



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Requested Board Meeting Date: 4/4/2023

*\*= Mandatory, information must be provided*

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

**\*Title:**

Approval of the initial allocation of One Arizona settlement funds for opioid mitigation

**\*Introduction/Background:**

In response to the local impact of the opioid epidemic, the Board of Supervisors at its June 20, 2017 unanimously approved Resolution 2017-42 requesting the State appropriate resources to expand opioid treatment and prevention capacity in Pima County.

On November 13, 2017, the County Administrator first requested the Board’s direction on opioid related litigation that would seek to hold manufacturers and distributors responsible for their role in the opioid crisis.

Subsequently on October 19, 2021 the Board voted to enter into the One Arizona Distribution fo Opioid Settelement Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Attorney General. This agreement included every Arizona county and 90 of 91 cities and towns and provides the framework for the allocation of any settlement. Allocations are based on the county specific rate of opioid use disorder, number of opioid deaths, and the amount and potency of opioids shipped to the county. It also defines the allowable uses of these limited resources, and identifies the county Health Departments as the administering entity.

The first two national settlements were approved in 2022 and subsequently began to be distributed. Pima County and its jurisdictional partners will receive approximately \$40 to \$45 million net of legal fees over the following 17 years.

**\*Discussion:**

On September 2, 2022, the Administrator transmitted to you notification of the confirmed electronic transfer of the first payment recieved from the National Settlement Administrator. The memorandum included a plan developed by the Health Department and approved by your Board of Health for the administration of these resources, in keeping with the limitations and requirements of the One Arizona intergovernmental agreement. Under this plan, the Board of Health makes recommendations and communicates those to the Health Department Director and the Board of Supervisors for approval and action.

The Board of Health met at its regular meeting on February 22, 2023 and made such a recommendation, which we are now conveying to the Board. The language that was approved by the Board of Health is included in Attachment 1; a memorandum communicating the recommendation to County Administrator is Attachment 2; and the minutes of the Board of Health Meeting memorializing their action serves as Attachment 3.

**\*Conclusion:**

Limited national opioid settlement resources have begun to flow to Pima County. It is appropriate that the first approved project focus on the immediate need for Narcan. Subsequent projects associated with this settlement will be brought back to the Board of Supervisors as part of its budget process.

**\*Recommendation:**

I recommend approval of \$180,000 for the immediate purchase and distribution of Narcan as requested by the Board of Health and Health Department.

7/14/2021

APPROVED BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Additional funding for opioid use prevention activities for the next Fiscal Year will be included in next years budget and subject to the Board’s approval.

**\*Fiscal Impact:**

Fiscal year 2023 is \$180,000 funded from with opioid settlement resources.

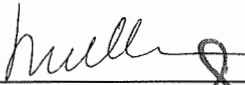
**\*Board of Supervisor District:**

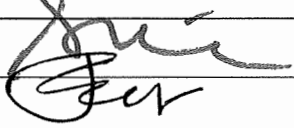
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Department: Health Department – Dr. Terry Cullen      Telephone: 520-724-8239

Contact: Kim VanPelt, Deputy Director      Telephone: 520-724-7894

Department Director Signature:       Date: 3/14/23

Deputy County Administrator Signature:       Date: 14 Mar 2023

County Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_      Date: 3/14/23

# ATTACHMENT 1



**PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
3950 S. COUNTRY CLUB, STE 100 • TUCSON AZ 85714-2056

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February 22, 2023 - Substance Misuse Advisory Committee Recommendation

**Purpose:**

To request use of opioid settlement funds to address immediate needs related to substance misuse and provide needed departmental infrastructure to award opioid settlement funds to community organizations.

**Proposal:**

PCHD requests

- \$180,000 for **FY23** to purchase additional Narcan Nasal Spray
- \$400,000 for **FY24** to hire key departmental staff to oversee PCHD's efforts to expand community mental health and substance misuse activities in Pima County.

