

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OPIOID ABATEMENT FUNDING ADVISORY BOARD

Date: January 9, 2023

Present: Will Nelson – Escambia County Senior Assistant Attorney
Rebecca Szuch – Escambia County Paralegal
Dr. Irvin Williams
Tommy White
Matt Infinger
John Mathis
Catherine White

Location: Ernie Lee Magaha Government Building, Board Chambers, First Floor
221 Palafox Place, Pensacola, Florida

Minutes prepared by Tina Arroyo – Assistant to the Board

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.
3. Approval of the minutes from November 14 meeting.

Motion: To approve the minutes from November 14, 2022
Made by: Tommy White Seconded by: Catherine White
Disposition: Motion unanimously passes

4. **Public Forum** - Speakers limited to 2 minutes each.
 1. No public speakers

5. **Invitations to bid purchasing - Lindsey Stevens** - I'm the deputy purchasing manager whenever you guys are getting your invitations to bid together, you'll be working with me and what I will need from you is a list of everything that you're looking to purchase. I can't use brand names, but we can do suitable substitutes but just a list and a general scope, an overview of what you're looking for and then once I have all of that from you, we'll coordinate your insurance through risk management and then we'll get it published out for between 14 and 30 days, whatever you guys decide, and it'll just be off cost.

6. **Research findings – Cathy White** - I've been doing a little bit of research on what other counties are doing through this process. Volusia County partnered with the University of South Florida to assist them to come up with recommendations where there are gaps and services within their community and I wanted to say that Escambia County has recently done a sequential intercept mapping project with USF so we should be getting the final report on that soon and I expect that to come out in the next month or so but that would at least get

help us identify any gaps that we have within the community as we move forward with this process Lee County did a notice of funding availability for projects and I think it's a strategy for each of us to look at as we start this process they did a really good job with their notice that they sent out there's a lot of detailed information. I am going to reach out to Lee County to see what steps they took to get to that point because they seem like they're a little bit ahead of us as far as where they are in the process. I went outside the State of Florida too, Colorado, they have what they call an opioid epidemic blueprint and what they basically did is they sent out a survey to the Professionals in the area and that helps them identify what areas they want to focus on as far as priorities with the funding. I also looked at Minnesota Wright County and they sent out a survey I believe it closes at the end of February. This survey is sent out to the community for the community to basically provide their input on the areas they feel like are the most needed or the most critical, so they really broke it down into the four categories, **criminal justice, harm reduction, prevention, and treatment recovery**. I've also been reaching out to the agencies that distribute Narcan and trying to find out in Escambia County is this something that we need to approach immediately and so far, what I found out is that the health department distributes Narcan to anybody that comes in for a visit. I think they are allowed to give them five per person, per visit and that's in all three locations. Lakeview does distribute Narcan to all their different programs.

7. **Stephanie Shepard – Personal experience about son**



Stephanie
Shepard's Story.pdf

(To read Stephanie's full story- Right click, Object, Open)

8. **Tommy White** – Jennifer Bryan brought up a great situation and that was fentanyl test strips and the availability of fentanyl test strips. I didn't even know they had fentanyl test strips, so I don't know the cost of them. We can look at what the cost of the test trips maybe have some distribution facilities that people can get test strips and make that available to the public as we go through our process.

9. **Dr. Irvin Williams** - I'd like to speak to that because just recently there's been some inquiry about the use of test strips and in Florida they're illegal. They're considered paraphernalia, so there's been a move to look at that and reconsider and I think there's some legislature maybe representative Salzman was asking some questions of people in the field about how we feel about them being a harm reduction prevention kind of thing. Many states have allowed test strips to be sold and people are using it and again it's not just for those who are quote hardcore substance users.

The next meeting will be Monday, February 13, 2023, at 11:00am in the BCC Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Mathis declared the Opioid Abatement Funding Advisory Board adjourned.