

# SE Colorado Region 19 Opioid Settlement Board

## February 27, 2023, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM via Zoom

### **Present**

Rick Butler  
Kim MacDonnell  
Blaine Arbuthnot  
John Galusha  
Dennis Pearson, Meagan Hillman  
Rob Oquist  
Wendy Buxton-Andrade  
Christine Zeitvogel

Rose Pugliese

### Guests

Sarah Long  
Jami Feld  
Jack Patterson  
Rob Miller  
Sarah Money  
Mindy Baumgardner  
Stacey Samaro  
Ginger Whatley  
Jude Solano  
Laura Sandoval-Adams  
Jack Dwyer  
Terri Schreiber

### **County represented**

Baca  
Bent  
Crowley  
Huerfano  
Kiowa  
Otero  
Prowers  
Pueblo

### **Facilitator**

Pueblo County Attorney's Office  
Colorado Attorney General's Office  
Colorado Attorney General's Office  
Life Continues Recovery  
Southern Colorado Health Network  
Colorado Consortium  
Crossroads' Turning Points, Inc.  
Crossroads' Turning Points, Inc.  
Southern CO Harm Reduction  
Southern CO Harm Reduction  
Deterra Drug Deactivation & Disposal  
The Schreiber Group

### **Call to Order**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 PM. Eight counties were represented during the meeting.

### **Approval of Agenda**

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

- Councilman Butler moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Galusha.
  - The motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2023 meeting.

- Commissioner Arbuthnot moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Councilman Butler.
  - The motion passed unanimously.

### **Update from Heidi Williams, Director of Opioid Response**

Jamie Feld presented on Ms. Williams behalf and voiced her appreciation for the collaborative work being completed in Region 19. Ms. Feld introduced Rural Outreach Specialist, Mindy Baumgardner, and Program Assistant, Jack Patterson. Five new opioid settlements have been announced. These will be distributed using the existing agreement, formula (20% local governments, 60% regional, 10% infrastructure, 10% state) and MOU. The state total is now \$740 million, and Ms. Feld pointed out that the amounts currently allocated to the regions are only from the 5 original settlements (Amerisource Bergen, Cardinal Health, Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, and McKinsey totaling \$395 million). The new amount is approximately \$35 million over 18 years (original amount was about \$20 million). The opt-in/out default will remain the same as the last allocation. Local governments may change their choice annually, possibly in August. In Region 19, the majority of local governments opted to give their funds to the region. Local governments were notified by email of the 5 new settlements on 2/13/23 and need to complete the 5 participation forms (Teva, Allergan, Walmart, CVS, Walgreens) and submit them by April 7, 2023. Questions may be directed to [Opioids@coag.gov](mailto:Opioids@coag.gov). Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a weekly update of outstanding local governments.

Ms. Feld presented the State Opioid Response Priorities for 2023 (Regional Learning Forums, the Opioid and Fentanyl Prevention Campaign, Infrastructure Grants, Support for Colorado Tribes, and Innovation Grants to expand best practices), the Opioid Response Resources page on the COAG website, and the information on the upcoming annual conference which will take place in Montrose on August 16 – 18. Regions may use some of their funds to send representatives to the conference. Ms. Feld noted that some regions are putting funding toward community leadership and facilitation.

#### **Direction for Sarah Long, Pueblo County Assistant Attorney**

Ms. Long stated that the Mayor for the City of Pueblo requested copies of the proposals received for the Prevention and Education RFP. She noted that Pueblo County is not technically the custodian of all SECOR documents (RFP was created by Ms. Pugliese, but contracts were drafted by Pueblo County attorney). Ms. Long said that counties receiving CORA requests may forward them to her.

- This item will be placed on the agenda for vote at the next meeting.

Pueblo County drafted a standard service agreement based on the agreement used for the LEAD program for SECOR grantees. The Statement of Work comes from the RFP and the proposal. Ms. Long asked for input regarding mandatory reporting. The plan is to use one form for reporting. The categories are salary, administration, programming, marketing and equipment. Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked how often the reporting would be required. Ms. Pugliese stated that the reporting would be required quarterly. Reports will be sent out to Pueblo County's Director of Finance and Ms. Pugliese. Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked how to manage proposals where government support is either absent or withdrawn. Any proposal not received with a letter of support from a local government is considered unresponsive. Ms. Long will need to consult with Pueblo County's purchasing attorney to determine how to manage a proposal where local government support is withdrawn after the application is submitted.

Ms. Pugliese recommended giving agencies 12 months from receipt of funds to expend the award, rather than requiring grantees to spend all funds by the end of the calendar year in which funds were awarded. Ms. Feld confirmed that was permissible and noted that the COAC would like regions to think about the funds and expenditures logically. The annual reporting deadline for regions is September 15.

Ms. Pugliese stated that a portion of the Prevention and Education was held back. If those funds are not distributed by September 15, it will be necessary to amend the plan. The AG's office is developing an amendment process for the two-year plan.

- This item will be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

#### **Facilitator Update**

Ms. Pugliese is scheduling an onboarding meeting with Barefoot and Ms. Long is finalizing the contract.

Ms. Pugliese reported on each category of the next round of RFPS:

Treatment: \$763,869.77 available and 6 proposals received

Recovery: \$509,246.52 available and 3 proposals received

Harm Prevention: \$254,623.26 available and 4 proposals received

Criminal Justice: \$254,623.26 available and 2 proposals received

The RFP committee was unable to meet and prepare a recommendation prior to the meeting due to questions on several proposals.

#### **Other business**

None.

#### **Next meeting**

The next meeting has been scheduled for March 27, 2023 at 3 PM.

#### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Buxton-Andrade asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

- Commissioner Galusha moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner MacDonnell.
  - The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Zeitvogel  
Secretary, SECOR