**Justification:**

Narcan- Purchasing additional Narcan Nasal Spray is recommended for immediate action due to recent spikes in overdose deaths in Pima County. Since the beginning of 2023, significant spikes in drug deaths have occurred. This trend is also paired with an increase in fentanyl seizures at the Tucson ports of entry and by local law enforcement. PCHD currently does not have adequate supply to meet community demand since the request for resources accelerates when overdoses spike. Currently, we have 21 requests pending for a total of 1,532 units of Narcan waiting to be filled.

**Total - \$180,000.00 (6,000 units of Narcan) (FY23)**


Personnel- Recruiting key personnel for PCHD will support community mental health and addiction in Pima County. Added staff will allow the department to develop the infrastructure to competitively award opioid settlement funding to community-based organizations. These awards will be designed to meet the priorities identified by the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee, the Board of Health and the Pima County Board of Supervisors.

**Total - \$400,000 (Salary/ERE/Related Operating Costs) (FY24)**

# ATTACHMENT 2

Date: March 2, 2023

To: Jan Leshner  
County Administrator

From: Theresa Cullen, MD, MS   
Health Department Director

Francisco Garcia  
Deputy County Administrator

**Re: Initial Funding Recommendations for One Arizona Opioid Settlement Funds**

Background

Beginning in late 2022, Pima County and partner jurisdictions began receiving payments that will amount to approximately \$47.7 million over the next 18 years as part of a legal settlement by pharmaceutical companies and distributors to mitigate the harm caused by the opioid epidemic. The settlement agreement between the State Attorney General and the participating jurisdictions identifies the Health Department as the lead administrative entity for the County.

Under this agreement, participating jurisdictions (the towns of Marana, Oro Valley and Sahuarita and the cities of Tucson and South Tucson) have the option of pooling their resources with the County for joint collaborative programming led by the Health Department or receive a lump sum payment. To date, the city of South Tucson has indicated their desire to pool their dollars, the town of Oro Valley has indicated it wishes to receive a lump sum payment, and other jurisdictions have yet to identify their preference. At a minimum, if no cities or towns wish to collaborate in the distribution of funds, Pima County will receive \$34 million to be administered by the Health Department. For FY23, the Health Department has been allotted \$1,523,326 (not including funding identified for the jurisdictions). For FY24, the Health Department is expected to receive \$2,301,080 (not including funding for the jurisdictions).

The approved use of opioid settlement dollars as stipulated under the One Arizona IGA, Exhibit 1, include the following categories:

- Treat Opioid Use Disorder
- Support People in Treatment and Recovery
- Connect People Who Need Health to the Health They Need (Connections to Care)
- Address the Needs of Criminal-Justice Involved Persons
- Address the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and Their Families, Including Babies with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
- Prevent Over-Prescribing and Ensure Appropriate Prescribing and Dispensing of Opioids
- Prevent Misuse of Opioids
- Prevent Overdose Deaths and Other Harms
- First Responders

**To: Jan Lesher, County Administrator**

**Re: Initial Funding Recommendations for One Arizona Opioid Settlement Funds**

Date: March 2, 2023

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- Leadership, Planning and Coordination
- Training
- Research

To inform strategic use of opioid settlement funds managed by the Pima County Health Department, the Board of Health has empaneled a Substance Misuse Advisory Committee. The 6-member committee comprised of Board of Health and community members is responsible for making recommendations to the Board of Health and the PCHD Director on prioritized strategies for addressing Pima County's significant substance misuse challenges and behavioral health needs. Per statute, the Board of Health provides statutory oversight of the public health function in Pima County. It is empowered to determine priority investment areas. To help identify priorities for the use of opioid settlement funding, the BOH's Substance Misuse Advisory Committee is soliciting input from community members and experts.

At two separate February 22<sup>nd</sup> meetings, the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee and the Board of Health each approved two recommendations totaling \$580,000 in initial spending of opioid settlement dollars. The first recommendation was to spend \$180,000 in FY23 on the purchase and distribution of Narcan Nasal Spray by the Health Department. (See below for specific proposal.) The second recommendation was to spend \$400,000 in FY24 to add four full-time positions to the Health Department to enable it to increase its efforts to address community mental health and addiction and build capacity for the Health Department to award grants to community organizations in FY24 based on the prioritized needs identified by the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee.

