

OPIOID ABUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

April 23, 2018

6:30 p.m.

304 E. Grand River, Conference Room 1, Howell, MI 48843

Members Present:

Gary Childs, Kate Lawrence , Douglas G. Helzerman

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Childs at 6:31 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of meeting dated: April 10, 2018

Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by: K. Lawrence

Seconded by: D. Helzerman

Yes (3): G. Childs, K. Lawrence , and D. Helzerman

Motion Carried (3 to 0)

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the Agenda as presented.

Moved by: D. Helzerman

Seconded by: K. Lawrence

Yes (2): G. Childs, K. Lawrence, and D. Helzerman

Motion Carried (3 to 0)

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Kelly Wilkinson, RN, Genoa Township: is present because she wants to know the purpose for the litigation.

Judith Minton, Howell Township: Is here today to learn what metrics have been established to determine how successful this endeavor will be.

Alex Hanson, Howell Township: is present to show support for joining the litigation to hold opioid companies accountable for misrepresentation.

5. DISCUSSION

Commissioner Childs informed the Committee he was hoping to have a conversation with Civil Counsel, but counsel is not yet present.

Commissioner Lawrence explained the purpose of this Committee for members of the public and that the Committee is just starting the investigation to decide whether joining in the litigation will benefit Livingston County.

Commissioner Helzerman referred to a tobacco settlement, the results of that litigation, and explained that he wants to make sure this is not just simply a money making case.

Commissioner Childs explained that the decision whether or not to join in the litigation is just one small part of the task for this Committee. The Committee will also be looking at where the community can collaborate efforts and improve services.

Commissioner Helzerman asked the Chair, Commissioner Childs, for an open discussion with audience members. Commissioner Childs agreed to an informal discussion.

Discussion amongst members of the public regarding possible misrepresentation of opioids by manufacturing and pharmaceutical companies, and that doctors feel pressure from patients as well as pressure from within the health field.

Discussion began between Committee members and members of the public.

Chairman asked for order reminded attendees that only one person may speak at a time.

Kelly Wilkinson stated that people who are prescribed the medications are not educated enough on pain management alternatives.

Commissioner Lawrence explained that the County Commissioners have a certain amount of authority and gave some examples of what the Commissioners can do regarding this subject.

Commissioner Helzerman asked Kelly - how can County organizations better coordinate with each other? Have you seen any coordination, if not how can this improve?

Kelly Wilkinson answered: She ran a women's recovery home for 2 years and had tried to get another home started, there were no resources available and she was never able to obtain it.

Judith Minton recommended the Committee reach out to Dr. Joan Ilardo, she has created a successful model to establish coordination.

Mike Tipton, Howell Township – a concern in the community is that the County would be reluctant to give any funding and that funding is probably going to be minimal.

Commissioner Lawrence responded that the Committee has asked the Finance Officer to provide a report of how much funds each department is given for this mission.

Kasey Helton, Marion Township - it is much more expensive to treat people in Jail and the cost to the Community as a whole will continue to rise as the epidemic increases. There are social costs as well as financial.

Judith Minton recommended MSU-Extension offices as a resource for survey designs.

6. CLOSED SESSION

Discuss Legal Opinion

Motion to recess to Closed Session

Moved by: K. Lawrence

Seconded by: D. Helzerman

Yes (3): G. Childs, K. Lawrence , and D. Helzerman

Motion Carried (3 to 0)

Motion to return to Open Session at 7:24 p.m.

Moved by: K. Lawrence

Seconded by: D. Helzerman

Yes (3): G. Childs, K. Lawrence , and D. Helzerman

Motion Carried (3 to 0)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Moved by: K. Lawrence

Seconded by: D. Helzerman

Yes (3): G. Childs, K. Lawrence , and D. Helzerman

Motion Carried (3 to 0)

Respectfully submitted by:

Natalie Hunt,
Recording Secretary