### MINUTES TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022 REGULAR MEETING 6:00 P.M.

Colleton County Council Council Chambers, Old Jail Building 109 Benson Street Walterboro, SC 29488

Present: Chairman Steven Murdaugh called the meeting to order with Council Members Dr. Joseph Flowers, Phillip Taylor, and Art Williams in attendance, with Council Member Gene Whetsell appearing virtually.

Others Included: Sean Thornton, Meagan Utsey, Jon Carpenter, Kaela Brinson, Barry McRoy, Joshua Rowland, Matt Mardell, Christie Slocum, Theodore Reed, Bill Davies, Jeremiah B. Craven, Jr., Joanne Boone, Sintelain and Jacqueline Brown, Mark Aakhus, Ed Williams, Doug Bostick, Ashley Shearin, Nikeyia Hammonds, Henry Pinckney, Austin Ruger, Charles Bridges, Charles Bright, Jr., Robby Robbins, Frank Santorella, Josh Westbury, Carl Doyle, Sarah Miller, Scott Biering, Brittany Smith, Clarence Wiggins, George Cone, Robert Renner, and Joey Bagwell.

Phillip Taylor gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated we have a contingent with us from Edisto Beach, Mayor Crawford Moore, who will introduce his council members.

Mayor Crawford Moore: Stated we have with us Councilman Robert Renner, Councilman Joey Bagwell, and Councilman Jay Watts. We look forward to working with you all. We also have a new Assistant Town Administrator, Mark Aakhus. We also have our Town Administrator, Iris Hill with us today.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated that he appreciated that you all came tonight. Also, we have with us tonight one of our Representatives, Robby Robbins, he is the newly elected District 97. If council doesn't oppose he would like to make a couple comments to address us.

Robby Robbins: Stated I just won a special election to fill House Seat 97. That seat was vacated in December, we had a primary election in March, and a general election in May. I was elected on May 17<sup>th</sup> as I have told everybody my prize for winning that election, is that I get to run again next week. So, we have another primary election June 14<sup>th</sup> followed by a general election in November. Right now I am your Representative and will be through the end of this year, and hopefully I will be your Representative for the next two years. I have thoroughly enjoyed being here and representing this district. Prior to the redistricting, District 97 was primarily in Dorchester County, about 90%. There were only two precincts, Maple Cane and Round O, that were in Colleton County. The redrawing of the maps in December by the Legislator, the district is now 50% Dorchester and 50% Colleton (describes the areas that make up District 97). I have really enjoyed being over here and campaigning and meeting the people. I grew up in Saint George, so I am

familiar with this area. I have worked in this area, so I feel like I am at home here. I have been welcomed by a number of people and reconnected with a number of folks. I have enjoyed the campaign trail and look forward to serving you. I promise you I will work hard, and I promise you I will be responsive and available. I can tell you that the matters I have campaigned on, and as I talked with them I heard the same things coming back from them. Economic development, infrastructure, schools, and public safety are the things I identified early on in my campaign. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate being able to speak to y'all.

Chairman Murdaugh: Thank you.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

A. Regular Meeting May 3, 2022—Dr. Flowers moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 3, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Awards and Recognitions**

Proclaiming the Week of June 30- August 6, 2022 as Gullah Geechee Nation Appreciation Week—Chairman Murdaugh read the Proclamation aloud. Councilman Williams moved to approve the Proclamation and the motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Appearances and Public Presentation**

- A. South Carolina American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission—Bill Davies, Vice Chair

   Stated that he is here to discuss two projects representing the South Carolina American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission. We have been assigned to commemorate all the events during the Revolutionary War in South Carolina.
  - Mr. Davies continued to discuss the commission further in depth and showed a brief illustration of the project, The Liberty Trail SC. Information may be found at <a href="https://www.southcarolina250.com/about-us/">https://www.southcarolina250.com/about-us/</a>.
- B. Pillars4Hope– Nikeyia Hammonds, Executive Director; Jessica Hunt, Quality Assurance Manager; and Ashley Shearin, Prevention Director– Discussed in detail the information provided to council and attached hereto. This informational overview is regarding the local Colleton County Commission of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, doing business as Pillars4Hope.
  - Councilman Taylor: Stated that he noticed that in the packet Pillars4Hope talked about large item needs. The parking lot might be an easier reach than a new building. What resources, or have you talked to the state in regard to those needs?

Ms. Hammonds: Stated we have spoken with them and they do know about our parking lot. They are aware that we are parking on the grass so that our patients have enough space to park. We have been doing this since we expanded two years ago.

Councilman Williams: Stated hats off to you and your staff you all have been doing an amazing job. I have seen the growth over there, and it's our citizens here in Colleton County. I know you talked about parking and Edisto Beach, which is still our citizens. We hope that any assistance that we can leverage and be able to provide to you all...inaudible... We will do whatever we can within reason for you all to continue to be prosperous.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated that he would like to echo the same sentiment, Thank you all for what you do. We will look into this and see if there isn't something we can do to help.

