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*working for you*

District 2 CAB

Haysville Community Library

August 9, 2022

Meeting Minutes

**Board Members in Attendance:** Nikki Helms, Martha Pint, Dr. William Hammers (on Zoom), Spencer Dean, Tabitha Lehman (on Zoom), Ashlie Brockleman, Jessica Atherton, Tony Martinez, Jeff Hersh

**1. Call to Order:**

- a. Nikki Helms called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm

**2. Roll Call Vote:**

- a. No roll call vote, but Nikki Helms asked all members, including the three new members, to introduce themselves.

**3. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. Martha Pint moved to approve the April meeting minutes. Ashlie Brockleman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. Public Agenda:**

- a. No public comment

**5. New Business:**

**a. Fentanyl Awareness Campaign Presentation by Sheriff Jeff Easter**

- i. Fentanyl from Mexican cartels is now taking over the drug scene in Wichita.
- ii. Fentanyl is cheaper than meth and cocaine. A pill costs about \$.50 at the U.S. border and \$8 right now in Wichita.
- iii. Fentanyl is more toxic than meth. One pill can be lethal.
  1. User don't know how much fentanyl is in a pill.
  2. Fentanyl is often disguised as prescription pills so users don't know what they're getting.
  3. Law enforcement is seeing a lot of teen overdoses and deaths in Sedgwick County.
- iv. The Sheriff's Office began an awareness campaign in April before schools let out for summer.
  1. Three local TV stations partnered to put out a fentanyl awareness PSA.
  2. Community partners include USD 259, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition, Youth Education And Empowerment Program (YEAEP), Substance Abuse Center of Kansas, Wichita Metro Crime Commission, Sedgwick County Strategic Communications, Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office, and the Wichita Police Department.
- v. Fentanyl deaths in Sedgwick County went up from 98 in 2018, 115 in 2019, 162 in 2020, and 242 in 2021. There are only 3 fentanyl deaths confirmed in 2022 because it takes 6 months to get lab tests done.
  1. There are 190 suspected overdose deaths by June of 2022.
  2. Sedgwick County is on track to have more than 300 fentanyl deaths this year.

3. Fentanyl accounts for more overdose deaths than other drugs.
  4. Wichita missed much of the heroin epidemic, but we cannot avoid fentanyl.
  5. SCSO has seized nearly 500,000 pills so far in 2022 and several pounds of raw fentanyl. It comes in a powder/crystal form.
  6. NY law enforcement has seized enough powder fentanyl that it would kill the state's entire population if inhaled.
  7. The Sheriff worries about a terrorist attack using fentanyl.
  8. Most overdose deaths are among ages 19-29, affecting all races, genders, and income level.
  9. Two milligrams of fentanyl can kill you.
  10. Many other drugs are laced with fentanyl, affecting kids who only wanted marijuana.
- vi. USD 259 put out a flyer on fentanyl for parents.
    1. School officials met with superintendents around Kansas about the danger.
  - vii. Sedgwick County launched the Drug Misuse Site on Sedgwickcounty.org
    1. Users often put fentanyl powder on foil, burn it and inhale the smoke.
  - viii. The awareness campaign used social media to reach young people.
    1. Strategic Communications asked two TikTok influencers to put out a fentanyl warning video that received 419k and 26k views.
    2. YEAP is producing a Riverdale-like TV program that addresses fentanyl dangers.
    3. The Sheriff held a town hall meeting with WPD and DEA about fentanyl dangers.
  - ix. Law enforcement is now seeing use of carfentanil and an animal tranquilizer from Mexico.
  - x. Nikki Helms asked if it is legal for Juvenile Probation to have and administer Narcan?
    1. Sheriff says USD 259 has Narcan, and since it's a life-saving measure its use should be legal.
  - xi. Martha Pint asked why possession of fentanyl strips is illegal?
    1. Sheriff says there is a tiny amount of fentanyl on the strips used to test for the drug, but it's not enough to get high. As a result, he would document someone having the strips, but would not arrest them. The Sheriff's Office has not faced a situation like this yet.
    2. The Sheriff does not support handing out fentanyl strips because he feels like that is facilitating someone's drug use; however, he wouldn't prosecute for possession of fentanyl strips.
  - xii. The Sheriff said two officers opened a bag they thought had meth in it, but it was fentanyl. They were overcome and had to go to the hospital.
  - xiii. Stephanie Birmingham passed out "One Pill Can Kill" flyers and posters to those who wanted them.