The latter recommendation will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for its consideration and potential approval as part of the Pima County Health Department's FY24 budget request. That budget request will seek approval for the department to hire a division director and senior program manager for a newly formed Division of Community Mental Health and Addiction which will include 17 staff (3 new positions plus 14 current grant-funded positions). The addition of these new staff will help the department lead expanded efforts to address community mental health and addiction and seek additional grant funding to address community needs. As part of its FY24 request, the department will also be requesting to add a grants manager to oversee the process for administering grants to the community and a grant operations position (the latter to be included in the PCHD operations division) to administer grants and contracts to community organizations.

### Proposal

For FY23, Pima County Health Department proposes that \$180,000 be spent on the purchase and distribution of Narcan Nasal Spray. Narcan Nasal Spray is a safe and effective medication used to reverse an opioid-induced overdose. Ensuring that Narcan is widely available for use by community-based organizations that serve high-risk populations has been proven to be

**To: Jan Leshar, County Administrator**

**Re: Initial Funding Recommendations for One Arizona Opioid Settlement Funds**

Date: March 2, 2023

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lifesaving. Purchasing additional Narcan Nasal Spray is recommended for immediate action due to recent spikes in overdose deaths in Pima County. Since the beginning of 2023, significant spikes in drug deaths have occurred. In the last two months, Pima County had experienced over 100 overdose deaths. This trend is also paired with an increase in fentanyl seizures at the Tucson ports of entry and by local law enforcement. PCHD currently does not have adequate supply to meet community demand since the request for resources accelerates when overdoses spike. Currently, PCHD has pending requests from 21 community-based organizations for 1,532 units of Narcan Nasal Spray waiting to be filled. PCHD has depleted its current inventory of Narcan.

Attachment: February 22, 2023 - Substance Misuse Advisory Committee Recommendation

c: Paul Horwitz, Chair, Board of Health



# ATTACHMENT 3

# **Pima County Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

February 22, 2023

Virtual – Teleconference / MS Teams Meeting

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Horwitz called meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

### ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Rebecca Franz-Osborne – Absent

Mr. Rene Gastelum – Absent

Mr. Charles Geoffrion, Vice President – Present, Virtual

Supervisor Grijalva – Present, Virtual

Dr. Paul Horwitz, President – Present, Virtual

Mr. Mike Humphrey – Present, Virtual

Dr. Kathryn Kohler – Present, Virtual

Mr. Miguel Rojas – Absent

Dr. Lisa Soltani – Present, Virtual

Dr. Gail Smith – Present, Virtual

Ms. Carolyn Trowbridge – Present, Virtual

### **A quorum was established (8)**

#### Non-Board Members

Dr. Theresa Cullen, Pima County Health Department Director

#### Presenters

Ms. Kimberly Van Pelt, Pima County Health Department, Deputy Director of Programming and Development

Ms. Karen Spink, Pima County Health Department, Deputy Director of Operations

Ms. Jennie Mullins, Pima County Health Department, Senior Manager and Ethics Committee lead

Dr. Don Gates, Health Department Business Operations Manager

Mr. Andres Portela, Pima County Health Department. Program Manager Office of Health Equity

## **2. MINUTES ADOPTION**

- Adopt Board of Health (BOH) January 25, 2023, Meeting Minutes.  
The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Geoffrion / Dr. Kohler) that the January 25, 2023, BOH Minutes be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.
- Adopt BOH Budget Subcommittee February 3, 2023, Meeting Minutes.  
The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Kohler / Mr. Humphrey) that the February 3, 2023, BOH Budget Subcommittee Minutes be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

## **3. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE**

- There was one request to speak to the BOH however the speaker was not able to join during the Call to the Audience.

