

Opioid Response Region 4 Council Agenda
December 19, 2022
10:00 am
Virtual Meeting Attendance

On December 19, 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, Chris Richardson – Elbert County, Stan Hitchcock – Kit Carson County, Terry Hofmeister – Phillips County, Greg Tacha – Town of Limon

Advisory Council Members: Trish McClain & Michelle Pemberton – Northeast Colorado Health Department, Spencer Green – Centennial Mental Health

Also present: Mike Leerar – Yuma County, Kevin Blankenship – City of Sterling, Tom Acre – Town of Wiggins

Also joining the meeting were special guests: Andrea Calhoon – Yuma County Administrator, Jennifer Mackender – Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention, MJ Jorgensen – North Colorado Health Alliance, Wanda Lousberg – Recovery Representative, Ginger Williams – Colorado State University Office of Engagement and Extension

Minutes

Commissioner Hofmeister moved to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2022 minutes. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.

COAC Updates

Commissioner Weaver provided updates from the Colorado Opioid Abatement Council including discussion of available infrastructure funding and the approved uses of funding. Also discussed was an upcoming state-wide opioid conference in August of 2023 in Montrose.

Council Documents

Calhoon presented provided funding updates including the receipt of \$610,327.56 in settlement funds that will be available for RFP award. Calhoon also provided an update on the development of bylaws for the organization. Commissioner Weaver discussed the need to adopt a mentality of long-term sustainability for programs and funding and highlighted the importance of being intentional in the leveraging of additional funding sources to be impactful in the region.

2 Year Abatement Plan

Calhoon provided updates on the revision of the RFP based on feedback from the group last meeting. The group discussed the distribution of funds as a reimbursement of expenditures or as a lump sum per award. Advisory Council members provided feedback on industry standards in award management and trends seen in reimbursement versus pre-payment of bid funding. Based on feedback from the Advisory Council, the Board discussed a reimbursement model

with opportunity for funding to be rolled over from one fiscal year to another. **Commissioner Stan Hitchcock moved to award RFP funds on a reimbursement basis. Commissioner Terry Hofmeister seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Terry Hofmeister moved to approve the RFP pending finalization of wording based on the motion to issue funds on a reimbursement basis. Commissioner Stan Hitchcock seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.

Based on input from the advisory council, the Board established a closure date on the RFP of January 31, 2023 with review of proposals to be conducted at the February meeting.

Unscheduled Business

Wanda Lousberg requested clarification on meeting attendance for state-wide infrastructure funding. The group also heard an introduction from Ginger Williams from CSU Extension as a support to the group. MJ Jorgenson encouraged the group to consider a long-term strategy for funding use and program development in the region. Jennifer Mackender provided an overview of additional funding sources available as well as grant writing assistance available to regional projects.

Next Meeting

The group planned the next Council meeting for Tuesday January 3 at 10:00 am. The upcoming meeting dates will be February 7 and March 7 at 10:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

Byron Pelton, Chairman