

Memorandum

To: Mayor and Council
From: Tom Baker, Town Administrator
Date: February 2, 2016
Re: County Detox Task Force Request for Attorney Time

Purpose: The purpose of this item is to ask Council to authorize 2-3 hours of Town Attorney time to work with other municipal attorneys to determine the range of funding options that could be considered for providing sustainable funding for a county detox facility.

Background and Discussion: On Tuesday January 25th, I met as part of the county detox task force. The purpose of this task force is to recommend a detox facility model and ideas for a funding approach to make a detox facility sustainable. This is the second meeting of the group, which includes Garfield County, all municipalities, VVH, Grand River Hospital, GWS Fire, CRFR, Mind Spring and more.

In the past, the funding model has been based on an IGA or funding subject to annual appropriation by the governing body. Over time, it has become clear that this approach is failing to sustain an adequate detox facility. At this point, many task force professionals familiar with the problem believe that 6-Bed Model (annual operating cost estimated to be \$850,000) is the appropriate choice, but the question of funding remains. At the January 25th meeting there was piecemeal information about what type of fees could be levied on liquor license holders, marijuana license holders, municipal court fines, etc. As a result, the group asked if each municipality could ask their attorney to explore the range of legal options for funding.

Request: Staff recommends Council authorize David McConaughy to work with other municipal attorneys (2 to 3 hours) on this question to provide the detox task force with adequate information to move forward.