#### **Public Hearing**

- A. Ordinance 22-O-01, Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee-In-Lieu of Tax Agreement By and Between Colleton County and Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC (formerly known to the County as Project Ruby), Whereby Colleton County will Enter Into a Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Arrangement with Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; Providing for Payment by Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC of Certain Fees In Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes; Providing for Assignment of Certain Existing Economic Development Incentives to Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; Providing for Certain Special Source Revenue or Infrastructure Credits; Providing for the Allocation of Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Paid by Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC Under the Agreement for Establishment of Multi-County Industrial/Business Park; Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Assignment and Assumption of Incentive Agreements and Release from Incentive Agreements Among Colleton County, South Carolina, Crescent Dairy & Beverages, LLC, and Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; and Other Matters Relating Thereto
- B. Ordinance 22-O-06, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto

Councilman Taylor made a motion to move into of public hearing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Flowers. The motion carried unanimously.

No comments made.

Councilman Taylor moves to close public hearing. The motion was seconded by Dr. Flowers. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Old Business**

A. 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Ordinance 22-O-01, Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee-In-Lieu of Tax Agreement By and Between Colleton County and Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC (formerly known to the County as Project Ruby), Whereby Colleton County Will Enter Into a Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Arrangement with Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; Providing for Payment by Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC of Certain Fees In Lieu

of Ad Valorem Taxes; Providing for Assignment of Certain Existing Economic Development Incentives to Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; Providing for Certain Special Source Revenue or Infrastructure Credits; Providing for the Allocation of Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Paid by Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC Under the Agreement for Establishment of Multi-County Industrial/Business Park; Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Assignment and Assumption of Incentive Agreements and Release from Incentive Agreements Among Colleton County, South Carolina, Crescent Dairy & Beverages, LLC, and Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; and Other Matters Relating Thereto

Dr. Flowers moved to approve the 3rd Reading Ordinance 22-O-01, Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee-In-Lieu of Tax Agreement By and Between Colleton County and Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC (formerly known to the County as Project Ruby), Whereby Colleton County Will Enter Into a Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Arrangement with Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; Providing for Payment by Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC of Certain Fees In Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes; Providing for Assignment of Certain Existing Economic Development Incentives to Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; Providing for Certain Special Source Revenue or Infrastructure Credits; Providing for the Allocation of Fee-In-Lieu of Taxes Paid by Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC Under the Agreement for Establishment of Multi-County Industrial/Business Park; Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Assignment and Assumption of Incentive Agreements and Release from Incentive Agreements Among Colleton County, South Carolina, Crescent Dairy & Beverages, LLC, and Gehl Foods Southeast, LLC; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Williams. The motion was carried unanimously.

B. 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Ordinance 22-O-06, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto

Councilman Taylor moved to approve the 2nd Reading Ordinance 22-O-06, To Provide for the Levy of Taxes in Colleton County, South Carolina, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 to Provide for All Other Appropriations Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Dr. Flowers. The motion was carried unanimously.

C. 2nd Reading Ordinance 22-O-08, To Impose, Subject to Referendum Approval and Pursuant to the Capital Project Sales Tax Act, a One Percent (1%) Sales and Use Tax (The "Tax") Within Colleton County for Not More Than Seven (7) Years; To Order a County-Wide Referendum On The Question of Imposing the Tax and to Prescribe the Contents of the Ballot Question; To Specify the Purposes For Which the Proceeds From the Tax Are To Be Used, the Maximum Time For The Imposition Of The Tax; and To Provide For Other Matters Relating Thereto.

Dr. Flowers moved to approve the 2nd Reading Ordinance 22-O-08, To Impose, Subject to Referendum Approval and Pursuant to the Capital Project Sales Tax Act, a One Percent

(1%) Sales and Use Tax (The "Tax") Within Colleton County for Not More Than Seven (7) Years; To Order a County-Wide Referendum On The Question of Imposing the Tax and to Prescribe the Contents of the Ballot Question; To Specify the Purposes For Which the Proceeds From the Tax Are To Be Used, the Maximum Time For The Imposition Of The Tax; and To Provide For Other Matters Relating Thereto. The motion was seconded by Chairman Murdaugh.

Councilman Williams: Chairman and members of council, I think we have done a very good job listening to the citizens thus far. My number one concern is that the committee that was formed, we have mislead them in believing that there was no property available for the stand alone pool facility. I have been hearing from the street committee that one of the reasons the stand alone pool facility was not on the ballot was because we would not have had property if we did not demolish the jail that we currently have. I do not know where the rumors started from, but if that is the case I think it is misleading to the committee members. The second concern that I have is we start off initially ranking the projects ourselves as a council, and at no time did we ever make any motions, ordinances, or resolutions to yield our duties and responsibilities to the commission we established. If we look under SC 4-10-30, it does not say anything about what we initially heard from the council, that the school could not participate in the process of being a part of the penny sales tax. I think that is really something that needs to be cleared up and addressed. As I have said before, let's not rush through the process, let's bring all our citizens along. We have done a good job of listening to the citizens from the past and let's continue to listen to them and make sure we don't push something along so fast that it's not approved and we wasted all that time and effort the committee has put into it. The committee has done a very good job with the packet. I do not know why we are so hasty with the process and we need to make sure we have everybody on board before we continue alone with this process. We just need to think about it and review this SC Code 4-10-30.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated that the way this process works by capital projects sales tax, that by law we establish the committee, but it is the committee's job to ultimately make the decision and recommendation on the projects. The county puts forth projects, the city puts forth projects, and now there was a couple projects that were entered; a school district project, and under law I believe there was an airport and a school project that didn't qualify. The school district project didn't qualify based on the statutory definition, but it is set up this way specifically for the purpose of keeping politics out of this process. Even though we rank projects as a council we submit them to this commission. The commission by law is totally in their right, they don't have to recognize the manner in which we rank projects. They can go back and do it themselves. I think the committee has done a good job at ranking the projects. I don't think there is a single one of us that would rank the projects the way they do. That is their job, not my job. My job is to once we get the ranking to put them to a referendum. I don't think we're acting hastily, because we have to get this ready to go onto the ballot. Of course, we are getting close to that time frame and we have to get everything in order. I am not sure about the property situation you're talking about, because

I have not heard anything specifically about that. I assume that the committee is doing their job and they had all the information that was available to them. I think we need to go forward with this so that we can be ready.

