

**AD HOC OPIOID FUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
FOR APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

The Opioid Funds Committee of Lincoln County, TN met pursuant to due notice in the Lincoln County courthouse basement conference room on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1pm.

**Members Present:**

Daniel Eldridge, County Commissioner

Judge Andy Myrick

Sheriff Joyce McConnell

Rev. Tommy Vann, First United Methodist Church

Mary Beth Seals, CEO of HH Lincoln Health

Jason Nix, Lincoln Co. Finance Director

Kevin Strickland, EMS Asst. Director

**Other Attendees:**

Mayor Bill Newman

Dena Gentry, Finance office & Solid Waste Director

Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck, Anti-Drug Coalition

Tony Patterson, SCHRA Lead Court Coordinator

Sam Smiley, Sheriff Deputy

**Call to order:**

Daniel Eldridge called the meeting to order @ 1pm.

1) Public Comments

NONE.

2) Approval of the March 20, 2024 Minutes

Motion was made by Judge Andy Myrick, seconded by Kevin Strickland and passed with five (5) yes votes and three (3) absent to accept the March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes.

3) Financial Report

a. Dena Gentry presented and handed out a financial (income/expense) report.

**\*\* Jason Nix & Mary Beth Seals entered the meeting at approx. 1:03pm \*\***

4) Chairmen Eldridge Report-

- Discussion about our application being added to the county website. Matt McAulliffe recently added a link from the homepage of the county website and in that link you will find minutes of meetings, one-page info sheet and the application.
- Other discussions were had about next steps and how to get the word to the general public. Public awareness currently is big obstacle because we need applications to be able to distribute funds. Media outlets we will be using in the next weeks/months will be the Elk Valley Times, local radio, social media and special council meetings.
- Tony Patterson spoke briefly about the possible need for purchasing a more accurate and detailed drug testing but outlined the cost is much higher than the ones they are administering currently. However, the results of this (blood) drug test is harder for the juvenile to compromise. More to come at a later date with more information.
- Sheriff Joyce McConnell introduced Deputy Sam Smiley to the committee as the new D.A.R.E. officer for the upcoming school year. Mr. Smiley gave a brief overview about the materials that will be used and gave some dollar amounts for the committee to know. Sheriff McConnell estimates roughly \$10,000.00 that will be requested to administer the program next year. Their official application will be reviewed at the next meeting.

5) Applications-

- NO APPLICATIONS at this time.

\*\*Judge Andy Myrick exited the meeting at approx. 1:19\*\*

The committee's next meeting will be on **June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1pm in the Courthouse basement conference room.**

No further business was discussed and Mary Beth Seals made a motion, seconded by Tommy Vann and passed six (6) yes and two (2) absent to adjourn, 1:22pm.

Respectively submitted by

Jason Nix, Secretary

**AD HOC OPIOID FUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
FOR MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

The Opioid Funds Committee of Lincoln County, TN met pursuant to due notice in the Lincoln County courthouse basement conference room on March 20, 2024 at 1pm.

**Members Present:**

Daniel Eldridge, County Commissioner

Judge Andy Myrick

Sheriff Joyce McConnell

Rev. Tommy Vann, First United Methodist Church

Mary Beth Seals, CEO of HH Lincoln Health

Jason Nix, Lincoln Co. Finance Director

Kevin Strickland, EMS Asst. Director

**Other Attendees:**

Dena Gentry, Finance office & Solid Waste Director

Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck, Anti-Drug Coalition

Tony Patterson, SCHRA Lead Court Coordinator

**Call to order:**

Daniel Eldridge called the meeting to order.

1) Public Comments

NONE.

2) Approval of the February 28, 2024 Minutes

Motion was made by Sheriff Joyce McConnell, seconded by Kevin Strickland and passed with five (5) yes votes and three (3) absent to accept the February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes.

3) Financial Report

a. Jason Nix presented and handed out a financial (income/expense) report.

Motion was made by Sheriff Joyce McConnell, seconded by Mary Beth Seals and passed with five (5) yes votes and three (3) absent to accept the financial report presented.

**\*\*Judge Andy Myrick entered the meeting at approx. 1:15pm\*\***

4) Daniel Eldridge-

- Discussion about our application being added to the county website or have a link that would go to a downloadable version. Possibly having the same added to the Lincoln County Sheriff Department's website, too.
- Sheriff Joyce McConnell talked about coming to this committee at a later date to formally request funds for a couple of different programs with the school system.
- Daniel Eldridge handed out a one-page overview of the Opioid Funds Committee. This is a work in progress but it will end up being a one-page informational sheet that can be handed out to the general public, non-profits, etc.
- Discussion of NARCAN and training of the drug and how it is administered and how it's being made available to the general public. Kevin mentioned the best thing for Lincoln County is that the general public needs to have proper training. Mary Beth Seals expressed she would reach out to Pam Browning (Director of the Health Dept.) and report back to this committee. After a brief discussion, Ms. Seals also mentioned she would report back in regards to the overdose/deaths report.

5) Applications-

- NO APPLICATIONS at this time.

**\*\*Tommy Vann entered the meeting at approx. 1:25pm\*\***

The committee's next meeting will be on **April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1pm in the Courthouse basement conference room.**

No further business was discussed and Judge Andy Myrick made a motion, seconded by Tommy Vann and passed seven (7) yes and one (1) absent to adjourn, 1:30pm.

Respectively submitted by

Jason Nix, Secretary

**AD HOC OPIOID FUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
FOR FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

The Opioid Funds Committee of Lincoln County, TN met pursuant to due notice in the Lincoln County courthouse basement conference room on February 28, 2024 at 1pm.