## **4. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

- COVID-19 Cases and Transmission in Pima County
  - COVID-19 community level – low
  - 59.68 weekly cases per 100K people
  - 325 cases (data through 02/15/23) (2% decrease in past week)
  - CDC testing percent positivity: 10.86% (data through 02/14/23)
  - Pima County wastewater variants – as of February 16, 2023
    - >XBB\* (40.8%)
    - BA.5\* (26.8%)

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- BQ.1\* (4.2%)
- NOTE: \* denotes when multiple subvariants are included in a reported variant percentage
- Contact Investigation and Tracing is done at the State and will continue in schools until the end of the school year.
- COVID-19/Flu Vaccination Clinics
  - People not up to date with their vaccinations are at greater risk for severe cases
  - COVID-19 and Flu Vaccines are available at Health Department (HD) clinics and at the Abrams Public Health Center
  - COVID-19 Mobile Vaccine Clinics and additional information can be found at: [COVID-19 Vaccine Information & Registration - Pima County](#)
- COVID-19 Testing
  - Free rapid antigen testing is available at the Abrams Public Health Center on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8am-12pm and 1pm-4pm. No appointments are needed.
  - Free at-home test kits are available at 12 Pima County Public Libraries and at various community events.
  - At-home test kits have expiration dates that have been extended. These kits that have gone past the extended expiration date should be discarded.
  - For more information visit:
    - [Pima County COVID-19 Testing Centers - Pima County](#)
    - [COVID.gov/tests - Free at-home COVID-19 tests](#)
  - Mr. Humphrey inquired if there is a way to test samples of various areas of the county to determine the positivity rate. Dr. Cullen responded that PCHD would need to develop statistical guidance. An institutional review board approval may be required. She will follow up with the school of public health.
- TEST to TREAT
  - Free COVID-19 treatment is available to anyone who has tested positive and is at high risk of becoming seriously ill.
  - If you believe you need free anti-viral medication, call us at 520-724-7895.
    - Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
    - Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
  - Prescriptions called in to local pharmacies
  - For more information, please visit the [PCHD Treatment webpage](#)
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
  - Weekly cases for Emergency Department (ED) and In-Patient visits in people under 18 years and all ages are down.
  - Hospitals are not reporting any current problems.
  - There is not a vaccine for RSV currently however a vaccine is in the testing phase.
  - Treatment is available for at-risk neonates or less than one year old.
- Influenza-like Illnesses (ILI) in ED and In-Patient visits in Pima County
  - There is a decreasing trend in both ILI In-Patient and ED visits as of MMWR week 2022-52
  - As of MMWR week 2023-7, there is a slight decrease in ILI ED and slight uptick in ILI In-Patient visits
- Community Vaccination Uptake (data as of February 21, 2023)
  - 74.9% of the total population are fully vaccinated.
  - 78.9% of residents ages 5+ have completed the primary series.
  - 22.4% of residents ages 5+ have received a Bivalent Booster
  - 25% of residents ages 18+ have received a Bivalent Booster
  - 95% of adults ≥ 65 YRs have completed primary series
  - 50.2% of adults ≥ 65 YRs have received an updated (Bivalent) booster

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- Strategies to Boost Boosters
  - PCHD Vaccine Equity Program provide outreach events in the community and onsite vaccination services at Assisted Living Facilities to reach adults 65 years and older in the County
  - PCHD is providing at-home boosters to eligible people who are unable to leave their home.
    - For questions or assistance, call: 520-222-0119
    - Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
  - PCHD Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Epidemiology programs provide ongoing surveillance and outbreak support, as well vaccination information to Long-Term Care facilities (LTCs).
  - Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) contract providers to vaccinate and test for COVID-19 at LTCs. The PHEP and Epidemiology teams work together to regularly contact LTCs and register facilities with AZDHS for vaccine and booster clinics. These services are free to the LTCs and residents.
  - PCHD continues communication social media campaigns to encourage people to get their updated bivalent booster.
- Additional PCHD Work
  - Support Substance Misuse Advisory Committee
  - Implement the CDC Workforce and Infrastructure Grant
    - Tribal liaison, environmental health and non-communicable disease staff are needed for implementation
    - Increase training and support
  - Develop proposed metrics to evaluate a 'healthy county'
  - Continue to develop data modernization plan
  - Work towards improved vector control
  - Continue to support other programs:
    - Schools
    - Testing and Vaccine Equity
  - Access to Reproductive Health
  - Ensure physical infrastructure needs for safe and secure workplace
- SaludArte – Creating a Culture of Health
  - Grant funded program between the PCHD and the Arts Foundation for Tucson and Southern Arizona to promote health, wellbeing and resiliency by creating pathways of healing through community engagement sessions and the arts.
  - Community members from Supervisory Districts across the County will come together to share their experiences of COVID-19 and their hopes for the future, and work together to select artists to create temporary public art installations reflecting their stories.
  - Call to Artists is complete to produce 5 temporary public artworks
  - PCHD have recruited 75 participants (15 from areas hit hard by COVID-19 in each District) and community meetings are underway
  - Timeline:
    - June – September 2023: The art project installation completion date
    - October 2023: Coordinated unveiling and community celebration of the 5 arts projects
- Recommended COVID-19 Actions
  - Children and Adults should stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters.
  - Get tested if you have symptoms or were exposed.
  - For more information on where to get tested for COVID-19 in Pima County, go to [pima.gov/covid19testing](https://pima.gov/covid19testing).

