

OPIOID ABUSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

April 30, 2018

6:00 p.m.

304 E. Grand River, Conference Room 4, 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 6:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of meeting dated: April 23, 2018
 2. Closed Session Minutes dated: April 23, 2018
- Motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by: K. Lawrence

Seconded by: G. Childs

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: K. Lawrence

Seconded by: G. Childs

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

Motion Carried (3 to 0)

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None.

5. DISCUSSION

Sheriff Murphy informed members of recent events, including:

- Arrests that reaped 40 Kilos of Heroin, most of which was in Livingston County.

- DEA Task Force's input.
- He advised that Vivatrol is similar to Antabuse for alcohol but works extremely well for opioid abuse.
- Discussion took place regarding programs that intercede when someone requests help, allowing them to provide assistance versus incarceration if at all possible.
- Instigating a type of wrap-around program with a small group (CMH, Law Enforcement, etc.) that would reach out to people in situations where opiates may have been prescribed or certain parolees, etc., and educating them on the dangers of abuse. Program is still being established but is underway. No name at this time.
- Average length of time in jail for post-sentence is 14 days. Not enough time to complete treatment.
- Detox protocol is in place in jail, unless serious condition where they are send to hospital. Detox needs are seldom.

The Prosecutor advised members of their input.

- Angela DelVero confirmed the benefits of the Drug Courts.
- Drug Courts are post-adjudication where you must plead guilty to charges to get into program.
- The specialty courts are meant to keep people out of jail or minimize the time in jail, to speed up the process.
- Unfortunately can't force individuals to seek treatment.
- Hospitals now taking steps to minimize abuse situations.

Discussion took place regarding the history of heroin, vicadin, etc., and the path to the opioid epidemic.

Francine Zysk advised of the lack of beds for inpatient programs which results in outpatient use. Users are not going to wait 20-40 days for a bed to become available. Angela Del Vero stated some hospitals in Macomb County are participating in programs where they set aside a certain amount of beds for use in temporary inpatient situations until beds open up in actual treatment facilities. Megan of Catholic Charities advised that in Berry County, utilizing the Angel Program, there is a 2-day wait and they will drive the person to the first available inpatient bed, wherever that may be.

Jeff Boyd stated that EMS is clearly on the rescue / reaction side of this situation.

- Narcan has been used for years. It's a good drug for first responders to utilize, as it has no side effects.
- Police get their Narcan through grants, CMH, etc. EMS has offered to train Police Departments in Narcan use as what is out there is not sufficient.
- Overdose situations are no longer reported as a crime. It's protected information for the patients.
- Overdose situations don't come in as an overdose, they tend to come in as unknown medical.

- Medical Examiner reports usually always show more than one drug in an overdose situation.
- Average age of overdose national wide is 45-55, typically white males.

Comm. Helzerman questioned where the money for the beds come from. Jeff Boyd advised its either private pay, insured, etc. Angela Del Vero stated there is no state-funded substance abuse beds like there is for mental illness. The State does not have inpatient facilities for substance abuse.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Schedule next meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 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:

Carol Sue Jonckheere,
Recording Secretary