The motion carried 4-1 votes, Councilman Williams opposed.

D. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 22-O-09, To Authorize the Rezoning a 4.3 Acre Parcel at Bennett's Point, Identified as T.M.S. No. 334-00-00-74, from Community Commercial (CC) to Rural Conservation-2 (RC-2).

Councilman Williams moved to approve the 2nd Reading Ordinance 22-O-09, To Authorize the Rezoning a 4.3 Acre Parcel at Bennett's Point, Identified as T.M.S. No. 334-00-00-74, from Community Commercial (CC) to Rural Conservation-2 (RC-2). The motion was seconded by Dr. Flowers. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### **New Business**

A. 1st Reading Ordinance 22-O-10, By Title Only, Authorizing Pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, the Execution and Delivery of a Fee-In-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, by and between Colleton County, South Carolina and a Company Known to the County as Project Waterfall, as Sponsor, to Provide for a Fee-In-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Incentive and Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; the Enlargement of the Boundaries of a Multi-County Industrial or Business Park Previously Created by Colleton County and Hampton County to Include Certain Property Located in Colleton County, South Carolina Now or to be Hereafter Owned and/or Operated by Project Waterfall, or One or More Companies Related Thereto; and Other Related Matters

Councilman Williams moved to approve the 1st Reading Ordinance 22-O-10, By Title Only, Authorizing Pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina 1976, as amended, the Execution and Delivery of a Fee-In-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement, by and between Colleton County, South Carolina and a Company Known to the County as Project Waterfall, as Sponsor, to Provide for a Fee-In-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Incentive and Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; the Enlargement of the Boundaries of a Multi-County Industrial or Business Park Previously Created by Colleton County and Hampton County to Include Certain Property Located in Colleton County, South Carolina Now or to be Hereafter Owned and/or Operated by Project Waterfall, or One or More Companies Related Thereto; and Other Related Matters. The motion was seconded by Councilman Williams.

B. Resolution 22-R-29, To Authorize Renewal of the Lease Agreements By and Between Colleton County and Colleton Genealogy Society and By and Between Colleton County and the Lowcountry Community Action Agency (LCAA) for the Use of County Facilities Located on Black Street in Walterboro

Dr. Flowers moved to approve Resolution 22-R-29, To Authorize Renewal of the Lease Agreements By and Between Colleton County and Colleton Genealogy Society and By and Between Colleton County and the Lowcountry Community Action Agency (LCAA) for the Use of County Facilities Located on Black Street in Walterboro. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried

C. Resolution 22-R-30, To Authorize the Expenditure of Funds Related to Special Projects as Recommended by the Colleton County Accommodations Tax Committee from the State Accommodations Tax Fund – Fund 152 During the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 and Other Matters Related Thereto

Dr. Flowers moved to approve Resolution 22-R-30, To Authorize the Expenditure of Funds Related to Special Projects as Recommended by the Colleton County Accommodations Tax Committee from the State Accommodations Tax Fund – Fund 152 During the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 and Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Resolution 22-R-31, To Authorize the Waiver of Various Fees for the Summer 2022 Mission Serve Home Repair Program

Dr. Flowers moved to approve Resolution 22-R-31, To Authorize the Waiver of Various Fees for the Summer 2022 Mission Serve Home Repair Program. The motion was seconded by Councilman Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Resolution 22-R-32, To Award the Contract for Construction Engineering and Inspection Services for Local and State Road Resurfacing

Dr. Flowers moved to approve Resolution 22-R-32, To Award the Contract for Construction Engineering and Inspection Services for Local and State Road Resurfacing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously. CDM Smith, Inc. was awarded the bid.

F. Resolution 22-R-33, To Support the South Carolina American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission and to Recognize and Approve the Colleton County 250 Committee

Dr. Flowers moved to approve Resolution 22-R-33, To Support the South Carolina American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission and to Recognize and Approve the Colleton County 250 Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Williams: Stated Mr. Davis called a few names out and none of them were identifiable to me other than Ms....inaudible. I want to be sure that we include adequate

amount of African Americans in this committee, not just one but we want a proportionate amount.

Mr. Davis: Recommends Councilman Williams.

Councilman Williams: Replied that if he can serve that he would, but he would yield to someone who has a history background.

No further comment.

#### G. Resolution 22-R-34, To Advertise Board Vacancies

Councilman Taylor moved to approve Resolution 22-R-34, To Advertise Board Vacancies. The motion was seconded by Dr. Flowers. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Murdaugh: Read allowed the vacancies.

#### H. Resolution 22-R-35, To Appoint Members to Board Vacancies

Councilman Williams moved to approve Resolution 22-R-35, to Appoint Members to Board Vacancies. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

The following appointments were made by acclimation: Patti Lohr-Colleton County Board of Disabilities; Gary Stroble-Colleton County Board of Assessment Appeals, James C. Bryan and Jason Legare-Colleton County Resource and Development Board, and Joseph Heyward-Colleton County Keep Colleton Beautiful.