**Members Present:**

Daniel Eldridge, County Commissioner  
Rev. Tommy Vann, First United Methodist Church  
Dr. Bill Jones  
Mary Beth Seals, CEO of HH Lincoln Health  
Jason Nix, Lincoln Co. Finance Director  
Kevin Strickland, EMS Asst. Director (newly appointed)

**Members Absent:**

Judge Andy Myrick  
Sheriff Joyce McConnell

**Other Attendees:**

Bill Newman, County Mayor  
Dena Gentry, Finance office & Solid Waste Director  
Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck, Anti-Drug Coalition

**Call to order:**

Daniel Eldridge called the meeting to order.

1) Public Comments

NONE.

2) Approval of the December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Minutes

Motion was made by Mary Beth Seals, seconded by Kevin Strickland and passed with six (6) yes votes and two (2) absent to accept the December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 minutes.

3) Financial Report

- a. D.A.R.E.- Jason Nix informed the committee that the Lincoln County School Board & Lincoln County Sheriff's Department had recently approved to start the program again, countywide. No official request for funds has been brought to this committee at present.
- b. Watch Tower Program- Jason Nix informed the committee that currently this is the only program being funded by this committee. A 6-page overview of the program was handed out to the committee.

c. Upcoming budgetary items

At this time, no other budget items are pending. A balance of \$219,062.28 as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, which is a combination of both restricted and unrestricted funds.

4) Presentation by Chairperson, Eldridge

Daniel Eldridge presented the committee with talking points of an overview of how this committee will proceed going forward. Discussion was held regarding funding of priority and needs. The funds will distribute, as of now, in 3 categories: Public, Private and Reserve. Public (county) would distribute through schools, law enforcement, court system, etc. Private would distribute through Non-profits, faith-based, and community based. Lastly Reserve will be held back a portion for emergency need, 10% to start.

- Daniel Eldridge made a motion that in the event of an emergency situation, any two (2) standing committee members can authorize up to \$1,000.00 (not to exceed \$1,000.00) of funds and it will come from the 10% reserve portion of the total funds. Motion was seconded by Tommy Vann and passed six (6) yes and two (2) absent.

Discussion took place about NARCAN in regards to funding and further education. It was mentioned that NARCAN is available through the local health department and Sheriff's department. All agreed that awareness of NARCAN and how to administer the drug needs to be more prevalent throughout the county.

- a. Other discussion items: Application Process; Evaluation of funding. More details will be fleshed out at the next meeting.

5) Mayor Bill Newman discussed the possibility of not restricting or limiting funding to just Lincoln County residents and expanding to known areas where those other counties have helped our citizens. He also mentioned inviting the local media (Elk Valley Times, John Malone with Elk River Media) to help promote as this committee provides more details in the future.

The committee's next meeting will be on **March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1pm in the Courthouse basement conference room.**

No further business was discussed and Mary Beth Seals made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bill Jones and passed six (6) yes and two (2) absent to adjourn, 2pm.

Respectively submitted by

Jason Nix, Secretary

**AD HOC OPIOID FUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
FOR DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

The Opioid Funds Committee of Lincoln County, TN met pursuant to due notice in the Lincoln County courthouse basement conference room on December 6, 2023 at 1pm.

**Members Present:**

Daniel Eldridge, County Commissioner  
Rev. Tommy Vann, First United Methodist Church  
Sheriff Joyce McConnell  
Mary Beth Seals, CEO of HH Lincoln Health  
Jason Nix, Lincoln Co. Finance Director

**Members Absent:**

Judge Andy Myrick  
Dr. Bill Jones

**Other Attendees:**

Bill Newman, County Mayor  
Dena Gentry, Finance office  
Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck, Anti-Drug Coalition  
Trevor Henderson, SMART Initiative

**Call to order:**

Mayor Newman had appointed this committee and he opened the meeting and everyone gave their introductions. Other opening statements were made by Trevor Henderson with SMART Initiative who gave a background history of why this committee was formed and the role it plays with the funding of the Opioid funds the county has received and will receive.

- Joyce McConnell made a motion, seconded by Mary Beth Seals to nominate Daniel Eldridge as Chairperson of the Opioid Funds Committee.
- Tommy Vann made a motion that nominations cease and that Daniel Eldridge be elected by acclamation, seconded by Jason Nix and passed unanimously.
- Tommy Vann made a motion, seconded by Joyce McConnell to elect Jason Nix as Secretary of the Opioid Funds Committee and passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding current and future funds and amounts held by the County and also programs being implemented and future programs. Sheriff McConnell made mention of her discussions with the county schools and bringing back the D.A.R.E. program. This could lead to around 12 classes per year for 200+ students. Other programs mentioned were our current Drug Recovery program led by Judge Myrick.

More discussion was held on the structure of how this committee will review applications and the acceptance and allocation of funds to recipients. The committee would like to allocate funds between public and private entities. Trevor made mention of getting data from medical services and reports from the state and local levels.

Other information was given by Trevor Henderson in regards to more funds held at the State of Tennessee level and the process for entities to request/make applications for those funds. He said it would be in the form of a competitive grant by the state.

Mary Beth Seals left the meeting.

A Mission Statement will be adopted for this committee at our next meeting. The committee's next meeting will be on **February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1pm in the Courthouse basement conference room.**

No further business was discussed and Jason Nix made a motion, seconded by Tommy Vann to adjourn, 2pm.

Respectively submitted by

Jason Nix, Secretary