

**MASON COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES
HOUSING AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

415 N 6th STREET, SHELTON, WA 98584
Zoom Meeting held

Regular Meeting
April 24, 2024

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Kevin Shutty called meeting to order at 9:00 am

Board Members:

- Kevin Shutty, BoCC
- Eric Onisko, City of Shelton
- Peggy VanBuskirk, Board of Health
- Mark Freedman, Administrative Service Organization (ASO)
- Amanda Gonzales, Citizen
- Beau Bakken, Citizen

Staff Members:

- Haley Foelsch, Public Health & Human Services
- Todd Parker, Public Health & Human Services
- Christina Muller-Shinn, Public Health & Human Services
- Alex Nicacio, Public Health & Human Services

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Approval of the agenda was made by Kevin Shutty; the board moved and seconded the Approval

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Motion was made by Kevin Shutty; the board moved and seconded the Approval

5. Meeting topics

a. Mid-year Monitoring: Northwest Resources II & OHRS Co-Responder Program – *Haley Foelsch*

Haley presented the mid-year monitoring of NWR II & OHRS Co-Responder program policies, procedures, and client files for the month of March. Both agencies had no findings and had processes in place. There were no questions from the Board.

b. Contract Renewal Proposals – *Haley Foelsch*

Haley discussed Treatment Sales Tax and what it would look like for the contract renewals July 1st to December 31st, 2024. Melissa sent out TST contract renewal requests to see what was needed for OHRS, NWRII, and Gethsemane Ministries:

- Did not receive a request from Gethsemane Ministries for the Behavioral Health Transportation Program.
- The request for NWRII SOS program asked for half of their current contract is \$167,655.40. They are trending to spend down by June 30th with a little bit remaining.
- The OHRS Co-responder Program requested \$65,100, 1/3 of their original contract (\$180,000) to maintain services. Average spending is currently on track to spend down, with a month or two remaining in funds.

Eric asked if transportation has gone down since Evergreen Treatment Services has come to town; Christina said no data is being collected any more since they are now funded by a different entity and are not contracted by MCPHHS. Data will be collected from Gethsemane Ministries if asked, but it will not be a requirement anymore. She also mentioned that she wasn't sure because they are transporting clients to detox services. Kevin asked, what is your understanding of the budget capacity, could we fund both of these requests? Haley said is kind of how we can maintain if we're going to change the contract cycle to get everything on to the January cycle. We're trying to do that without an RFP. I do not have a solid answer, she mentioned she would have to move funding around without an RFP. The current contract is good for June 30, 2024. Christina shared about the renewal of the contract having to wait to see what it looked like instead of making budget projections to avoid having two cycles. Kevin talked about having sustainability for the next months. Additional money is put into the reserve for spending on programming. Surplus funding to help get through December. Christina talked about another subcontractor 0.5 at jail medications for Opioid health disorders who would be contracted through OHRS. Budget is a 2-year contract that is fully funded until December. Will not need that much funding. There were no questions.

6. Good of the order:

Kevin and Christina talked about Opioid settlement with several pharmaceutical companies; Mason County currently is a recipient of two of them and another one that might be signing on in June. She talked about the programs and gaps that are needed for this community, recovery network, housing, and primary medical care, to mobile integrated health. Mobile integrated programs have been making a difference. There were 20 anonymous responses, the survey was closed. See attachment. Kevin talked about the approval accepted by the commissioners for the settlement funding being part of the Johnson and Johnson settlement. The settlement will be distributed in a lump sum payment. The money will be distributed to the Treasurer's Office and then distributed into programming. Updates regarding funding will be provided in May. Fund balances currently between the City's and the County's settlement balances over \$200,000. He also mentioned solidifying what the cost would be for the mobile integrated health program. There will be a capacity to grant out money to do additional work; settlement has a 17-year sustainability of funding on the other settlements. He also said he wanted to invite Matthew from Evergreen to learn about the programming and get some feedback on the services that they were getting.

Eric shared feedback that they are getting from the neighborhood regarding the van location and clientele; the generator seems to be a problem and are looking to move it down the street.

Christina talked about what the feedback was from the people about the van; people shared that it was triggering because it's close to Community Lifeline for people who were trying to stay away from Community Lifeline. Christina also mentioned that she will be inviting Mathew.

Eric asked if there was anything needed from the city from the Johnson and Johnson funds. Kevin said he would let Eric and Mark know if anything was needed.

Eric asked if they could be prepared for a bigger meeting to discuss the Housing RFI? Todd talked about the draft of the RFI regarding the incentives, questions to stimulate the thoughts. Kevin said a discussion needed to happen before moving forward. Eric talked about the housing tax being 1/10th of 1%, that will bring the city close to \$500,000 dollars a year. Todd talked about the decentralized system and centralized systems, that partnership with agencies that are growing in our community, and how there is more assistance for the population that they control in Thurston County. Meetings will be held in the next couple of months to update on this subject.

Kevin asked about the presentation about the voucher rates and the rental study and Housing Authority. Todd said they submitted a proposal for the American Rescue Plan Act to help support the study. A waiver was submitted, Housing Authority paid 120% of the current Fair Market Value rent. He talked about the funding and grants can go up to 150% of FMR, no concerns. Todd said he is part of the WSAC and Homeless Housing Program, there is a legislative priority from the Developmental Disability Subcommittee; Commissioners will be hearing through WSAC, to see if there is a way to fund and Housing Authorities can put in request for these studies so its managed more at the state level.

Eric brought up the Prevention Coalition presentation that talked about the legal supplements that are being sold at the gas stations. He talked about how addictive it is and how it's being allowed to be sold in the gas stations he has confirmed its being sold in Mason County. He mentioned it would be a good presentation for the county and schools.

Todd talked about funding agencies and mechanisms that want to be discussed and having someone to represent the agency board. Kevin asked who the representative would be from, Mason County, the Board, or the City? Todd replied, it's open, the Commissioners, the City Council, department head, depending on the flexibility. Eric said it would be a good idea if it was someone from this County. Kevin said there is some resistance that we might get that would be from a public disclosure perspective; we are required to adhere to the OPMA. Mark talked about being on the advisory board can become partially liable for what they are doing, and they might want to keep barriers there; there is so much direction you can provide an agency until you become responsible for what they are doing. Kevin talked about the conflict of interest depending on the position structure; if you're not voting on things, it would only be monitoring. More thought needs to happen before being approved.

7. ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

8. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: May 22, 2024