

SWORD Meeting Minutes – Approved 07/10/24Wednesday, May 29th 2:30pm via Zoom**Attendees:**

Voting members	Attendance	Proxy
(Chair) Steve Garchar, Dolores County Commissioner	Present	
(Vice Chair) Laurel Schafer, Assistant Director, Montezuma County Public Health	Present	
(Treasurer) Adam Rogers, Finance Director, La Plata County	Present	
(Secretary) Erin Hyder, Durango Assistant City Manager	Present	
Austin Lashley, San Juan County Commissioner	Present	
Becky Joyce, Director San Juan County Public Health	Present	
Bill Rockensock, Pagosa Springs Police Chief	Present	
Bob Brammer, Durango Police Chief	X	
Bobbi Lock, Montezuma County Public Health Director	X	
Chauncey McCarthy, Rico Town Manager	Present	
Heather Alvarez, Mancos Town Manager	X	
Malynda Evans, Dolores County Social Services Director	X	
Marsha Porter-Norton, La Plata County Commissioner	X	Adam Rogers
Martha Johnson, La Plata County Department of Human Services & San Juan County Department of Social Services Director	X	Adam Rogers
Nathaniel Baca, 6 th Judicial District Court Judge	X	
Ronnie Maez, Archuleta County Commissioner	X	Bill Rockensock
Travis Anderson, Montezuma County Administrator	X	

Advisory Members	Attendance
Ashley Gonzalez, La Plata County Public Health	Present
Brandon Mencini, CEO, Common Spirit-Mercy	Present
Breeah Kinsella, Executive Director, Colorado Providers Association	X
Donna Mae Baukat, Co-founder, Community Compassion Outreach	Present
Dr. Jen Hargrove, Emergency Medicine / Wilderness & High Altitude Specialist	Present
Dr. Kent Aikin, Retired Physician, Community Member	Present
Dr. Mary Katherine, Psychologist	Present
Dr. Will Finn, Physician, Southern Ute Indian Tribe	X
Haley Leonard Saunders, Sr. Director of Development/PIO, Axis Health System	Present
Imo Succo, MSW, Director Indigenous Wellbriety Program	Present
Kelly DiGiacomo, Therapist	X

Facilitator & Guests
Heather Otter & Laura Lewis Marchino, Region 9 EDD, SWORD Facilitators
Claire West, SWORD Project Coordinator
Amie Gardiner, Town of Silverton and San Juan County Public Health
Candice Ludwig, Advocates for Recovery Colorado
Shelly Burke, Axis Health System
Eric Barker, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
Mindy Baumgardner, Colorado Opioid Response Team
Reuben Shafir, Durango Herald

Shaine Gans, La Plata County
Tracy Anselmo, La Plata County Public Health
Chad Wheelus, Regional Industry Convener, Southwest Education Collaborative Partner
Abby Landmeier, Second Wind Fund

- Chair, Commissioner Garchar, called the meeting to order at 2:33pm.
- Introductions of members and guests were made.
- A quorum was established.
- The agenda was reviewed.

I. Approve March 2024 minutes. Corrections made to include guests whose names were not included on the roster. Heather Otter displayed corrections during the meeting.

- i. Steve Garchar entertained a motion to approve the corrected March 2024 minutes. Adam Rogers moved. Laurel Schafer second. **Motion passed.**

II. Approve SWORD Roster Changes

- i. Approval was tabled until July meeting. Voting members for Town of Silverton, City of Durango Police Chief, and La Plata County Public Health will be presented to council for appointment.

2. SWORD Project Updates *Vote on Community Grant Application Process

- i. **Grant Application Process:** Claire West presented the application process for the Community Grants which open June 1st, 2024. Items presented included drafts of the grant guidelines, scoring rubric, and the application. A grant agreement between awardees and Region 9 Economic Development District (Region 9) will be required per the master agreement between Region 9 as SWORD’s facilitator and La Plata County as SWORD’s fiscal agent. A Grant Selection Committee is currently being formed. The Grant Selection Committee will present recommendations for awardees to SWORD at the July 2024 meeting for approval. The draft grant agreement will be presented to SWORD at the July 2024 meeting for approval. Funds will be distributed to approved awardees in August 2024. Discussion was had regarding the grant review and selection processes. Exhibit A and E were discussed regarding approved uses for opioid settlement funds. Exhibit E will be the guiding document for the purpose of SWORD’s Community Grant Application process and reporting by awardees as well as SWORD’s annual reports to the State.

- ii. Steve Garchar entertained a motion to approve the SWORD Community Grant Application Process and documents as presented. Laurel Schafer motioned. Steve Garchar second. **Motion passed.**

- iii. **Recovery Residence:** Each town, city and county in the SWORD region was provided the opportunity to respond to a letter of interest for bringing potential land to the table for the recovery residence. Due to the specs for the ideal location, populations centers are the most likely candidates which would be Cortez or Durango. Smaller communities acknowledged this in declining to offer potential land. While there were no offers by the April 19th deadline, a private landowner in Montezuma County has expressed interest. Details will be provided to SWORD as they unfold.

3. SWORD Funding Updates:

- i. Region 9 and La Plata County have finalized the master agreement that obligates both entities to perform specific duties regarding managing and deploying SWORD funds. The draft agreement goes before the La Plata County Board of County Commissioners for approval June 11th. Once the master agreement is approved, Region 9 will commence invoicing La Plata County for funds expended through March 31st, 2024 and quarterly there after under the SWORD Staffing and Training category. It was noted that part of this category could cover SWORD Coordinator supplies and expenses related to data collection for tracking and reporting impact and outcomes

of SWORD's projects over time. The Colorado Opioid Abatement Council approved the formation of a Data Committee that is working to develop a system that can be used by all regions across Colorado. A common data collection system may prove useful as well as reduce the cost to SWORD and other regions they would otherwise spend out of their share of the opioid dollars.

III. Next SWORD meeting – July 10th at 2:30pm via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22pm

Minutes prepared by Heather Otter