

Eastern Elder Justice Council Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2022

Stockman Bank

2700 King Avenue W.

Billings, MT 59101

- I. Welcome
 - A. Introductions
 - B. Present: Amy Schuett, Michael Hagenlock, and Margaret Gallagher attended via TEAMS; Heather Handran, Janna Wittenberg, Brett Lapham, Jodi Berry, and Chris McConnell attended in person. Absent: Mike Guy
 - C. Outline of day's agenda
 - D. Hand Out Materials List
 1. Current Executive Order
 2. Short compendium of important statutes/procedures
 - a) *Ethics*
 - b) *Open Meetings*
 - c) *Open Records*
 3. Per Diem application
 4. Elder Abuse Publications
 5. Montana Elder and Persons with Developmental Disabilities Abuse Prevention Act
 6. Resources Guide
 - a) *Agencies list & contact numbers*
 - b) *Law enforcement offices*
 - c) *Private/nonprofit list and contact numbers*
- II. Public Comment- No Comment
- III. Gov. Gianforte's Executive Order
 - A. Discussion Leader: *Lianna Waller, Interim Bureau Chief with Adult Protective Services.*
 - B. Outline of terms
 - C. Administration's vision and mission
 - D. "Administratively Attached" to DPHHS/APS
 - E. Role of the Elder Justice Prosecutor's Office – Mike Fanning, Attorney and Chris Benson, Investigator with Department of Justice.
- IV. Elder Abuse Issues

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- A. Paul Greenwood gave a presentation on Elder Abuse issues, potential focus points for the EJC, and available resources.
 - 1. <https://eagle.usc.edu/>

- V. Ethics and Standards
 - A. Mike Fanning with DOJ discussed ethics and standards when conducting EJC public meetings.

- VI. Paul Greenwood interviewed Gordon, victim of a financial exploitation scam in Kalispell Montana.

- VII. Discussion of Objectives- Mike Fanning discussed topics of interest that the EJC may want to explore.
 - A. Not all EJCs need to pursue the same objectives
 - B. Possible studies
 - 1. Promotion of Adult Protective Service Teams Mont. Code Ann. § 52-3-805
 - 2. Legislative Initiatives
 - 3. Developing collaborative public/private projects
 - 4. Outreach and Education
 - a) *World Elder Abuse Awareness Day June 15, 2023*
 - b) *Training*
 - 5. Promoting safe housing
 - a) *At home services*
 - b) *Reversing trend toward nursing home closures*
 - 6. Special concerns of rural counties
 - 7. Supporting Training for Responders
 - 8. Supporting Training for bank staff and staff of other account types

- VIII. Council Leadership
 - A. Chair – appointed by Governor. No appointments were made to the members. Lianna Waller (APS) will follow up with Governor’s office to determine if the Chair had been appointed.
 - B. Committee Structure- Council members will determine who will be responsible for which roles and notify Lianna Waller lwaller@mt.gov or Chris Brown james.brown2@mt.gov

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- C. Deadlines for establishing and filling committees reflective of objectives- Report due to the Governor's office by 12/31/20
- D. Organize and establish next council meeting, notify APS of the date/time for public posting.

- IX. Open comment

- X. Adjournment 12:00 pm