

District 61 AA Business Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2026

Opening: The May 7, 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 Jamey C. There were 13 GSRs present representing district groups, and 9 committee members/chairs present. There were 3 present on Zoom.

Concept: Concept 5 was read by Kari H.

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

7th Tradition was collected for in person participants.

REPORTS:

Treasurer Report:

See attached flyers

DCM

Greetings District 61,

In April I attended the Area 40 Assembly in Great Falls. It was a great weekend of service and fellowship, and once again District 61 was well represented. There was very little new business pertaining to Area 40, but we spent most of the weekend discussing agenda items for the General Service Conference, and I'm confident our Delegate Lisa C was well prepared.

I presented District 61's bid to host the 2028 West Central Regional Service Conference at Assembly. District 11 (Billings) was the only other district to present a bid, and an informal vote by the area was close to split. I've been in contact with Lisa C, I think we can expect to hear which District won the bid soon.

An appeal was made by our Area Officers as well as our regional Trustee Charlie H for all groups to update their information and especially the number of members. The 5th edition of the big book will be printed next year and AAWS is interested in using the most accurate numbers available. This is especially important for footnotes regarding AA's membership.

Don't forget to keep an eye on the calendar of events on the Area 40 website. As the weather gets nicer there will be lots of campouts, cookouts, river floats and other AA events around the state. These are a perfect opportunity to load up the car with friends and sponsees for an AA road trip.

Yours in service,

Nate

Committee Reports:

Archives: (Jeff M)

Greetings District 61:

My main activity for April was attending the Archives and Policy committee at the Area Assembly, where I updated them on our district's archive activity in the previous six months.

There will be a work weekend at the area archive in Ennis on the weekend of June 27 and 28, but I will not be able to attend because my wife and I have our anniversary that weekend, and I have my priorities!

The only business item for discussion in the area committee had to do with its policy work. We discussed a proposed agenda item for the General Service Conference, which was asking for a policy for members who attend meetings remotely and seek election to service positions in places where they do not reside. The committee felt that the tradition of autonomy should lead a group, district, or area to develop its own practices, so the committee unanimously advised rejecting the item should it come up for consideration at the GSC.

Lastly, I have fielded questions or received updates from four group representatives regarding home group histories. I'm happy to see some groups are interested in this project, and I'm ready to help in any way possible to document the recent history of AA groups in our district.

As always, if you're interested in helping with archives work or have material you think might be valuable to future generations of AA, I would love to talk with you. Please see me after the meeting or reach out to me at 406.465.9385

Thanks for allowing me to serve,

Jeff M.

D61 Archives Chair

Bridging the Gap: (Amy N)

Hello District 61, and happy May!

With great luck I will be in-person giving this report and thank you for your grace while I was working Thursday evenings.

BTG has bridged a female from RMTG to Helena 4/29 and she is active in meetings.

Thank you for all your service and in mentioning BTG to people transitioning out of facilities and into the community in your service areas. Please reach out with any questions.

In service, Amy

Corrections: (Jamey C)

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

Lewis And Clark County jail men's side is going well. I have rotated in almost all new men. The women's side is also going well. Townsend jail, men and women's sides are also going well. Boulder jail is good. The pre-release is good with Dave helping Russ. There is another guy applying to go in which will be good. The Prison is going well except Neil said there wasn't a meeting last week because of short staffing. There is a mini conference scheduled at the prison September 17th. And last but not least, the

corrections treatment workshop went fairly well! Not as many people as last year. there were more professionals, but less AA and Alanon folks. Thank you to all who helped and hope to see you next year!

CPC: (Alysia)

No report to give.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Alysia R.

Grapevine: (Katelyn S.)

Hello District 61,

Thank you Karla for giving my report while I'm away celebrating my 40th year of life! The May issue is "How the Steps Changed My Life," featuring powerful stories by AA members about the many ways the Steps improved their sobriety and changed their lives.

The biggest news this month is the publication of the latest Grapevine book, Gratitude, a collection of powerful, personal stories about being thankful. With warmth and humor, the stories, written by AA members, illustrate the many ways the program of recovery can improve one's perspective to help enjoy each day to the fullest. I have placed a book order including the new books, while I'll bring down to the store on my return next week.

I'm considering dates for the Grapefest in mid/late September or mid-October, working around Area Assembly and the fall Roundup. It will be held at the Wilson House again, and this year, we will have a writing workshop, so I hope to get some stories from District 61 submitted.

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

- Remote communities and sober holidays (stories due May 1st)
- Spiritual Awakenings (stories due June 1, 2026)
- Longtime Members! (stories due July 1, 2026)
- Making Amends (stories due Sept. 1, 2026)
- NOTE: We are always in need of stories of your experience on Steps 4—12 and on every Tradition. Thanks!

As a reminder, if you are a part of a home group, and you do not have a Grapevine representative, you're missing out not only on valuable ways to carry the message, but your group is missing out on a potential service opportunity for someone who may need a reason to stick around. Grapevine rep is a great position for someone new, coming back, new to service, or someone who just wants to carry the message. Please let me know if your group wants to know more.

