

Opioid Funding Allocation

October 20, 2025

10:32 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Ryan Barrett, Rob Snaza, Chris Sweet, Rick Van Wyck, Meja Handlen, Becky Butler, Kevin Englebertson

Guest(s): Usha Sahadeva-Brooks, Paul Crouner, Tim Wood and Michael Blessing

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Public comment: None

Becky Butler said the goal of the meeting is to outline expenditures for 2026. Current opioid settlement funds help pay for services for Youth Advocacy Center (YAC), substance use disorders(SUD) and mental health services within the Jail and for services provided by the Sheriff's Enforcement Team. Becky noted there are not enough opioid settlement funds to cover all programs in 2026 for PHSS, the Jail or the Sheriff's Office.

Public Health – Meja Handlen discussed the Youth Advocacy Center, which provides support for victims and their families. The opioid settlement funds help finance mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) programs as part of prevention efforts.

Sheriff Snaza emphasized the importance of continuing to support YAC, highlighting the significant work the group does. He recommended maintaining funding for the program as long as funds were available. The current budget allocates approximately \$11,000 to the YAC.

Jail - The Board had authorized \$600,000 in funding for 2025 for the One Washington Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and is reviewing this for 2026. These funds support treatment, on-going care, and prevention services. The funding also covers the jail's medical program, including SUD treatment, mental health, and alcoholism care, with the help from Cascade Behavioral Health and NaphCare. The need for the Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) program remains high, and Chief Sweet said no grant funding is currently available to assist. Commissioner Pollock recommended exploring potential Medicaid grant opportunities. Chief Sweet said the transition to Correctional Healthcare Partners (CHP) has resulted in medical cost savings. Becky noted that it was understood from the start that opioid settlement funds were not intended to be a long-term funding solution for jail healthcare.

Sheriff's Office - The Sheriff's Enforcement Team (SET) funding supports two patrol deputies and the resources necessary for their operations. SET focuses on treatment, prevention, and enforcement strategies. The team participates in community meetings addressing opioid and methamphetamine use, conducts drug and firearm seizures, and removes drug-related paraphernalia from the streets. These deputies collaborate with local agencies to apprehend individuals involved in drug activity, alleviating some of the workload from patrol and detective divisions. Higher-level drug distribution cases are handled by JNET and other regional agencies. Sheriff Snaza reported that approximately 45 local drug

dealers have been addressed, with a few remaining cases under investigation. SET currently includes one canine officer and one deputy.

Becky said the reporting requirements are on OpenGov as part of the publication requirements.

Meeting ended at 11:15 a.m.