#### **Public Comment**

Paula Todd: Stated that I am a Lifelong resident of Colleton County. I would like to speak to the referendum. I am 70 years old, and I have two grandchildren that I take outside of the county in order for them to have swim lessons. I also drive out of town for affordable fitness. I think also that the committee has done an excellent job of the things they have decided to put on the referendum. I am having a little difficulty, because I never put people, especially children, behind other things and I think without them we do not have anything. However, as the Chairman mentioned, all of us in here would probably rank differently. What I do want to say is that I know that the recreation center is crowded to say the very least. It is hard to find parking some days, and I say that to say that what's wrong with some of these properties? I assume the county owns them. We just demolished the old Colleton Stadium, seems like the perfect place to have an aquatic center to me, or to even expand the Ace Basin Recreation Facility. Everywhere I have lived, other than here, has had aquatic centers. We had recreational swimming there, leisurely swimming, and also Olympic type competitions; our weather is perfect for that. People are traveling to Florida and training there and doing all these things when we could bring attention to our county by not only

helping our senior citizens, people who are competitive in College, and people who are just coming up like ages 2-3 learning how to swim. I had the opportunity coming up in my career to actually work in a YWCA, and I was a program director there. In addition to having excellent swimming instructors, I hired over 100 part-time instructors who taught all kinds of things that would give our seniors and young people, men and woman, all kinds of things that they can do to grow themselves. I think that we all have private places that teach these things, but when you go with an established place like a Y, that has a proven record of having safe, and just great things, and wonderful community partners in terms of what they give back, not just being there. I wish we would look at something else rather than the Ace Basin Recreation Center to put a pool, but even to expand the gym. We could have all these things at another location, and have it in a part of the county that people can walk to and bicycle to. The Ace Basin is a little haul from where I live, and I would love to do that, but when I get there I am going to have parking issues, issues with getting into the fitness center due to the time I choose, all because of the volume. That is a safety issue as well. I do not have to talk about the history of water sports in the south, but I will say a pool anywhere in this county is going to attract. You are not talking about a small amount of people going and coming, you are talking about people that want that service. I just want your consideration, thank you.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated, Thank you.

Michael Sweat: Stated I just basically wanted to "piggy back" off what the lady who was just up here said. I think a pool would absolutely be essential in this area. The pool in the long run would pay for itself. I moved back here 5 years ago and travel to Beaufort, SC to the YMCA there. I am paying \$69 a month, which means I have already donated \$4,100 to the YMCA in Beaufort. I have a disease that effects my spinal cord. I have been in a wheel chair and have had to learn how to walk again over 4 different times. That pool is what got me walking again like I am now. I have kids in the area that have to go out of the county to learn how to swim. As kids of color, drowning is a huge problem. So, if we can add a pool to the county, I think it would work well.

Jeremiah Craven: I have been a resident of Colleton County of 22 years. The last time I was here was approximately 4 years ago with a complaint on nuisance barking dogs. I thought I had something figured out. Animal control and I went to court for the nuisance barking dogs. I got in there and they said I had no rights at all, I lost, and that is all over with. Since then it has grown, I have 12 dogs that live around me now and two of them are pit bulls. I was going out of my house the other day and I barely made it to my car before a dog came over in my yard and almost bit me. I have heart trouble, a bad knee, and bad hip...I am worn out. I can't walk, because of my bad knee so I ride my bicycle to get my cardio. I go down the road to ride my bike and pit bulls come after me and I have to defend myself with my bicycle so they can't bite me. I am just asking for some help with these dogs. I also would like to let y'all know that on Cannon Road there is the worst insect problem with biting flies that draw blood. My next complaint or comment for your information is we have people tearing up the road out there just like on highway 21. So, I just wanted to let y'all know those things today, because if a dog bites me it is in y'all's hands. I have called animal control and Sheriff's office and no one can do anything for me, so I am letting y'all know. I thank y'all for all that y'all do and for listening to me.

Mr. Edward Williams: Stated that he is the President of NAACP, but I was reading in the paper the ranking. I looked at the ranking and nothing was put in there for infrastructure, when we need roads paved, and why isn't something done to get equipment to public works. I look at education, I know the state tells you that you have to give the school district so much money and that is all you do, but when you put the capital sales tax in front of all the people, and you're bringing in 40 million dollars...we say, why can't we do better? We want to bring industry to this county, well I remember what Charleston County said awhile back, "If we don't educate the children we won't have the work force for BMW and Volvo and all the other companies we want to bring in. I remember when they used to do machine shop at TCTC. I remember a lot of things that is not there anymore, but y'all sit here and make decisions. Mr. Chairman I heard what you said about that committee and you keep politics out of it and that it is independent, but at the end of the day this council is the ones that is going to say we are doing the referendum, not the committee. That is your legal obligation. It is my opinion that y'all are hiding behind the committee, but you don't need to hide behind the committee...inaudible I would ask that you all consider education, homelessness, YMCA...inaudible...something we need to look at all around the county. I know this isn't going to happen overnight. If you are going to submit a 7 year plan then you need to submit one that is going to address some of those things. I am going to say to you all we should look at item 2, 3, 7 &8, then go back to the ranking of 1, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10. Williams has been fighting for a long time to get their water system straight. Those are the recommendation that I make for Colleton County. Do not hide behind the committee...do what is right by the people of Colleton County. There are people pushing buggies with their belongings and living in hotels, that is homelessness. So, you guys have to consider these things when you...inaudible...because when you look at it for tourism...inaudible. Land you got it, you want to build a swimming pool...you used to have one at the golf course...put one out there.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated, "Would anyone else like to make a comment?"