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- Wear a mask if you have symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19.
- Wear a mask when indoors in public and on public transportation.
- You may choose to wear a mask at any time as an additional precaution to protect yourself and others.
- Stay home when sick with a fever, cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or fabric, or into your sleeve or elbow (not into hands)
- Frequently wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer
- If you are at high risk for severe illness, consider wearing a mask indoors in public and taking additional precautions and get Test to Treat Antivirals:
  - Call 520-724-7895 for information about who is eligible. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
  - For more information on COVID-19 treatment, go to [pima.gov/covid19treatment](https://pima.gov/covid19treatment).

### **5. DELARING RACIAL AND ETHNIC INEQUITIES & INCOME INEQUALITY IN PIMA COUNTY TO BE A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS – STANDING ITEM**

- Mr. Portela shared efforts accomplished by the Office of Health Equity in 2022.
  - A JEDI Survey to Baseline was distributed to PCHD staff to complete that aided in the creation of the Training and Education Plan.
    - Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) LGBTQ+ 101 – Provided an introductory level conversation to identities and the distinctions between sex, gender, and sexuality, recognized ways assumptions can be made based on gender expression and defined the identities of “LGBTQ+” which provided best practices and competency suggestions for those working in various settings.
    - &Liberation Introduction to Equity – A four-part series to understand both systematic and institutional oppression and how social identities both privileged and oppressed interact with gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity and socioeconomics.
    - Direct Advocacy and Resource Center Advancing Access to Care for People with Disabilities – A three-part series provides an introductory foundation for effectively serving individuals with diverse disabilities.
  - Forums - Aimed to highlight critical issues facing culturally specific populations in Pima County to improve cultural competence and understand culturally specific health concerns. Each forum discussed the Social Determinants of Health, the intersection between health and policy, the importance of community partnerships, and potential efforts to improve health outcomes for those living in and around Pima County.
    - Health Equity and Black History Month Forum
    - Latino/a/e Heritage Month
    - Indigenous Peoples Health
  - Health Equity Steering Committee – this committee meets monthly. Shares understanding and capacity for health equity work in PCHD.
  - Indexing for Reproductive Health – compiled data on reproductive indicators in Pima County.
- Goals for the Office of Health Equity in 2023
  - Provide another Health Equity Survey
  - Implementing some of the finding from the Reproductive Freedom Index
  - Creating division specific health equity goals
  - Continued education with partners from outside consultants.

- Continue culturally specific events such as the Black and Brown Health Fair facilitated with Community Partners and Supported by the Office of Health Equity
- Increase the capacity of the Health Equity Website to support more culturally specific profiles in addition to the Hispanic/ Latino, African American, Disabled, and indigenous profiles
- Mr. Geoffrion requested that Mr. Portela share this presentation with the Ethics Committee.

