

**Southwest Opioid Response District (SWORD) Meeting Minutes – Approved 8/13/2025**

**Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2:30pm via Zoom**

**Attendees:**

| <b>Voting Members</b>   | <b>Attendance</b>         | <b>Proxy</b>   |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|
| Laurel Schafer (Chair), Assistant Director Montezuma County Public Health | X                         | Bobbi Lock     |
| Vacant (Vice Chair)   |                           |                |
| Adam Rogers (Treasurer), Finance Director La Plata County                 | Present – served as Chair |                |
| Erin Hyder (Secretary), Assistant City Manager City of Durango            | X                         | Bob Brammer    |
| Andy Brock, Assistant Chief of Police, City of Cortez                     | Present                   |                |
| Amie Gardiner, Trustee Town of Silverton                                  | Present                   | Becky Joyce    |
| Austin Lashley, San Juan County Commissioner                              | X                         |                |
| Ashley Wilson, Director Archuleta County Public Health                    | X                         |                |
| Becky Joyce, Director San Juan County Public Health                       | Present                   |                |
| Bill Rockensock, Police Chief Town of Pagosa Springs                      | Present                   |                |
| Bob Brammer, Assistant City Manager City of Durango                       | Present                   |                |
| Bobbi Lock, Director Montezuma Public Health                              | Present                   |                |
| Brice Current, Police Chief City of Durango                               | Present                   |                |
| Chauncey McCarthy, Town Manager Town of Rico                              | Joined at 2:55pm          |                |
| Eric Stiasny, Dolores County Commissioner                                 | Present                   |                |
| John Ranson, Archuleta County Commissioner                                | Present                   |                |
| Malynda Evans, Director Dolores County Social Services                    | Present                   |                |
| Marsha Porter-Norton, Commissioner La Plata County                        | X                         | Martha Johnson |
| Martha Johnson, Director La Plata Human Services                          | Present                   |                |
| Nathaniel Baca, 6 <sup>th</sup> Judicial District Judge                   | X                         |                |
| Shaine Gans, Grants Specialist, La Plata County                           | X                         | Adam Rogers    |
| Tracy Anselmo, Director La Plata County Public Health                     | X                         |                |
| Travis Anderson, County Administrator Montezuma County                    | Present                   |                |

| <b>Advisory/Non-Voting Members</b>              | <b>Attendance</b> |
|---|-------------------|
| Ashley Micikas, La Plata County Public Health   | X                 |
| Ashley Springer, Archuleta County Public Health | Present           |
| Donna Mae Baukat, Community Compassion Outreach | X                 |
| Haley Leonard-Saunders, Axis Health Systems     | Present           |

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Imo Succo, Indigenous Wellbriety Program | Present |
| Mary Katherine, Psychologist             | Present |
| Will Finn, Physician                     | X       |

| <b>Facilitators and Guests</b>  | <b>Role</b> |
|---|-------------|
| Claire West, SWORD Project Manager  | Facilitator |
| Heather Otter, Region 9 Economic Development District                     | Facilitator |
| Laura Lewis Marchino, Region 9 Economic Development District              | X           |
| Andrea Ryan, CommonSpirit Mercy Hospital                                  | Guest       |
| Charlee Sharp, Silver Lining Recovery Homes                               | Guest       |
| Eric Barker, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention   | Guest       |
| Jack Patterson, Colorado Attorney General’s Office                        | Guest       |
| Jacob Abbas, Pagosa Medical Center  | Guest       |
| JK Costello, Steadman Group   | Guest       |
| José Esquibel, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention | Guest       |
| Serena Emeonya, University of Houston                                     | Guest       |

- Acting Chair, Adam Rogers, called the meeting to order at 2:33pm.
- A quorum was established.
- The agenda was reviewed.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

- a. Members and guests were introduced.

**II. Approve May 2025 minutes**

- a. Eric Stiasny made a motion to approve the May 2025 meeting minutes. Malynda Evans seconded. **Motioned passed.**

**III. Approve SWORD Community Grants Process**

- a. Claire West presented major changes to the 2025 SWORD Grant materials, including the application, scoring guide, and stand operating procedure manual. Changes were made with the goal of expanding capacity, increased regional scope, and alignment to SWORD’s guiding principles and Exhibit E. Claire also discussed supplantation guidance and language from the Colorado Attorney General’s Office (COAG). Lastly, she mentioned an

internal document to equitably evaluate previous awardees for future funding.

- b. John Ranson made a motion to approve the SWORD Community Grant Process as presented. Travis Anderson seconded. **Motion passed.**

**IV. José Esquibel, Director Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention, Anschutz Medical Campus – Colorado Legislative Update on Funding Changes/Reductions/Repeals and Bills impacting behavioral health**

- a. José provided an update on the State’s budget, including what funding was recently cut or passed relating to substance misuse recovery, behavioral health, and prevention. More information can be found in the slides he shared.

**V. General Updates**

- a. Heather Otter’s new role with SCAPE
  - i. Heather accepted a position as the Executive Director of the Southwest Colorado Accelerator Program for Entrepreneurs (SCAPE). Her last day at Region 9 EDD is August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- b. SWORD Vice Chair seat is still open. Please recommend someone to fill the role.
- c. Town of Mancos representative
  - i. Jason Armstrong accepted a position with the City of Cortez and therefore can no longer represent Mancos on the SWORD Council. A new Mancos representative shall be appointed in the following months.
- d. COAG updates
  - i. 2025 Colorado Opioid Abatement Conference will be October 27<sup>th</sup> in Loveland, CO.
  - ii. Supplantation Guidance is forthcoming given grey area surrounding recent federal cuts.
  - iii. State data dashboard for opioid settlement expenditures.
- e. SWORD resources

**VI. Next SWORD meeting**

- a. August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 2:30pm via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 3:33pm.

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Minutes prepared by Claire West