Marilyn Brown: Stated that I would like to address the referendum about the Y. I am not going to restate what the young lady so eloquently, well spoken, has already said. I do know that I am in education, and I highly value education. I do know that by building a swimming pool that is more accessible that it will have a high impact on most of the people in Colleton County. I say that the old Colleton County Stadium, and you might want to do some research, and I know you have a committee. Like the young gentleman said, you have a committee, but it is ultimately you that has to make that decision. We highly recommend and encourage you to use data to make your informed decision. Where is the data to support to put the Y? I recommend that you would revisit where and to put a Y. I travel to Summerville or Beaufort, and all the connecting counties have a Y. The Y has a lot of amenities other than aquatics, after school tutoring, trips, there are things for the children to do. There are families working two or three jobs and when those kids visit the Y and by the time they are picked up those needs have already been met. Once again I highly suggest going back and revisiting that referendum.

#### **Council Time**

Councilman Williams: Stated I think it was back in March, we had a discussion and I requested that we have a joint meeting with the other elected official in this County. If we have joint meeting

then we get to know one another, and we don't have issues that this whether we omitted someone on the list or whatever the case is. I am asking again, since the last time I inquired something about this we were supposed to have something in June. Where are we with the joint meeting with the other Towns, Municipalities, Cities, and I would like to include the School Board as well. They are elected officials and I would like to include all the elected officials and work differences out and make sure we are all on the same page when making decisions, thank you.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated I will have to get with Mr. Griffin. I know he was working on getting that together in the Month of June. Of course, he is not here tonight so I am not sure what the time frame on that is. I will certainly find that out. Are there any other comments?

#### **Executive Session**

Councilman Taylor moved to go into executive session to discuss the following: Legal – LCAA, Legal – Opioid Litigation, and Economic Development – Project Waterfall. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Murdaugh stated that we were back in open session, during Executive Session we discussed: Legal – LCAA, Legal – Opioid Litigation, and Economic Development – Project Waterfall.

Dr. Flowers moved to exit executive session. Councilman Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### Adjournment

Councilman Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

This 26th day of July, 2022.

Steven D. Murdangh, Chairman

ATTEST:

Kaela Brinson, Clerk to Council

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Henry Pinckney
Governing Board Chairman

Nikeyla Hammonds, MA, LAC, MAC, CS Executive Director

# County Council Meeting 06.07.2022

#### Introduction of Staff Present

- Nikeyia Hammonds, Executive Director
- Jessica Hunt, Quality Assurance Manager
- Ashley Shearin, Prevention Director

First and Foremost, thank you for your time and allowing us to speak in this evening's meeting.

A little about us, Colleton County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse was established in 1973, as the State appointed County Local Authority on Substance Use Disorders. We are CARF Accredited and DHEC Licensed. We now have a new name and a new look, Colleton Pillars4Hope. The Colleton Commission rebranded and began using Colleton Pillars4Hope as our "DBA" officially in April of 2021. Pillars4Hope offers the same professional expertise, compassionate care, and a genuine commitment to the people of Colleton County and Surrounding Areas. We are physically located in Colleton County at 1439 Thunderbolt Dr. Walterboro, SC 29488. Our mission here at Colleton Pillars4Hope is to provide the residents of Colleton County and surrounding areas with professional, evidence-based treatment, intervention, prevention, and recovery services. Our professional services are designed to reduce and address high-risk behaviors and the negative health, economic, and social risks associated with substance use disorders.

#### Our Services offered include:

- Adult and Adolescent Outpatient Treatment Services
- Adult and Adolescent Intensive Outpatient (IOP) Treatment Services
- Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT) Services
- Peer Support Program(PSS)
- Offender Based Intervention (OBI)
- Alcohol and Drug Safety Action Program (ADSAP)
- Partners in Achieving Independence Through Recovery and Self Sufficiency Strategies (PAIRS) Financial Assistance Services
- Primary Prevention

Primarily, we give priority treatment services to Pregnant Women and IV Users. We do not believe in turning anyone away for treatment due to inability to pay. If we are unable to best serve an individual, we act as a middle man in order to refer them out to more appropriate services that will best suit their individual needs.

We are a small, yet mighty organization employing 15 people, 3 of which are fully certified, and 5 counselors who are in process of gaining their certification. The remainder of our staff make up our Finance department, Prevention, and Admin Staff.

(P) 843-538-4343

Colleton Pillars4Hope P.O. Box 1037 1439 Thunderbolt Dr. Walterboro, SC 29488

(F) 843-538-7613



Henry Pinckney Governing Board Chairman Nikeyia Hammonds, MA, LAC, MAC, CS Executive Director

#### Our Stakeholders include

- The County
- Our Board Members
- Our Citizens
- Patients Served

#### Some of Our Community Partners include

- The School District
- Walterboro Police Department
- Colleton County Sheriff's Department
- Colleton Medical Center
- Carolina Medical Center
- Coastal Empire Mental Health
- Hammocks on the Edisto Inpatient Facility
- The Solicitor's Office
- Voc Rehab
- DMV
- DSS
- DJJ

Admissions based off the past 3 FY years 2020-2022 Colleton County = 734 Surrounding Areas = 113 Total = 847

