

**Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda**  
**October 3, 2022**  
**10:00 am**  
**Virtual Meeting Attendance**

On October 3, 2022 at 10:00 am Commissioners from across the Eastern District attended a virtual meeting to establish the Opioid Response Region 4 Council. Present were:

Board Members: Scott Weaver – Yuma County, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County, Chris Richardson – Elbert County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, JD Ross – Sterling PD, Sheriff Dave Martin – Morgan County

Advisory Council Members: Valerie Boyd – Kit Carson County Public Health, Spencer Green – Centennial Mental Health

Also present: Tony Wells – Washington County, Nathan Tyree – Town of Brush, Tom Acre – Town of Wiggins, Mike Leerar – Yuma County, Gordon Westhoff – Morgan County, Greg Tacha – Town of Limon

Also joining the meeting were special guests: Andrea Calhoon – Yuma County Administrator, Wanda Lousberg – Recovery Representative, Ailala Kay – OMNI Institute

**Minutes**

Commissioner Hitchcock moved to approve the minutes from the August 1, 2022 minutes as presented. Commissioner Hoffmeister seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.

The group reviewed and approved the notes from the work session held on September 6. No quorum was present to conduct official business, but conversational notes were approved.

**Council Documents**

Commissioner Terry Hofmeister of Phillips County notified the group that the City of Holyoke has updated their status to opt out and allocate their local share to the Regional Council. Calhoon provided updates on the submission of a funding request to have the Regional Council's approximately \$610,000 allocation distributed to Yuma County. Monthly financial reports will be submitted once funding is received. Commissioner Weaver provided updates from the COAC regarding additional settlements received since the initial figures were calculated.

Calhoon presented for conversation a request for the Town of Limon to split their board appointment between Town Council representative Ben Ferree and Town Manager Greg Tacha to facilitate more active meeting participation from Limon. Limon would retain one seat and one vote on the Council, but Ferree and Tacha would be permitted to step in interchangeably depending upon availability. The group approved the shared seat for the Town of Limon.

The group discussed the three municipal vacancies on the board and how to fill them. The Council originally intended to spread Board membership across the region as much as possible, but functional participation has not mirrored that intention. Calhoon will send the current Board a list of regular municipal participants and the Board will make contacts and have municipal appointment recommendations at the November meeting.

### **2 Year Abatement Plan**

Calhoon reported that Region 4's two-year abatement plan was uploaded to COST on September 15. Commissioner Scott Weaver reported that the COAC approved the plan at a recent meeting. Calhoon also reported that an opportunity to amend the plan based on updated regional goals and priorities will be available in March and is anticipated in March annually thereafter.

Calhoon reported formal feedback has been received from recovery representatives in the area and that feedback on service gaps is pending from law enforcement, mental health, and other regional partners. Calhoon also provided an update on data soon to be available from Signal/Centennial Mental Health that is likely to overlap Opioid Council focus and provide additional information for the amended 2-year plan. Attorney Ken Fellman was reported to be on stand-by for the development of contracts and formal RFP structure once priorities are established.

Calhoon made a recommendation of developing a committee-style work group for purposes of developing an RFP. Commissioner Terry Hofmeister, Sheriff Dave Martin, Commander JD Ross, and Town Manager Greg Tacha/Limon Town Councilman Ben Ferree. The Committee will be facilitated by Ailala Kay of OMNI Institute and Calhoon. The group discussed the most effective way to distribute the RFP once complete to receive the best proposals possible. Commissioner Weaver provided updates from the COAC regarding other sources of available funding through the State. The group discussed priorities and the path forward for the RFP work group.

### **OMNI Institute**

Ailala Kay of the OMNI Institute discussed OMNI's role in assisting to facilitate the RFP process and discussed with the group the financial structure of OMNI's role moving forward with the development process.

### **Next Meeting**

The group planned the next Council meeting for the first Monday in November, November 7 at 10:00 am. The December meeting will overlap a regional transportation meeting, so Calhoon will send out a meeting poll nearer to that date to determine an alternate date selection.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.

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Byron Pelton, Chairman