**6. BOARD OF HEALTH SUBSTANCE MISUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE AND DISCUSSION**

- Ms. VanPelt advised that the City of South Tucson and Oro Valley will not participate with Pima County in terms of the Opioid Settlement Funds. This does not impede the county's progress in any way. The HD will work with these jurisdictions to ensure a synergistic approach and not duplicative. This will require transparency so that information is available to all jurisdictions.
- The BOS is considering a supplemental budget request submitted by HD for the Proposition 207 and Opioid Settlement dollars in fiscal year 2024.
- During the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee meeting the following motions were made and approved:
  - Spend \$180,000 in fiscal year 2023 for immediate purchase of Narcan.
    - Narcan is administered when there is an overdose and is critical in saving lives.
  - Spend \$400,000 in fiscal year 2024 to hire four staff to augment current behavioral health and substance misuse and set up an infrastructure for competitive grants to be applied and awarded based on the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee priorities.
  - There are 30 community advisors that will participate in prioritizing funding efforts. The Substance Misuse Advisory Committee approved the motion to hold five 90-minute subcommittee meetings, two virtual and three in-person meetings, held at different areas in Pima County in March and April. The Substance Misuse Advisory Committee members will not attend these meetings. The HD will provide a summary report to the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee outlining the recommended priorities for use of the remaining opioid settlement dollars. The recommended priorities will be posted on the HD website for additional public comment and transparency. The HD will provide a final report to the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee for final decision.

**7. DISCUSS THE BOARD OF HEALTH SUBSTANCE MISUSE COMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL(S) TO IMMEDIATELY DISPENSE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

- The Board discussed the first installment of the Opioid Settlement Funds and agreed with the recommendations the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee made and agreed to move the recommendations to the BOS.
- The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Geoffrion / Dr. Smith) that the Board of Health approve \$180,000 in Fiscal Year 2023 to purchase additional Narcan Spray for immediate use and \$400,000 in Fiscal year 2024 to hire four key departmental staff to oversee the HD efforts to expand community mental health and substance misuse activities in Pima County. The motion carried unanimously.

**8. DISCUSS ENFORCEMENT OF STATE STRAW PURCHASE LAWS**

- Mr. Humphrey shared that Arizona Revised Statute 13-3102. A.5, specifically prohibits the selling or transfer of firearms to a prohibited possessor and requests the BOH consider giving their support in sending a letter to County Attorney Conover and Sheriff Nanos

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regarding the lack of enforcement of State straw purchase laws and how this is becoming a public health issue.

- Mr. Humphrey shared that he was not successful in meeting with the Pima County Attorney and decided to discuss this issue with the BOH.
- Mr. Humphrey read a draft letter that provided firearm related violence statistics he recommends be included:
  - 226 persons died in 2022
  - Disproportionately threatens the public health and safety of minority populations within Pima County
  - The human and economic cost to Pima County, the State and nationally
  - Number of those prosecuted nationally for straw purchase violations
  - The letter should include that the BOH strongly urges the prosecution of those in violations of state law to prevent prohibited possessors from obtaining firearms in Pima County
  - Invite the County Attorney and Sheriff Nanos to attend a future BOH meeting and present current efforts to reduce these purchases
- Mr. Humphrey shared that local firearm dealers are frustrated with the lack of enforcement and want to mitigate gun violence in a collaborative effort.
- Supervisor Grijalva shared that prosecuting these violations are difficult and under the federal umbrella. This may be why there are so few cases. The County Attorney is working on setting up a meeting to discuss this issue with jurisdictions and local community members. Mr. Humphrey should attend.
- Dr. Smith suggested bringing this topic to the BOS if the County Attorney and Sheriff are not able to enforce laws.
- The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Smith / Mr. Humphrey) to send a letter to County Attorney and Sheriff Nanos outlining firearm violence, the importance of enforcing State Straw Purchase, the socioeconomic impact, request what efforts are currently being done in our community to keep illegal possessors from acquiring firearms, what limitations does Pima County face with enforcement, and extend an invitation to a future BOH meeting to present their findings. The motion carried unanimously.

### **9. BOARD OF HEALTH BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT REVIEW & BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS**

- Mr. Geoffrion shared that the BOH must review the County Health Department Budget per Arizona State Statute. This is not done sufficiently or successfully.
- Dr. Gates was introduced and updated the Board that there is a new base budget system with a smaller window for budget development. The base budget amount for the health fund is provided by the Finance Department and the HD must tie any requests to this budget. Any requests that exceed the budget requires a special supplemental package.
- The HD Grant Fund budget was completed last week which impacted the ability to share information with the Board.
- Dr. Gates will share the HD Budget once final

### **10. DISCUSSION REGARDING BOARD OF HEALTH STUDY SESSION**

- Mr. Geoffrion shared that having quarterly study sessions with the BOH budget subcommittee will provide opportunities to learn the new budget system and make timely recommendations to the BOS.
- The budget subcommittee want to understand how the budget amount is calculated and what criteria is used.
- Dr. Cullen will arrange for the first study session in March.