Successful Discharges = 233 (see full report below for additional information on discharge data)



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Past 3	years	<b>Admission</b>	Data

Count of County Row Labels	Column Labels Aiken		Bamberg	Beaufort	Berkeley	Berkeley County	Caldwell	Charleston	Clarendon	Colleton	Dorchester	Hampton	Lexington	Orangeburg	Grar Tota
2020		1	1	3	3			3	1	271	14	13	2	1	3.
2021				3	2	1		7		244	12	11		2	28
2022			2	2	3		1	5		219	18	2			25
(blank)															
Grand															
Total		1	3	8	8	1	1	15	1	734	44	26	2	3	84

### Past 3 years Discharge Data

proclabels	2020	2021	2022	Grand Total
eted Treatment	71	75	87	
Pearn .		1		
xempted Treatment	5	3	1	
ncarcerated due to offense committed while in treatment/recovery with satisfactory progress			2	
ncarcerated due to offense committed while in treatment/recovery with unsatisfactory progress			1	
ncarcerated due to old warrant or charge from before entering treatment/recovery with satisfactory progress	1		1	_
nvoluntarily discharged due to nonparticipation	50	142	113	3
nvoluntarily discharged due to violation of rules	4	4	1	
eft Against Professional Advice/ Dropout	86			
left on own against staff advice with satisfactory progress left on own against staff advice without satisfactory progress	3 59	5 36	5 11	1
Other (Administrative Use Only)	3			
Other, please specify:	3	4	11	
Referral to Other Behavioral Health Program, but Did Not Show Up	1			
Referred to another program or other services with satisfactory progress	8	10	21	
Referred to another program or other services without satisfactory progress	7	2	6	
Referred to Other Program	6			
Terminated from Episode/Organization	8			
Therapeutic Threshold Reached	2	4		
Transfer Increase in Level of Care	1			
Transferred to another facility for health reasons	5			
(blank)				



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#### Prevention

- Community-Based Process:
  - Goal was to conduct monthly Coalition meetings so far this fiscal year eight have been conducted, with 2 more scheduled in this year
    - There was also a goal to increase members by 10%, there was an increase in membership, and however, membership has fallen due to unpredictability of Covid-19.
  - Goal was to attend monthly AET meetings so far all have been attended
  - Goal was to network with law enforcement, CP4H met with local Law Enforcement and from that meeting was able to get LE involved with AET
- Information Dissemination:
  - Speaking Engagements
    - Goal was to conduct 3 speaking engagements, CP4H conducted a total of Eight (4 DUI experience presentations, Red Ribbon Presentation, Speaking Engagement at Black Creek Church, Speaking Engagement at USC Salk, and a Speaking Engagement at the Cottageville Library.
  - Distribute educational materials and pamphlets
    - Goal was to distribute educational materials and pamphlets, CP4H distributed materials and pamphlets to over 24 businesses to include (3 faith based organizations, 16 County Agencies, and 5 businesses)
    - Goal was to be present in Edisto Beach- CP4H has advertisements leading to Edisto Beach on the dangers of underage drinking, boating under the influence and DUI.
      - A partnership was developed with the Chief of Police and active PREP classes are being organized.
  - Community Events
    - Goal was to conduct a minimum of 3 community events, CP4H conducted 11 so far this year to include: Recovery Walk, National Overdose Day at the Rec Center, School District's Back to School Drive, CP4H 1st annual Back to school drive through, CP4H 1st annual Trunk or treat/Fall festival, Faith Church Fall Festival, School District's Christmas Fair, Farmer's Market Health Fair, Back Expo, Christmas Parade, Rice Festival, and Rice Festival Parade.
  - O Deterra- Goal was to request additional Deterra packets and disseminate, CP4H has distributed over 1,000 packets of Deterra so far this year.
  - Prescription Drug Drop boxes- CP4H maintained MOA of locations and advertised locations for drug take back event
    - Pillars4Hope currently has three drop locations to include the Cottageville Police Department, Hiott's Pharmacy and Walterboro Police Department.
  - Prescription Drug Take Back Days- CP4H has advertised the Drug take back day and also advertised the locations of the Prescription Drop boxes



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#### o Media

- The goal was to implement monthly Social Media Content Calendar-CP4H has created and implemented Calendar and currently post daily on either the dangers of underage drinking, Alcohol or Other Substance Use.
- The goal was to conduct traditional media- CP4H currently has advertisements in the local newspaper and local magazines

#### Alternative

The goal was to Host and advertise a minimum of 2 alternative events- CP4H hosted two alternative events with partnership with the local movie theater offering free movies, popcorn and drink to patrons, where information on the dangers of alcohol and drug use was provided to parents of attendees.

#### Education:

- Goal was to get certified in Life Skills and implement curriculum- Prevention Specialist received Certification for Middle and High School Life Skills and Implemented the curriculum to Middle and High school students
  - The evidence based curriculum was implemented, however the need to be implemented in more schools was challenging due to being understaffed in prevention
- Prime for Life- Goal was to get certified in Prime for Life- Prevention Specialist is currently still pursing efforts to become certified.

#### Environmental

- AET- local law enforcement just started participation in AET March of 2021.
- PREP- the goal was for prevention specialist to become certified in PREP, conduct 4
  PREP classes and Market PREP to Edisto Beach. Prevention Specialist is currently
  certified in PREP has conducted a total of three PREP classes so far and has currently
  held a PREP Class in Edisto Beach.
- Synar Study- Goal was to participate in Synar Study. CP4H participated in Synar Study in December of 2021.