**b. Recovery Connect Presentation by Isabel Ebersole**

- i. The Sedgwick County initiative is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

- ii. It helps individuals, businesses and nonprofits.
- iii. Individuals need mortgage, rent and utility assistance.
- iv. Nonprofits need grant writing help.
- v. Businesses need grants, microloans, technical, operational and marketing assistance.
- vi. Recovery Connect provides awareness of resources, gives access to applications/training, and supports clients through the process.
- vii. Partners include two marketing agencies, and eight others with ties to different parts of Wichita or expertise, like WSU Tech and the Kansas Nonprofit Chamber.
- viii. People can call or email, visit with a community navigator, and find out what resources match their needs.
- ix. Some of the best resources for individuals are Kansas Emergency Rental Assistance and Center of Hope. Recovery Connect also has resources for food assistance, mental health help and vaccinations.
- x. Nonprofits and businesses have attended their grant writing workshops.
- xi. Nikki Helms said she likes the Recovery Connect website because it's user friendly.
- xii. Martha Pint asked how long the program will last?
  1. Isabel says Recovery Connect is funded for 2022 and is on a budget line for 2023 that should be approved. The focus of Recovery Connect may shift to provide more help to businesses and nonprofits since United Way helps individuals a lot already.

**c. Recommended 2023 Budget for Sedgwick County Presentation by Lorien Showalter**

- i. Overall budget goals are improving pay/compensation, better environmental working conditions, and increased behavioral health resources.
- ii. Sedgwick County held a budget workshop in February 2022 to get a preview of the main budgetary issues.
- iii. In April, the County leadership teams saw each department's budget proposal.
- iv. Departments submitted 68 budget "packages," asking for increases totaling \$21.7 million.
- v. The county manager presented his recommended budget on July 13, 2022.
- vi. Sedgwick County is facing many budget challenges, including inflation, lack of staffing at Stanley WIC clinic and the detention facility, supply chain issues on vehicles, and the continuing response to COVID-19.
- vii. EMS and Fire District 1 are moving to a step pay plan. District Attorney's office is getting some market pay adjustments. COMCARE and Corrections are getting pay adjustments due to increased state funding. Election workers are getting an hourly pay increase. Everyone else not included in those categories are getting an 8% raise, and entire pay structure is increasing 7% to improve minimum wages and meet market rates.
- viii. Capital improvement projects total \$9.4 million and include a new DNA lab addition for Regional Forensic Science Center, camera system improvements for the juvenile detention facility, an outdoor warning device plan, plus pavilion and restroom improvements at Lake Afton.
- ix. Seventeen projects totaling \$2 million include I-T software upgrades, an aerial photography system to take pictures of property in Sedgwick County, and an

ocular scanning system to test for drugs or alcohol in the Department of Corrections. There is also funding for the E-records management system.

- x. Sedgwick County has set aside \$1 million in a mental health contingency fund for 2023 to implement some recommendations from the Cedric Lofton task force. For Corrections, \$300,000 is budgeted for juvenile mental health services, and the County is funding one year of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Coalition.
- xi. Overall budget is a little more than \$521 million. There is no increase in the 29.370 mill levy for Sedgwick County, and the 17.889 mill rate for the Fire District 1 stayed the same.
- xii. Sedgwick County's budget is online and open for public comment through August 23 at 5 p.m. Budget adoption is scheduled for August 24.
- xiii. A lot of people showed up for the first public budget hearing on August 3, and the second is during the BoCC meeting on August 24 at 9 a.m. The budget will be adopted after public comment.
- xiv. Jeff Hersh asked what Fire District 1 is?
  - 1. Lorien explained that Fire District 1 is the Sedgwick County Fire Department and is a separate taxing entity so it has its own budget.
- xv. Tony Martinez asked about the revenue neutral rate and how residents are notified about that?
  - 1. Lorien said last year was the first year, and Sedgwick County posted it on the website and official County newspaper. This year the County Clerk is sending out a mailer, too, notifying everyone who is exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Lorien says that is required by law.
  - 2. State funding will reimburse the County for sending out the mailer the first two years. Then municipalities will have to pay the County for that cost.
- xvi. Lorien and Nikki explained more about the ocular scanning system and how it will save \$20,000 a year on blood alcohol tests.

**d. Introduced new CAB point of contact, Stephanie Birmingham from Sedgwick County Strategic Communications**

- i. Told CAB members that Sarah Lopez apologized for missing the meeting, but it was her last chance to take a family vacation before school starts.

**e. Discussed future agenda items**

- i. Angela Caudillo, Election Commissioner, is scheduled to speak at the September meeting.
- ii. Tony Martinez suggested inviting Jim Weber from Public Works.
- iii. Stephanie Birmingham suggested inviting Adrienne Byrne from the Sedgwick County Health Department to talk about the new COVID-19 vaccine booster due out in September. Members like that idea, especially since school will be back in session then. They are also interested in learning more about monkeypox and general services at the SCHD.
- iv. Tony Martinez is interested in hearing from EMS about its recent shakeup in leadership, moving to a step pay plan, and vision for the future. Stephanie Birmingham mentioned the renewal of EMS Reserves as another possible topic.

**6. Other**

a.

**7. Adjournment**

a. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.