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**11. ETHICS COMMITTEE UPDATE – STANDING ITEM**

- There was not an Ethics Committee Update

**12. SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSAL OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

- The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Geoffrion / Dr. Kohler) that the February 22, 2023, meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M.
- The next meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.



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# Pima County Board of Health Substance Misuse Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2023

Virtual – Teleconference / MS Teams Meeting

## 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

### ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Paul Horwitz

Mr. Mike Humphrey

Dr. Kay Kohler

Dr. Lisa Soltani

Mr. Chuck Huckelberry - absent

Mr. Miguel Rojas – absent

### **A quorum was established (4)**

### Presenters:

Ms. Kimberly VanPelt, Pima County Health Department, Deputy Director

## 2. **MINUTES ADOPTION**

The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Humphrey/Dr. Kohler) that the February 10, 2023, Board of Health Substance Misuse Advisory Committee (SMAC) Meeting Minutes be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

## 3. **BOARD OF HEALTH SUBSTANCE MISUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE**

- Ms. VanPelt provided the following updates:
  - Other jurisdictions participating in opioid settlement.
    - City of South Tucson
    - Town of Oro Valley
  - Budgeting process for Pima County overlap with SMAC work
    - Supplemental packages developed for the Proposition 207 funds and opioid dollars during the approval process for fiscal year (FY) 24 budget
      - Of the initial \$1,000,000 of funds recommended to be spent:
        - \$400,000 will go to infrastructure support for the Health Department.
        - \$600,000 will go to community grant making efforts through supplementals submitted in the FY 24 budget

## 4. **DISCUSS PROPOSAL(S) TO IMMEDIATELY DISPENSE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

- Ms. VanPelt provided the following initial recommendations for the spend of the opioid settlement dollars:
  - \$180,000 from FY 23 will be dedicated to purchase Narcan nasal spray based on immediate demand.
  - \$400,000 from FY 24 will be dedicated to set up the infrastructure needed to augment current community mental health addiction efforts to establish grant making support for the Health Department. The Health Department expects to write approximately \$600,000 in community grants during FY 24.
- Dr. Horwitz requested clarification regarding the agreement with other jurisdictions that might participate in the settlement funds. If they were not to participate within the settlement funds, Ms. VanPelt stated that it would require the allotted monies from the respective jurisdiction to be added back into the total amount that could be used for Pima County. It is up to the different jurisdictions to identify how they want to move forward with this settlement agreement and whether they want to be a part of the group effort or take their share of the

funds. This means they cannot spend the money in any way that is beyond the scope of the permissible uses outlined in the One Arizona IGA.

