



COLUMBIA COUNTY

Health and Human Services
111 E. Mullett Street

608-742-9227
FAX: 608-742-9700

E-MAIL: DHHS@columbiacountywi.gov
WEBSITE: www.co.columbia.wi.us

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 136
Portage, WI 53901-0136

MINUTES OPIOID ABATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Columbia County Opioid Abatement Ad Hoc Committee was called to order at 1:00 p.m., by Chair Doug Richmond. The meeting was publicly noticed.

ROLL

An attendance sheet was distributed by Gretchen Halvorsen.

OPIOID ABATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Richmond; Tom Drury; Jeff Leckwee; Ellen Ellingsworth; Roger Brandner; Cheryl Anderson; Susan Fisher; Jessica Beckett; Stephanie Nickel; Keith Miller.

OPIOID ABATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Liz Miller;

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE STAFF PRESENT: Heather Gove, Director; Gretchen Halvorsen.

OTHERS: Jesica Walter, Shonna Neary, Accounting; County Board Supervisor Darren Schroeder.

AGENDA/ADDITIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 11, 2023 OPIOID ABATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE AGENDA.

Motion by Tom Drury, second by Jeff Leckwee. Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(s): DECEMBER 15, 2022

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 15, 2022 MEETING OF THE OPIOID ABATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE.

Motion by Jeff Leckwee, second by Tom Drury. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF SETTLEMENT FUNDS RECEIVED

Columbia County Comptroller Shonna Neary provided an Opioid Settlement Financial Summary, dated 12.31.2022, outlining the expected distribution of all settlement dollars to Columbia County at this time. Shonna cautioned the Committee that the funds cannot be used to supplant any budgeted tax levy expenditure.

OPIOID ABATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023
PAGE 2

PRIORITIZE NEEDS & DEFICIENCIES WITHIN COLUMBIA COUNTY

Chair Richmond lead the group in a discussion, utilizing the list of deficiencies and needs identified at the December meeting. Discussion followed.

MOTION: TO RECOMMEND MOVING \$68,040 FROM THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND TO THE TREATMENT COURT FUND IN HHS TO REESTABLISH THE TREATMENT COURTS.

Motion by Sheriff Brandner, second by Keith Miller. Motion carried.

The group discussed the need for supporting more prevention services and recovery services. Harbor Recovery, which has been operational for 9 months and relies completely on donations requested additional funding of \$52,000 to support one additional staff member, \$36,000 for a p/t administrative support person, \$11,400 for furniture and supplies, and \$50,000 to offset administrative costs, for a total of \$150,000.

MOTION: TO RECOMMEND GIVING UP TO \$88,000 TO HARBOR RECOVERY FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE SETTLEMENT FUNDS.

Motion by Sheriff Brandner, second by Keith Miller. Motion carried.

The group requested Harbor Recovery supply a written report at the end of the year to the committee demonstrating the time frame between calls/referrals, number of consumers served, and drug of choice. Attorney Fisher advised the group about the need for a possible contract and what the requirements are for that as needed by the County. She also advised the group that a resolution would be necessary for the reinstatement of the Treatment Courts so she will make that a priority.

The group also learned about grant applications in the pipeline through Public Health and the Division of Behavioral Health & Long Term Support which could be used in part to help supplement the funding for some of the priorities discussed.

Sheriff Brandner reported on his Department's prevention program called Smart Choices, Safe Kids. The program is similar to the old DARE program. The Department has not made a presentation in almost 2 years, due to COVID, but the schools are beginning to contact the Sheriff's Department now to schedule presentations.

The group expressed interest in having PARCC come and update it on their prevention programs at the next meeting. Chair Richmond agreed to invite them. The group requested that staff from Harbor House come to the next meeting to make a presentation. Tom Drury will notify them. The group also discussed the needs that HHS has, specifically the need to build out the empty space on the 2nd floor of the HHS building to accommodate a mental health clinic and enough staff to provide the services needed in the community.

OPIOID ABATEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023
PAGE 3

HHS Director Heather Gove reported that at their January HHS Board meeting, the Board agreed to the agency performing a new study on the need for a mental health clinic at HHS and to have HHS work with Accounting to create a RFP as part of the project.

BUDGET CREATION FROM SETTLEMENT FUNDS

Chair Richmond requested that HHS draft a 5-year budget for the settlement money and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Richmond encouraged participation in the WCA meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Columbia County Opioid Abatement Ad Hoc Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 1:00 p.m., in Meeting Room 3, at Columbia County Health & Human Services Department, 111 E. Mullett Street, Portage, WI.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 2:45 P.M.

Motion by Sheriff Brandner, second by Tom Drury. Motion carried.

The Columbia County Opioid Abatement Ad Hoc Committee will reconvene for their next meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 1:00 p.m., in Meeting Room 3, at Columbia County Health & Human Services Department, 111 E. Mullett Street, Portage, WI.

Respectfully submitted,



Gretchen Halvorsen, Executive Secretary
Col. Co. Health & Human Services Dept.

cc: County Board Chair Chris Polzer
County Board 1st Vice Chair Denise Brusveen
County Board 2nd Vice Chair Matthew Rohrbeck

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