

District 61 AA Business Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2026

Opening: The January 8, 2026, District 61 AA Business Meeting opened at 6:30 pm with the Serenity Prayer, followed by roll call by the secretary and a reading of the Twelve Traditions by Kari H. There were 14 GSRs present representing district groups, and 10 committee members/chairs present. There was 1 present on zoom.

Concept: Concept 1 was read by Katelyn S.

Calendar: The calendar was reviewed and approved. Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved for the December meeting.

7th Tradition was collected for in person participants.

REPORTS:

Treasurer Report:

See attached flyers

DCM

Greetings District 61,

Happy New Year! I want to welcome everyone into the 2nd year of our rotation; I'm looking forward to serving the district with you all.

Are there any new GSR's in the room? If so, welcome to the district business meeting, please make sure to introduce yourself, we are glad you're here. Please ask questions as they come up, I've been coming to these meetings for a while now and I'm still figuring it out.

This week I met with the other District officers to finalize a budget proposal for 2026. Dawn will talk more about this, but please be sure to bring this back to your groups for review, we will plan on discussing/voting on the budget in February.

I am planning on attending the West Central Regional Service Conference Feb 27-Mar. 1st in Cedar Rapids Iowa and I've booked travel & lodging. If you're interested in attending, this event is hybrid and registration is now open. You can sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-west-central-region-service-conference-hosted-by-area-24-tickets-1774707520969?aff=odddtcreator>

The room block is open for Area Assembly in Great Falls April 17-19th. I know it's a ways out but if you're planning on attending you may want to book soon. You can use code "A40" for the room block, they are \$143.47 per night. The room block discount will expire in mid-March.

One other key date: February 1st is the deadline to submit an agenda item to the area chair. If you or your group have something you'd like to discuss at area, please let me know, I can help with this.

Thanks for letting me serve,

Nate S.

Committee Reports:

Archives: (Jeff M)

No report received

Bridging the Gap: (Amy N)

Hello District 61 and 2026!

BTG has successfully bridged 2 males to Helena from treatment. Thank you for taking these last-minute requests that came in late. Another one from Bear Creek is in process, releasing 1/12/26. Thank you all for your hard work in this area in transitioning people into the AA community!

Amy N.

Corrections: (Jamey C)

Good evening, district 61. This is your December corrections report.

Lewis and Clark county jail men's side is going good as with the women's.

I spoke with T.J in Boulder yesterday and he has help finally so Boulder jail is running smooth.

I spoke with Diane with the women's side of Townsend jail and its running smooth. She is looking for Women volunteers.

I spoke with Russ, who does the pre-release and he's getting more guys to attend. We also need volunteers for the pre-release.

The prison is also going good according to Neil.

The corrections treatment workshop planning is going great!

CPC: (Aleesha)

No Report received

Grapevine: (Katelyn S.)

Hello District 61,

This month's featured selection is "Stories for Day Counters", full of experiences by AA members about the things that helped them most during their very earliest days in AA.

I'm happy to report I somehow managed to stay within my 2025 budget despite a large purchase early in the year with little regard for the eventual Grapefest costs. I'll be making another purchase in the coming weeks, so please let me know if your group would like to make a bulk purchase or if there is a book or books you're hoping to pick up. I'll be ordering some of the special edition Emotional Sobriety I and II books and some of the large print Best of Bill, and some additional titles we're out of or low on.

If you're interested in sharing a story to Grapevine, some upcoming topics include:

- Sponsorship (stories due Feb 1, 2026)
- Dealing with Loneliness (stories due March 1, 2026)
- Remote communities and sober holidays (stories due May 1st)

I encourage all home groups to get a Grapevine Representative; this is an excellent service position for someone new to service so volunteer your sponsees or your homegroup newbies if you've got them. If we can gather enough representatives, I'd like to start a mailing list where I can share information, events and ideas with Reps to help the Grapevine continue to carry the message to AA communities around the world.

Links can be found below with information on how to submit a story, art, photo, caption or opinion, as well as the Grapevine Youtube channel.

- Grapevine YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@AAGrapevine>

Story and art submission guidelines:

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/guidelines-contributing-grapevine>

Submit your story:

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/submit-your-story>

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Katelyn S.

District 61 Grapevine Chair

406-293-1486

Literature: (Kari H.)

Hello District 61. Total income for December was \$174.50. The bookstore is open M, Th, F, and Sat 11:30a – 1:30p. Currently I have enough volunteers to staff each shift, however, January includes an extra Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, so I am always looking for volunteers to just fill in. Please spread the word.

