

**COMBAT Commission Meeting**  
**June 10, 2021, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**Minutes**

**Present:**

Larry Beaty  
Mark Bryant  
Arimeta Dupree  
Alfred Jordan  
Dr. Joseph Spalitto  
Lanna Ultican  
Dr. Kelvin Walls

**Also Present:**

Vince Ortega, COMBAT  
Dawna J. Shumate, COMBAT  
Jennifer Dameron, JACO Prosecutor's Office  
Theresa Cass Galvin, Jackson County Legislator  
Tammie Jordan, COMBAT  
Joe Loudon, COMBAT

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM.

**Minutes Approved:**

Dr. Joseph Spalitto motioned to approve the May 10, 2021 meeting minutes; Dr. Kelvin Walls seconded; motion passed.

**DISCUSSION:**

Chairman Mark Bryant recommended that COMBAT follow a standard practice in the health care field, "Quality Improvement," continually reviewing what it is doing and determining what could be done better. COMBAT, he stated, needs to determine if it is adopting the best approaches for reducing substance abuse and violence in the community through the programs currently being funded. He also noted the need to review the current COMBAT funding formula.

Chairman Bryant also called for the Commission to meet more frequently than just once per quarter and to seek more public input to explore more effective and efficient approaches. Commissioners Joseph Spalitto, Kelvin Walls and Alfred Jordan agreed, with Commissioner Jordan emphasizing examining how every organization that receives COMBAT funding, including the law enforcement agencies, county departments and the Prosecutor's Office, not just outside agencies, are utilizing that funding to reduce crime and/or substance abuse.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Revised Mid-Year Funding Applications**

COMBAT Director Vince Ortega noted, despite the COMBAT administration working with the County Finance Department, Counsel's Office and County Administrator to determine how much money would be available to allocate for mid-year funding, \$540,877 could not be transferred from COMBAT's undesignated fund balance. That transfer would have been necessary to meet the amount of funding the COMBAT Commissioner originally recommended for Mid-Year Funding during its May 10, 2021 meeting.

Therefore, the COMBAT administration has reduced the amount of Mid-Year Funding from \$2,016,747 to \$1,475,870. Each agency originally approved for Mid-Year Funding had its funding amount reduced by 27%.

Commissioner Joseph Spalitto asked if agencies had already been told how much funding they would receive, pending County Legislative approval. Director Ortega noted that agencies are only notified of being awarded funding after the Legislature officially approves recommendations.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Joseph Spalitto made a motion to approve the revised Mid-Year funding recommendations as presented by the COMBAT administration. Commissioner Arimeta Dupree seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 7-0.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

The next COMBAT Commission meeting is Thursday, July 8 at 10:00 AM via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 AM.