#### • Problem Identification & Referral

• Pillars4Hope Submitted exemption letter for this strategy, however, the goal was to obtain TEP training, CP4H has currently reached out to find out how to become certified.

# A few of the many South Carolina Opioid Recovery Act Efforts at Colleton Pillars4Hope addressing the Opioid Epidemic

- Colleton Pillars4Hope expanded treatment services into the evening hours to fit the growing needs of patients. (5:30 & 7:30 Groups on Monday / 5:30 Group on Tuesday / 5:30 & 6:00 Groups on Wednesday)
- Hired a F/T Peer Support Specialists, Teresa Rogers to coordinate recovery services
- We employ Master's Addiction Counselors, Licensed Addictions Counselors, Master's Social Workers, Licensed Bachelors of Social Work, Bachelors Counselors, Master's in Education, and



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we contract with a Licensed Registered Nurse (RN) and a Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor.

- Appointed Ty'Ionna Gilliam who holds the credentials MSW, ADC-IP as our Lead Clinician and our Coordinator over the (MAT) Medicated Assisted Treatment Program.
- Colleton Pillars4Hope partners with Dr. Blubaugh (with the Carolina Medical Center) in
  addressing our MAT needs such as seeing patients, prescribing MAT and sending prescriptions to
  us so that we can offer our MAT patient's vouchers (covers the costs of medical visits to the
  doctor's office in relation to MAT Treatment, as well as the costs of the medication prescribed) in
  order to receive their medicine as long as they stay compliant in the program.
- Additional advertising of our implemented MAT Program as a Newspaper Article was distributed out in the community
- Additional advertising of Narcan & (FTS) Fentanyl Test Strip Community Distributor Site, Free of costs
- Met and Partnered with our School District and local Hospital Colleton Medical Center in distributing materials about our agency and specific services offered, also developed referral forms specifically for both the School District and the Hospital
- Participated in more community events where Narcan & FTS harm reduction bags are handed out along with training materials
- Prevention became more involved in the community, despite the lack of an additional Prevention Specialists, additional educational and preventive materials were distributed
- Appointed Jessica Hunt as our PAIRS Coordinator, she attends all SBIRT Trainings and Panel Meetings. Pillars4Hope is looking to incorporate further SBIRT training within the agency and send staff to the Summit training in September.

All funds in the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund must be used for one or more of the following

#### approved opioid remediation uses. Priority shall be given to the following core abatement strategies ("Core Strategies"). Core Strategy What We are Doing **Expansion Strategy** Part One: Treatment Naloxone or Other FDA Approved Drug to We are a Naloxone/Narcan Our Strategy is to get more involved with reverse opioid Overdoses Community Distributor who distributing out in the community rather provides free Narcan to anyone than having the community come to us. in the community and have had Ideally, we would like to see harm & a 206% increase in distribution reduction bags at Law Enforcement Prevent Overdose Deaths and other Harms this FY in comparison to last Stations, with Law Enforcement Officers, (Harm Reduction) in our Schools, at our Hotel Front Desks, in We also implemented a new our Hospital Lobby's, in our Jails, etc. program last year distributing Fentanyl Test Strips (FTS) in Expand to enable school nurses and other addition to Narcan in our Harm school staff to respond to opioid overdoses

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**List of Approved Opioid Remediation Uses** 

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	Reduction Bags. We have had a 216% increase in distribution this FY in comparison to last. Met with First Responders, Community Support Groups (Faith Church) and families of affected individuals for training in harm reduction strategies.	and provide them with naloxone training and support.  Expand public education on the Good Samaritan Law and operation of immunity.  Syringe service programs and other evidence based programs to reduce harms associated with intravenous drug use.  Expanding access to treatment for testing of infectious diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis C resulting from intravenous opioid use.  Supporting mobile units that offer or provide referral to harm reduction services, treatment, recovery supports, health care, or other appropriate services to persons with
Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Distribution and other Opioid Related Treatment	Hired a F/T, Licensed and inprocess Lead Clinician to Coordinate our MAT Program. We also partner with a local doctor, Dr. Blubaugh with Carolina Medical Center to coordinate the treatment of all of our MAT patients and their prescription vouchers (Covers the cost of MAT related doctor visits as well as the costs of the medication) as long as the patient remains compliant in the treatment program. We have met with Law enforcement, the Local School District, and Local hospital to discuss MAT Needs, Concerns, and Partnerships.	OUD  We would like to expand our MAT program and integrate it into a residential treatment and recovery program provided to all those in need of MAT whether insured or not.
Connect people who need help to the help they need (Connections to Care)	Met with our Local Hospital, Doctor's offices, and School District to educate of our referral process.	Expand services to hire a Navigator and On- Call Teams on staff to begin MAT in the hospital emergency department.  Expand Services to hire an additional Peer