I am still working on the End-of-Year report for the Literature store, but will have it by February District. I am learning a lot, including how much better I need to be at records this coming year.

I also am looking for extra volunteers for the jail (both men and women) and always have applications with me. Please spread the word. We are having the Tx Corrections workshop on April 25, 2026, more will be revealed soon.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Kari H

District 61 Literature Store Chairperson

Notaglumlot07@gmail.com

Public Information/Answering Service: (Teresa R.)

Happy New Year District 61!!

I don't have a lot to report, December was pretty quiet. I did make rounds on January 5th to refill racks and printed more schedules. I am sorry I am not able to be present tonight, but look forward to seeing everyone next month.

Don't forget that we have the pdf version of the schedule file on the District 61 Mini Site on the AA Montana webpage if you need to print copies, I am sending in a few with Amy tonight.

Thank you all for reaching out to your home groups regarding the AA Hotline. It was suggested we change the service requirement to one month intervals to make it easier for some to volunteer. We had a total of 13 Men Volunteer, One did not meet the Sobriety requirement (only sober 90 days) two I have not been able to get in contact with, (Jeremy F and John Mc), if you know them please ask them to respond to my text or call me at 206-498-8275, some of the writing on the sheets is hard to read, I could have gotten the numbers wrong. We have 7 Ladies who volunteered, we could use more. If you have not advised your home group that the requirement is now only one month, please see if that will inspire more volunteers. I have sent out the texts with the assigned months, but we will have to roll around to the beginning and start the list over if we do not get more volunteers.

I have set reminders for myself to contact each Volunteer about a week before their assigned month to remind them.

Thank you so much for allowing me to serve!

Teresa Realing
District 61 PI Chair

Treatment: (Amanda T.)

Greetings District 61.

I need to make amends to the group. During the holiday chaos, I forgot to find volunteers for MCDC this month. I need to apologize for dropping the ball on that. I have reached out to MCDC to make amends as well.

Other than that, the meetings at Elkhorn and the BHU are running smooth, and I have speakers lined up for the next couple of months.

As always, there are many opportunities to serve. If you are looking for service work, please reach out.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,
Amanda T, Treatment
406.475.4954

Workshops: (Wendy D.)

Hello District 61, Wendy alcoholic and Workshop's chair. I have nothing to report. Looking forward to 2026 with you all - one day at a time.

Wendy

Round-Up: (Rebecca S-Q)

No Report received.

We need to find out if a check has been written to seed the next RoundUp. Dawn will get with Rebecca.

Tech Support (Kelly S.)

Greetings District,
It was a quiet month for me, but I have found new employment, which is why I am probably not here tonight.

Nothing really to report except I believe the Zoom Subscription is coming due in February.
I attempted to find someone to bring the laptop and run the meeting, but was unsuccessful. I apologize.
It is my hope to continue in the position, but I am not sure if the new job will allow for it. I will try to keep the District informed and updated.

In service,
Kelly S.

Group Reports

Jack said Free For Lunch is now having a meeting on Saturday at noon at St. Mary's church.

Primary Purpose Group January 31 speaker is Katelyn S

Jamie said the Townsend Women's jail meeting is Tues at 6:30.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Dawn presented the proposed budget.

Benjamin asked for clarification on line item for DCM v GSR. Many committee members are having their area costs paid for by their homegroups rather than district.

Amanda asked for clarification on the Treatment amount and whether it should be put in the Mega Committee line item. Kari and Jamie explained most of it is covered by Treatment and Corrections budgets, as well as being primarily self-supporting. Take this to the groups and get their ok to approve.

Wendy said the balance for AOG is \$1960.77. Asked for approval to keep the money in there to seed next year's event. Big expenses are church, food, insurance, also to keep the costs lower. Rolfe asked how many signers are on the account, there are 2. Karla asked if the district finances need the money, Dawn said no. Karla made a motion to keep it in the AOG account. It was seconded by multiple people. Amy asked if the vote can be changed next year, answer was yes. Amanda said she can't tell how much is coming into the district, Dawn said it is on her report. Kari offered an explanation of how the funds work. Wendy said if the district gets to a point where the money is needed a new motion can be made. Nate read the report from last year. Richard L gave a historic recount of using AOG monies to keep district afloat. Dawn reiterated district is financially stable. Motion passed unanimously.

Nate's expenses in Feb will be around \$850. No group contributions came in Dec.

The next meeting will be held February 5, 2026, at 6:30 pm. Kari H will do the 2nd Concept.
The January 8, 2026, District meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement @ 7:32pm.

Respectfully submitted by Karla Ivie for the January 8, 2026, District 61 Business Meeting.