- Dr. Soltani expressed clarification that decisions on the settlement funds would ultimately go to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. VanPelt confirmed to the Committee that they would. Including:
  - Year over year cost to the County for the additional infrastructure or personnel positions included as part of the \$400,000.
    - Because the Health Department does not currently have staff to support the efforts associated with these funds, it is imperative that we add staff with part of the \$400,000 to make the best possible use of the \$600,000 funds. The \$600,000 would be used for grants. This is an 18-year settlement. Currently, PCHD does not believe there will be any impact on the health fund. There may be the potential for additional grant funding to support these positions in the future.
  - Mr. Humphrey asked for clarification on how many staff would be hired utilizing the \$400,000. Ms. VanPelt responded that there would be three staff added, however, a correction was made shortly thereafter to four staff members that would be hired to support this effort.
    - This staff would include a division manager, program manager, grants manager and business operations support position.
  - Dr. Horwitz asked if there would be a specific proposal that could be voted on today and then that motion could be brought to the Board of Health meeting for a vote. Ms. VanPelt suggested the following be put up for vote:
    - \$180,000 for purchase of the Narcan spray for FY 23 and \$400,000 to hire key departmental staff to oversee efforts.
    - Motion was made by Mr. Humphrey and seconded by Dr. Kohler to approve \$180,000 from FY 23 to purchase additional Narcan spray; and, \$400,000 for FY 24 to hire 3 departmental staff. Mr. Humphrey amended this motion, and it was then seconded by Dr. Kohler to 4 departmental staff to oversee the health department efforts to expand community mental health and substance misuse activities in Pima County. With no discussion, Dr. Horwitz approved the motion be sent to the Board of Health meeting to be discussed and voted on. The vote was taken via rollcall. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. DISCUSS PROPOSED ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY WITH SUBSTANCE MISUSE ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- Ms. VanPelt updated the Committee on the 30 Advisors that have been approved to help advise the Substance Misuse Advisory Committee with permissible and prioritized uses of the opioid settlement dollars.
- Ms. VanPelt suggested the following on how to engage these Advisors:
  - Hold five, 90-minute meetings between March 20 and April 7 to enable attendance by the 30 advisors to at least one of the dates provided.
  - Ask each Advisor to attend one meeting of their choice.
  - Minutes will be taken at all meetings. Notes on major themes or suggestions on how dollars might be spent will be kept for record.
  - Background information will be provided to the Advisors about permissible uses of the dollars as set forth by the settlement agreement, so the Advisors are well prepared to offer suggestions at the meetings.
  - Report of the meetings back to the Committee by mid-April. Subsequently post to the Internet allowing community comment for a 30-day period.
- Mr. Humphrey suggested that only Advisors and PCHD staff attend these meetings so that no undue influence appear to be presented by the SMAC members on how the monies would be spent.

- Development of a process for consensus among the advisors on the proposals so that the SMAC members are assured that the community supports the suggestions.
  - Ms. VanPelt stated that monies will not be available to spend until July of 2023 because it is part of the approved budget. This will allow the process/meetings to be done correctly so to engage the community properly.
- The Advisor group is to identify priority for grant funding aligned with areas in the One Arizona IGA permissible uses.
- Ms. VanPelt explained that three-year grants would be favorable over one-year grants to the Advisors. She suggested one-year grants that could be renewed for two subsequent years. (There was subsequent discussion by Committee members but no consensus.)
- Mr. Humphrey made a motion to approve the Advisor engagement process as presented with the adjustment of no SMAC members attending the Advisor meetings. This should be voted on at the Board of Health meeting. Dr. Kohler seconded the motion. Dr. Soltani added a 30-day public comment period to the motion. Mr. Humphrey amended his motion to include the addition of the 30-day public comment period. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.
- There was subsequent discussion of inviting the public to be able to present at the meetings if desired in addition to Advisors.

**6. DISCUSS SCHEDULING THE SUBSTANCE MISUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON A DIFFERENT DAY THAN THE REGULAR BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

- Doctor Kohler suggested to the Committee that the SMAC meetings be held at a different time/date than the Board of Health meetings. She felt holding both meetings back-to-back and virtually was too long and she would prefer that the meetings be held on separate dates/times from the Board of Health meetings. However, Dr. Kohler stated it does make sense if the meetings are held in person to have all members in one place for both meetings.
- To mitigate the length of time for upcoming SMAC meetings that are held virtually, Dr. Horwitz will coordinate with staff to schedule appropriate meeting times depending on the agenda items. They may or may not be scheduled for the original timeframe of 2 hours.

**7. SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSAL OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Motion to approve initial dispensing of funds for opioid settlement funds. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion to approve Advisor Group process. Motion passed unanimously.
- Ms. VanPelt will plan to have a Summary from Advisor group by mid-April.
- Bring forward Proposition 207 proposal for FY 24 sometime after mid-March.
- Ms. VanPelt will contact Dr. Horwitz when ready for updates to the SMAC. Dr. Horwitz will start the process of scheduling the next SMAC meeting.
- SMAC meetings may start back in person for 1 hour; however, this topic is still under discussion.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

- Dr. Horwitz called for adjournment at 2:08 pm. With no objections noted, the meeting was adjourned at 2:09 pm.
- The next meeting time to be determined by the Committee.