

SE Colorado Region 19 Opioid Settlement Board

July 25, 2022, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM via Zoom

Present

Rick Butler
Kim MacDonnell, Richard Gallegos
Blain Arbuthnot, Terry McMillian
John Galusha
Meagan Hillman
Tony Hass, Felix Lopez
Wendy Buxton-Andrade
Christine Zeitvogel

Rose Pugliese

Guests

Sarah Money
Jessica Eaddy, Kristin Carpenter
Stacey Samaro, Ginger Whatley
Cathy Michopoulos
Olivia Leyva, Melinda Sentance
Jill Gates
Steve Sanchez

County represented

Baca
Bent
Crowley
Huerfano
Kiowa
Las Animas
Prowers
Pueblo

Facilitator

Access Point
Colorado Consortium
Crossroads' Turning Points, Inc.
Health Colorado
Pueblo Department of Public Health
Pueblo County JBBS
SE CO Hospital District

Call to Order

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM. Eight counties were represented during the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

- Commissioner Lopez moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Zeitvogel.
 - The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Ms. Zeitvogel moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Commissioner Galusha.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Facilitator Update

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade reported that the Pueblo County Commissioners approved Ms. Pugliese's contract to continue facilitating SECOR for the next five months.

Ms. Pugliese reported that she had sent out the updated list of local governments and their decision to opt-in or out of receiving settlement funds. She stated that she believes there is still confusion regarding the reporting requirement. Municipalities that opt-in to receive their settlement funds must create a two-year plan and report their use of funds to the AG's office. There are still many local governments that have

not entered their decision in COST, and some have reported difficulty entering their choice. The AG's office will send the link out again and each local government must use they link in the original email. Part of the confusion may be that local governments believe the MOU covered this process, but the opt-in is separate. If a county opts-in to receive their funds, they remain a member of SECOR and may vote on the use of the regional funds. Municipalities that give their funds to the region will receive priority for project funding.

Start up costs like website development will probably not be covered by the infrastructure fund administered by the AG's office. When COAC meets in August, Heidi Williams will bring this question up. Ms. Pugliese will develop a scope of work for website development and other start-up items. The scope of work will be needed regardless of the source of funding (regional funds or AG infrastructure). Commissioner Lopez will reach out to the community colleges to see if they have the capacity to do website design. Board members can provide names for proposals to Ms. Pugliese after the meeting.

She noted that the primary concerns she and Commissioner Buxton-Andrade hear as they speak with municipalities is that the funds will be concentrated in one area, the money will not go to multiple counties in the region, and that the smaller counties will not have the opportunity to participate.

Ms. Pugliese reviewed the draft RFP and evaluation criteria sent to the board prior to the meeting. Commissioner MacDonnell suggested weighting some criteria more than others. Ms. Pugliese asked board members to send her suggestions on revised scoring. The board will prioritize the areas of education, prevention, treatment and recovery for the first two years with the first RFP addressing prevention and education services. A subcommittee will evaluate the proposals. Ms. Zeitvogel, Commissioner Buxton-Andrade, Commissioner Lopez, Commissioner MacDonnell and Commissioner Arbuthnot volunteered for the proposal review subcommittee.

Other business

Ms. Pugliese asked if a board member will give a recap of the Colorado Opioid Abatement Conference taking place on August 15 and 16 in Denver. She stated that with priority for in-person attendance being given to board members, she plans to attend virtually. Commissioner Buxton-Andrade will be presenting on the morning of August 16.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 3:00 PM on August 22, 2022.

Adjournment

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to adjourn.

- Commissioner Arbuthnot moved to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Lopez.
 - The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Zeitvogel
Secretary, SECOR