

Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda
January 6, 2025
10:00 am
Virtual Meeting Attendance

On January 6, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Board members, Advisory Council members, vested partners, community members from across the Eastern District, and staff from the Colorado Attorney General Opioid Response Unit attended a virtual meeting to continue the work of the Opioid Response Region 4 Council.

Present were:

Board Members: Scott Weaver – Yuma County, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, Adam Gates – Yuma County, Gordon Westhoff – Morgan County, Ben Ferree – Town of Limon, Sheriff Dave Martin – Morgan County, Kevin Blankenship – City of Sterling

Advisory Council Members: Valerie Boyed – Kit Carson County Public Health, Tonya Wheeler – Advocates for Recovery Colorado, Trish McClain – Northeast Colorado Health Department, Michelle Pemberton – Northeast Colorado Health Department, MJ Jorgensen – NCHA

Also present: Brandi Ritchey – Yuma County, Erika Greenberg – Centennial Area Health Education Center, Jennifer Mackender – Colorado Consortium, Kristin Carpenter – CO Consortium, Jim Kuemmerle – CSU Office of Engagement and Extension, Dayna DeHerrera-Smith – Porch Light Health, Jack Devie, Milestone Community Wellness, Jack Patterson – CO AG’s Office, Mellie Ryan – CO ROOTS, Don Stader – CO ROOTS, Angela Shuff – AFRC, Carley Lane – Kit Carson County, Elly Bailey – CMHC, Amber Delay O’Connor – Porch Light Health, Ailala Kay – OMNI Institute, Lauren Rosenbaum – OMNI Institute, Lindsay Houston – OMNI Institute, Thao Lam – OMNI Institute

Minutes

Terry Hofmeister moved to approve the December meeting minutes, and Kevin Blankenship seconded. The motion passed without objection.

COAC Updates

The COAC approved more funding for the state.

Terry Hofmeister is now an official COAC member.

Financial Reports

Yuma County staff gave the financial update.

Kevin Blankenship moved to approve the January financial report. Stan Hitchcock seconded. The motion passed without objection.

Social Media Follow-up

After the December meeting, the Board approved funding for OMNI to manage social media for the Region 4 Council. There was a follow-up discussion on the target audience of the social media posts and platforms to be used.

Upcoming Grants/Funding Opportunities

OMNI shared the RCORP Grant, Infrastructure Grant, Rural Health Care Program – Healthcare Connect Fund, Reaching Rural: Advancing Collaborative Solutions, and the Colorado Community Initiated Solutions Grants. Grants are posted to the Region 4 [website](#).

There was discussion on working as a Region to submit an RCORP proposal. The RCORP grant is a federal grant and requires a large lift.

Infrastructure Grant Funding

A proposal was discussed that would include Region 4 joining a proposal for a platform/app that would allow for real-time overdose reporting and tracking by community members and local providers. The Board agreed to join the proposal. There was additional discussion about other potential infrastructure proposals the Council would like to pursue. Local organizations will provide feedback soon.

Next Round of Region 4 RFP Planning

After the infrastructure grant proposal is done, the Council will begin planning for the next round of RFPs.

OMNI Evaluation Updates

OMNI continues to work with NCHA, CMHC, CO ROOTS, and the local jails receiving MOUD funding to get evaluation data.

OMNI did not have time to discuss the new evaluation report detailing the first quarter of data received by local jails receiving MOUD funding. The report will be discussed at the next meeting and is posted on the Region 4 [website](#).

Unscheduled Business

- Commissioner Gordon Westhoff is leaving the Region 4 Council. Commissioner Westhoff was thanked for his work on the Council. The new Morgan County Commissioner, Tim Malone, will join the Region 4 Council Board.

Next Meeting

The February meeting will be held on Monday, February 3, 2025, at 10:00 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59.

Scott Weaver, Board Chair