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 April was \$485.00. I am planning on putting in a book order by Monday but if your group needs a case of books, they can pre-pay at any time and it will be ordered with the next order.

I am pleased to report that all bookstore shifts are filled; grateful for all the volunteers that always make this service position so easy. We are still open Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11:30a-1:30 pm. Stop in and read some Grapevines or fellowship in the Serenity Corner.

I am in need of replacing some of the ceiling lights in the bookstore. It will come out of my budget as we are responsible for them, however, I will need assistance with install as my electrical skills could have shocking results. If anyone is willing to do some service work on a ladder, please holler at me. Thanx!!

You can reach me at 406-371-6959.

Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Kari H.

District 61 Literature Store Chairperson

notagluml07@gmail.com

406-371-6959

Public Information/Answering Service: (Teresa R.)

April was a very busy month for me personally, as I was out of town most of the month. I did fill racks at the first of the month and updated and distributed schedules.

This month so far there have been a few updates to the schedule and I plan to print a good amount out over the weekend to distribute next week. I recently found out that we have pamphlet racks at some area churches. I am working to get a list and make sure they are on the route for refills as needed.

At Area Assembly, PI discussed adding schedules to possibly hotels. There is interest in having an Area Safety workshop, with a zoom option available. Billings is having a safety workshop May 16, 2026, currently there is not a zoom option.

I received a Hotline call today which ended up being a member of White Sulfur Springs. She informed me that their GSR has passed away. They are working hard to get their meeting up and running to be healthy. The newest schedule they have is from 2010.

Saturday I will be driving to WSS to take them schedules and fill pamphlet racks. Trudi will take me on a tour of the town as we check for places to place schedules and pamphlets.

That is all I have for now.

Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Teresa Realing

District 61 PI Chair

Treatment: (Amanda T.)

Greetings District 61.

Apologies for not being able to make it in person tonight. But we are getting meetings into all of the places.

We are taking meetings into Elkhorn and the BHU weekly. And MCDC and Boyd Andrew monthly.

I have speakers signed up for the rest of the month.

Thank you for allowing me to serve,

Amanda T, Treatment

Tech Support (Kelly S.)

Greetings District61!

As to last month's task, I have disabled the recording of Zoom in Zoom Workspace. The AI functions and Business account settings Default to "record". I have unselected those functions for the District as instructed by the District GSR's by vote and Motion. If other Groups utilizing Zoom would like me to assist them with this, please have them contact me on a "Case by Case " basis.

My Cellular Phone Number is (406) 439-2539.

Business Voice Line is (406)439-2305

Or

District61tech@hotmail.com

(406)439-2305 Personal Cell

Workshops: (Wendy D.)

Hello District 61. I cannot believe it is already May. I am sorry that i am unable to attend in person tonight, but other family commitments and softball have me unable to attend. Here is my report for May.

Last month I assisted with registration at the Corrections / Treatment Workshop. I was not diligent at counting attendance, but it seemed well attended.

Next month I will be starting up the AOG workshop meetings. So, talk to your sponsors or sponsees and send me a text (406-431-7895) if you want to be on the committee. All are welcome.

Also, next month our Area Delegate, Lisa C. Will be in Helena on June 13th to provide us with an update from the WSO. Flyers should be on the table for you to take back to your group. Where are we holding this event you ask? At the Wilson House, June 13th at 1 pm. Snacks will be provided.

In service

Wendy

Round-Up: (Rebecca S-Q)

No Report

Group Reports

Primary Purpose Group Speaker is last Saturday at Salvation Army at 7 pm, Carleen L.

Fellowship Group speaker meeting is 3rd Thursday at 7 pm.

IITB speaker flyers are out.

FFL has a Saturday noon meeting at St. Mary's.

Sister 2 Sister is moving from Alano Club to St. Pauls UMC. M(Big Book), W(meditation), F(discussion)

Old Business:

Kari brought up that she read a couple stories referenced in the first 164 pages will be removed for the 5th edition. Nate said nothing came up at Assembly regarding this, but Nate said he will ask Gerry R about it. Carleen sent an email to Lisa.

Karla brought to the attention of District that Zoom is giving a synopsis of the meeting. Made a motion to have that option turned off. Passed unanimously. Kelly will turn it off. Carleen asked that Kelly pass

that information to other groups so they can turn theirs off also. Kelly S took care of this and it's in his report.

New Business:

Carla T said she went to Riverside with Penny for the meeting orientation. She said it was done well the first hour, but the 2nd hour was very directed to religious organizations. Penny will give a report next month.

Kari mentioned its Religious Activities Coordinator handles this and has to be equally set between different religions and recovery, as it is at MSP.

Passcode for the Zoom meeting 856260.

The next meeting will be held June 4, 2026, at 6:30 pm. Jack will do the 6th Concept.

The May 7, 2026, District meeting closed with the Responsibility Statement @ 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Karla Ivie for the May 7, 2026, District 61 Business Meeting.