Meeting of the Southwestern Colorado Opioid Regional Council (SWCORC) was called to order at 10:30 am. Prior to addressing the regular agenda, 3 orders of business came before the council, discussion and possible adoption of the bylaws, appointment of officers, and appointment of a non-voting member to serve when necessary as tie breaker. Commissioner Smith called for any discussion or questions regarding the bylaws for the SWCORC (Southwestern Colorado Opioid Regional Council). Terms of the members were discussed and clarified. With no further discussion the Bylaws were unanimously accepted with a motion from Director Friedrich, a second by Commissioner Cooper.

Next piece of business was to nominate officers. A motion was made by Commissioner Cooper and seconded by Commissioner Hansen to nominate Commissioner Smith. With a unanimous vote Commissioner Smith became Chair.

There was a motion by Commissioner Hansen to nominate Director Friedrich as Vice Chair, seconded by Commissioner Cooper and unanimously voted to approve Director Friedrich as the Vice Chair.

Next there was discussion about the Secretary/Treasurer position and whether the appointee should be from the same county as the Fiscal Agent and it was decided that perhaps that was appropriate at this time. Commissioner
Hansen was nominated by Commissioner Smith with a second from Commissioner Cooper and unanimously voted to have Commissioner Hansen serve as Secretary/Treasurer.

There was discussion regarding the board member who would serve as tie breaker. Commissioner Smith put Judge Patrick’s name forward as an option. Judge Patrick has extensive experience, having served on the Gunnison County Health Coalition, suicide prevention and served in other areas where prevention is the focus. Director Commerford is familiar and suggested Judge Patrick as well, speaking to his experience.

Commissioner Cooper suggested Dr. Paul Hokmeyer, who is a Clinical Psychologist experienced in the field of substance abuse, has time and is eager to get involved as a possible choice as well.

It was generally agreed that a subject matter expert would be a good choice as the tiebreaker, but that perhaps we should be prepared to bring names forward at the next meeting to discuss.

It was suggested that a process to interview and become familiar with the tie breaker board member would be a good idea.

Action item: Commissioner Smith suggested she send out a Microsoft forms sheet and we could send names for her to collect.

Next we moved into the regular agenda and discussed Open Meetings Law and what the format of the meeting might be. John Baier, County Attorney suggested that since SWCORC is a separate entity that we need to find a mechanism to post meeting notices and minutes that was separate from the County. All meetings are public and will be posted by each county. John also suggested a separate website on which meetings and minutes could be posted.

Action Item: Commissioner Hansen will discuss with the Montrose county digital media department to get a site set up.

We know there are people who are interested in attending our meetings so we want to make meetings as accessible as possible.

We discussed that the SWCORC will most likely need separate legal representation from the counties. We decided we would reach out to the Attorney General to see how other regions are handling this matter and to determine our exposure.

Action item: Commissioner Smith will reach out to Heidi Williams at the Attorney General’s office for guidance on the legal matters.

Commissioner Hansen gave a brief update on the Planning Grant. She will ask the facilitator to join us at the next meeting to discuss potential dates to begin the facilitation process in January 2022.

We decided on a regular monthly meeting schedule. The SWCORC will meet every month on the 1st Thursday from 10:30-12:30.

Next meeting is set for December 2, 2021 10:30am