

Board of County Commissioners Meeting

Staff Report

Agenda Item # 5: Matters from Staff

Meeting Date: **March 16, 2010** Presenter: **Program Coordinator, Anne Comeaux**
Submitting Department: **Drug Court** Subject: **State Grant Application**

Statement / Purpose:

The Teton County DUI/Drug Court (Drug Court) is requesting approval to make its annual application to the Wyoming Substance Abuse Division for Drug Court funding. The request will be for a maximum of \$196,977.20 towards a program caseload of 20 participants (their funding formula indicates \$9848.86 per participant slot).

Background / Description / Alternatives (Pros & Cons):

The DUI/Drug Court will be changing its name to Teton County Supervised Treatment Program effective July 1, 2010 to better reflect the language used in current statutes.

DUI/Drug Court fills a gap in criminal justice system sentencing options for repeat alcohol and drug addicted offenders. Eligibility criteria include being over 18, have prior drug court alcohol related offenses, being diagnosed with drug and/or alcohol dependency, having no prior violent felonies and no violence in the current offense, and having local ties to our community.

The DUI/Drug Court has been in operation since 2004. Its goals are to reduce substance abuse and criminality among participants, thereby increasing community safety and reducing costs to society of addiction. It is a minimum 12 month minimum program that is a collaborative effort emphasizing treatment and sobriety, close community supervision and frequent judicial review. The Drug Court adheres to a nationally developed program model and meets standards for Wyoming state certification as a Drug Court.

The Drug Court has a current maximum caseload of 20 repeat DUI/Drug offenders. Drug Court Team members include Program Coordinator Anne Comeaux, Prosecuting Attorney Melissa Owens, Public Defender Robert Stepans, Department of Corrections Probation Officer Charles Shinkle, Curran-Seeley treatment specialist Jeff Decker, Jackson Hole Community Counseling Center mental health therapist Heath Miller, Teton County Jail Sgt. Troy Sutton. Dick Stout, of DeFazio Law Offices, covers the defense attorney role in Robert Stepans absence.

The Drug Court team meets weekly to: monitor participants supervision compliance, review drug and alcohol monitoring activities, review attendance and progress at treatment, and consider immediate incentives or sanctions for program compliance and non-compliance.

Alternatives to Drug Court include longer terms of incarceration in the Teton County jail and Wyoming State Penitentiary or standard probation. These alternatives do not provide repeat offenders the same combination of oversight, accountability, treatment services, pro-social development, court review and sobriety monitoring as drug court (all of which increase sobriety and treatment completion rates and reduce recidivism rates).

Attachments:

A resolution to authorize this year's grant request is attached.

Fiscal Impact:

The grant funding request requires match to exceed 25% (26% is \$51,214.07) cash match. The match would be met by the Teton County salary paid for the Coordinator's position, benefits and in-kind contributions of weekly meeting space used in the Court Offices at 180 S. King St. and the office space used at 185 S. Willow St. for the Program Coordinator, and time spent in drug court staffing/meetings/hearing by county employees on the team.

Staff Impact:

The staff impact would remain the same with payroll and benefits administration by payroll clerk and Drug Court team participation by representatives from the County Attorney's Office and Sheriff's Office. The grant and program administration will continue to be managed by Program Coordinator, Anne Comeaux.

Legal Review:

Any funding contracts awarded will be forwarded to Teton County attorney's for review prior to presentation to the Commissioners.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this grant application authorization be approved.

Suggested Motion:

It is recommended that the attached motion authorizing the grant application be approved.

RESOLUTION

**Authorizing Submission of an Application to the
Wyoming Department of Health, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division
for the purpose of
Supporting and Enhancing the Teton County DUI/Drug Court**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Teton County desires to participate in the **Wyoming Department of Health, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division** to assist in financing this project; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Teton County recognizes the benefit of the Teton County DUI/Drug Court and the benefit of increasing community training and enhancing treatment and supervision services; and

WHEREAS, **Wyoming Department of Health, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division** requires that certain criteria be met and to the best of our knowledge, this application meets those criteria; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Teton County plans to match a maximum grant request of **\$196,977.20** by **26% cash and in-kind match (\$51,214.07)**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners for Teton County, that a grant application in the maximum amount of **\$196,977.20** be approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that **Anne Comeaux** is hereby designated as the authorized representative of Teton County to act on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners on all matters relating to this grant application.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this **16th** day of **March 2010**.

TETON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Hank Phibbs, Chairman

ATTEST:

By: _____
Sherry Daigle, County Clerk