

OPIOID TASK FORCE

September 21, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

Benton County Courthouse Jury

Room-3rd Floor

111 E 4th Street, Vinton, Iowa

** Agenda is not printed in any order; only time specific items will be addressed at certain times

*Agenda Posted on September 20, 2023.

Attendance:

John Lindaman - no

Grace Petrezelka - x

Chelsea Herber – X Stephanie Boesenberg attending for Chelsea.

Hayley Rippel - X

Ray Lough - X

Brian Meeker - x

Ben Parmater -X

James Bieschke - no

Cindy Pattee - x

1. 1:30 P.M. Call to Order - @1:34pm

2. Approve the minutes from August 31, 2023

Brian 1st / Cindy 2nd - approved

3. Appoint Chairperson, Vice-Chair and Secretary to the Opioid Task Force

- Hayley motioned to have:

- Ray as Chair, Haley as vice-chair, Chelsea as secretary, Haley treasurer,

Cindy 1st – moved / Ben 2nd - approved

4. Discuss/Draft/Approve Needs Assessment-

- Hayley sent out some information through Basecamp.

- Ambulance services have a dire need for staff funding. (understaffed / underfunded). Can opioid funds be used for budget supplementing? Could this fall under “transportation,” review the Opioid funding language. They could also use PPE.

- Could the funding be used to fund a bed at the hospital (VG) for OD

- Mobile Crisis and outreach services to rural areas

- Care Navigator position to follow up with residents who OD, to make sure they have what they need.

- Fund a scholarship for a student education on SW for MH (Mental Health) or SUD (Substance Use Disorder) treatment, who would then provide services in Benton County. Or an EMT.

- Who are the target people for this? Prescription drug users who then fell into Heroine/Fentanyl users.

- Youth – for Prevention services – youth advocacy groups

- People who use drugs

- Education for current providers to be able to provide MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) services

- Education for prescribers on how to prescribe “safer” amounts of opioids.

- More access to Narcan.
 - More access to medication disposal
 - One drug drop box in the county. Ben discussed the cost of drug prescription disposal bags that could be purchased.
 - Research fentanyl test strips (Ray)
5. Set next meeting date-
- November 2nd @1:30. Same place.
6. New/Old Business/Public Interest Comments-
- Report due September 30th for use of Opioid funds. The County has not spent any of the funding yet, so no report is needed.
 - Ray encouraged the team to go to the ORN (Opioid Response Network) site.
7. Adjourn @ 2:37pm