outcome indicators. She reported on the strategic indicators with the overarching Alliance goal to decrease alcohol and drug related death and injury. She noted that New Mexico and Santa Fe County have higher alcohol-related death rates than the nation as a whole. The numbers include alcohol related chronic disease (cirrhosis, pancreatitis, heart disease) and alcohol related injury death. She identified where she obtained her data.

The two main causes of unintentional alcohol-related injury death are motor vehicle crashes and unintentional drug overdose. Deaths from alcohol related motor vehicle deaths are going down in Santa Fe County. Interesting to note, those dying of unintentional overdoses tend to be 45 and older. Ms. Moeller pointed out that while the rest of the nation's unintentional overdose rates are soaring, New Mexico's rise very little because of its consistent high overdose death rate in the nation.

Ms. Moeller said DOT produces a monthly report with comparisons on all motor vehicle crashes with subsets on alcohol-related crashes, seatbelts, etc.

Ms. Freilich stressed the need for education.

A discussion ensued about the over-prescribing of pain killers and it was mentioned that 60 percent of all prescriptions written in NM are pain killers. Ms. Moeller said the issue is addiction.

Ms. Moeller reviewed the risk behavior that leads to alcohol and drug related deaths. The data was from high school students and adults.

Mr. De Mella pointed to the drug companies that dictate the prescription of 30 pills in a bottle rather than 10. The drug companies are portfolio-driven and Mr. De Mella said they should be held accountable for the problems.

Mr. Valdez noted that the mentally ill are often over-prescribed and many use the pills as a source of income.

Ms. Moeller said the reduction of prescription pain pills in the market will result in increased heroin use and the unintentional overdose from heroin will increase to feed the addicted population. Heroin is easy to obtain and cheaper.

Captain Collins said according to the DOT report, Santa Fe County is down in DWI related fatalities since 2011.

In response questions raised, Ms. Moeller reported that there are more young people dying of illicit drug overdoses than from prescription medication, and in terms of alcohol-related chronic disease/death, hypertension, stroke and alcohol dependence were mentioned.

### **C. Coordinator's Report**

Mr. Sanchez brought up the following issues:

- The CDWI grant agreements have been received. The funding is strictly for law enforcement to cover overtime for saturation patrols, checkpoints and court hearings. State Police, City Police and Sheriff received \$10,000 apiece; SID received \$5,000 and the Pueblo Tribal Police received \$5,000 with the remainder of the grant funds going for equipment
- DFA audited the Santa Fe County DWI Program and there were no issues or findings
- Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) conducted a statewide evaluation of DWI and indigent programs. The evaluation was released and it was less than positive. The LFC's concern was in data collection and that each program funds different programs
- The *New Mexican* insert has been well received
- A press conference is tentatively scheduled for November 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness around holiday drinking and driving
- The DWI affiliate will be focusing on emission interlock for out-of-state residents with DWIs
- March of Sorrow will occur on the DWI Awareness Day at the Roundhouse
- A meeting with the District Attorneys handling the driving on a revoked for a DWI is scheduled. Many of those cases are dismissed and the meeting may help to develop a pilot project to better train law enforcement for court in this issue. Traffic Safety may be willing to fund a position for the DA to handle these cases
- The Southside Initiative is scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and at this point it is unknown whether DWI can have a table to distribute material
- Mr. Sanchez and Chair Starke attended the City's Immigration Committee to gain insight into reaching out to the immigrant community. The committee committed to developing a focus group with Somos un Pueblo Unido taking the lead
- Staff will be meeting at the Community College with some students to learn how to better reach out to the college population

Ms. Abeyta said the Santa Fe Community College Halloween party was a great success with over 150 families on campus treat or treating. DWI information was provided at that party.

Chair Starke solicited Mr. Valdez' help with the Somos focus group.

Review of the strategic plan was postponed.

## VII. Miscellaneous

### A. **Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

- Review the proposed memorial regarding alcohol sales density
- DOT data on traffic and alcohol-related crashes
- Review the dash board information
- Review of the strategic plan

Ms. Freilich said it was imperative that the legislators be made aware of the alcohol-related crashes and deaths.

**VIII. Announcements**

The next meeting was scheduled for December 11<sup>th</sup>.

**IX. Adjournment**

Having completed the agenda and with no further action to come before the Council, Chair Starke declared this meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Starke, Chair  
DWI Planning Council

Respectfully submitted by:


Karen Farrell, Wordswork



COUNTY OF SANTA FE            )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO        ) ss

DWI MINUTES  
PAGES: 5

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 12TH Day Of December, 2014 at 03:03:30 PM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1752901  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
Geraldine Salazar  
Deputy  County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM