

Lea County DWI Advisory Council Meeting Summary

Meeting date: Monday, May 15, 2023 Lea County Annex 1019 E. Bender Blvd., Hobbs, NM 88240

The Lea County DWI Advisory Council (LCDWIAC) held a regular meeting at the Lea County Annex on Monday, May 15, 2023. Members present were Chip Low, Deana Fleetwood, Chris Middleton and Susana Arvizu.

Also present were Director Kelly Livingston, Clinical Manager Michael Nevarez, Compliance Supervisor Amie Baeza and Office/Accreditation Manager Stephanie Rice.

The minutes of the March 27, 2023, meeting were approved unanimously.

Low stated that Lea County approved the preliminary budget the previous week.

Navarez stated that the Treatment department has begun using a new electronic health record software that is more efficient and produces a better product. The new hire, Bill Raabe, has started seeing clients, running groups and providing treatment services. A second position has been filled, but the employee hasn't begun working yet. There are also plans to have a counselor travel to Lovington to provide ease of access for area clients. Livingston added that there are still two openings in the department and that eventually, services will expand to the general public.

Livingson stated that Prevention is working with area senior bash committees to provide breathalizer services before graduates can enter their parties or board buses. DWI will provide shirts with its logo for Eunice and Lovington High Schools seniors at their bashes. A golf cart prevention activity was held for Eunice students. Prevention will now be under treatment. Future activities include 100 Days and Nights of Summer, the Lea County Fair and back to school events.

Baeza stated 300 hours of community service were logged at the VFW and Habitat for Humanity in addition to Lea County facilities. Advanced probation training was held in Hobbs at which 30 attendees received 30 hours of training such as active shooter and officer safety training, informed care and motivational interviewing. Baeza stated they would like to make the training an annual event.

Rice stated that the department's accreditation assessment is scheduled for June 6-7, 2023.

Livingston stated House Bill 547 could have reduced the LDWI fund (a grant which is distributed to all counties and funded by 45% of the liquor excise tax) to 23.75% of the excise tax, but it was vetoed by the governor.

The next meeting was set for July 31, 2023.