

# Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda

January 24, 2022

3:00 pm

## Virtual Meeting Attendance

On January 24, 2022 at 3:00 pm Commissioners from across the Eastern District attended a virtual meeting to establish the Opioid Response Region 4 Council. Present were:

Board Members: Byron Pelton – Logan County, Scott Weaver – Yuma County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, Chris Richardson – Elbert County, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County, Sheriff Dave Martin – Morgan County

Also present: Kent Vance – Washington County

Also joining the meeting were special guests Michelle Oeser – Town of Elizabeth, Tom Acre – Town of Wiggins, Greg Taha – Town of Limon, Darlene Carpio – Congressman Buck’s Office, Andrea Calhoon – Yuma County

### Minutes

**Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the November 4, 2021 and November 30, 2022 minutes as presented. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**

### Board Structure

The group discussed updates on municipal participation in the Regional Council including Lincoln County’s identification of a Town Board member in Limon with a pharmaceutical background willing to serve on the board. The group discussed the desire to prioritize municipal appointments from unrepresented counties including Lincoln, Morgan, Washington, and Sedgwick. Town of Wiggins Manager Tom Acre offered to coordinate the identification of a municipal representative from Morgan County. Commissioner Pelton suggested the distribution of Council minutes to municipal leaders in hopes of disseminating information to all participants.

Also discussed was the process of establishing advisory council members. Commissioner Pelton recommended the appointment of one representative of the Northeast Colorado Health Department and one representative of the remaining counties of Elbert, Lincoln, Cheyenne, and Kit Carson Counties to be selected by those counties. Calhoon will contact Dave Long of Logan County to request the regional Directors of Human Services self-select two representatives to the advisory council to represent each of the northern and southern halves of the region. Also discussed were representatives of mental and behavioral health including one representative from Centennial Mental Health and one private practitioner in the region. Commissioner Pelton recommended contacting a substance abuse professional at New Pathways in Sterling and will assist in contacting for inquiry.

### Program Potentials

Darlene Carpio of Congressman Ken Buck’s office provided an update on a conversation held recently with the City Manager in the City of Burlington regarding the potential use of the vacant prison in the City of Burlington as a regional detox center. The group discussed the

pros and cons of such a plan and reviewed various topics involved in hosting a regional treatment facility. Sheriff Martin shared law enforcement experience in utilizing detox facilities and the barriers often met. Representatives of existing regional treatment facilities are being considered for invitation to a future meeting.

### **Council Documents**

Calhoon requested final comments and concerns related to the draft IGA and bylaws currently in circulation. A final draft will be distributed with request for finalization by the end of February.

### **Proposals Received**

The group reviewed received proposals on the conduction of the required 2-year abatement study from Third Horizons Consulting, The Schrieber Research Group, and The Steadman Group. The Steadman Group bid included components not comparable to other bids so a follow-up meeting was scheduled and Calhoon will obtain an updated bid in the interim.

### **Next Meeting**

The group planned the next Council meeting for the second Monday in February, time TBD.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

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Byron Pelton, Chairman