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Treat Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)	We offer both Adult and Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Treatment Services and Outpatient Treatment Services, along with Adult Medicated Assisted Treatment Services (MAT) to address treating Opioid Use Disorder to those in need in Colleton County and Surrounding Areas. We provide only evidence- based services adhering to ASAM criteria on the continuum of care for OUD. We have expanded into evening group hours for the convenience of our patient's needs. We incorporated telehealth services as needed.	Support Specialist or Recovery Coach to house in our local hospital emergency department		
Pregnant & Postpartum Women	Pregnant and Postpartum Women are considered a	Previously we ran a residential facility specifically for Pregnant and Parenting		
& Expanding Treatment for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome "NAS"  & Address the Needs of Pregnant or Parenting Women and their Families, including babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome	Priority patient and will be seen first. We implemented a Women's only group for our patients here who are pregnant, postpartum, or who could become pregnant. Our PAIRS coordinator has been attending SBIRT trainings to gain knowledge on SBIRT Screenings of Pregnant and Postpartum Women and how we can incorporate those learnings into our Women's Groups. We are looking at sending our PAIRS coordinator and some Treatment Staff to the SBIRT Summit being held in September. Our Executive	Women and we would like to expand to bring that back and to incorporate MAT in Care  Provide enhanced support for children and family members suffering trauma as a result of addiction in the family; and other trauma informed behavioral health treatment for adverse childhood events.  Provide child and family supports for parenting women with OUD  Offer home based services to persons with OUD including but not limited to parent skills training.  Expand evidence based treatment and		
	Director and Treatment Staff Currently met with the Labor	recovery support for NAS babies; expand services for better continuum of care with		

and Delivery Department in our

Local hospital Colleton Medical

infant-need dyad; and expand long term

treatment and services for medical



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	Center to discuss Pregnant and Postpartum women being a priority patient here and how to disseminate educational information to them as well as our referral process.	monitoring of NAS babies and their families.
& Expansion of Warm Hand Off Programs and Recovery Services	We hired a F/T Peer Support Specialist (PSS) who offers assistance in many areas including Recovery Case Management throughout Treatment. Our PSS assists in helping individuals in their transition to recovery to include but not	Expand to provide our community with a Peer Support Recovery Center to include support groups, social events, better accessibility to resources which may otherwise be inaccessible (for example support with transportation to get to and from services, employment training, educational services).
	limited to searching for housing, reliable transportation, job placement and training, childcare, etc. Additionally, our PSS is really good about connecting our patients with necessary or desired resources and coordinating those connections as needed	Would like to expand and house a Peer Support Specialists and Licensed Clinical Counselor in our local hospital, Colleton Medical Center  Would like to hire an additional PSS to assist our current PSS to facilitate duties
Address the Needs of Criminal Justice Involved Persons &  Treatment for Incarcerated Population	Currently, we coordinate with the Head of the Jail and Drug Court to ensure that our Treatment Director and Outpatient Manager are still able to provide evidence-based treatment services to individuals with OUD who are incarcerated in jail, leaving jail, or are on Probation or parole.	Expand to support pre-arrest and pre- arraignment diversion and deflection strategies or programs for persons with OUD and co-occurring SUD/MH conditions such as (Police Assisted Addiction Recovery Initiative or the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Model).  Work with the local hospital, Jail, and Law enforcement agencies to implement the Naloxone Plus strategy that whoever receives Narcan to reverse the effects of an overdose are then linked to our treatment program
		We would like to expand to be able to house a Licensed Counselor and Peer Support Specialists in the Jail to coordinate



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	Program (Faith Church),	
Part Three: Other Strategies	,	
First Responders  Leadership, Planning, and Coordination	Educating First Responders on Harm Reduction and the use and benefits of Naloxone and Fentanyl Test Strips  Identify Root Causes of addiction and overdose, and goals for reducing harms related to the opioid epidemic and areas/populations with the greatest needs for treatment intervention services and to support/obtain training and other strategies to abate the opioid epidemic described in this opioid abatement strategy list.	Provision of wellness and support services for first responders and others who experience secondary trauma associated with opioid related emergency events.  A dashboard to (a) share reports, recommendations, or plans to spend opioid settlement funds; (b) to show how opioid settlement funds have been spent; (c) to report program or strategy outcomes; or (d) to track, share or visualize key opioid or health-related indicators and supports as identified through collaborative statewide, regional, local or community processes.  Invest in infrastructure or staffing at government or not-for-profit agencies to support collaborative, cross-system coordination with the purpose of preventing overprescribing, opioid misuse, or opioid overdoses, treating those with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, supporting them in treatment or recovery, connecting them to care, or implementing other strategies to abate the opioid epidemic described in this opioid abatemen strategy list.  Provide resources to staff government oversight and management of opioid abatement programs.
Training	Provide funding for staff training to improve the capability of government, community, and not-for-profit entities to abate the opioid crisis.	Support infrastructure and staffing for collaborative cross-system coordination to prevent opioid misuse, prevent overdoses, and treat those with OUD and any cooccurring SUD/MH conditions, or implement other strategies to abate the opioid epidemic described in this opioid abatement strategy list (e.g., health care, primary care, pharmacies, PDMPs, etc.).



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Research

Monitoring data collection and evaluation of programs and strategies described in this opioid abatement strategy list.

Research on improved service delivery for modalities such as SBIRT that demonstrate promising but mixed results in populations vulnerable to opioid use disorders.

Research on novel harm reduction and prevention efforts such as the provision of fentanyl test strips. Research non-opioid treatment of chronic pain.

Research on innovative supply-side enforcement efforts such as improved detection of mail-based delivery of synthetic opioids.

Expanded research on swift/certain/fair models to reduce and deter opioid misuse within criminal justice populations that build upon promising approaches used to address other substances (e.g., Hawaii HOPE and Dakota 24/7).

Epidemiological surveillance of OUDrelated behaviors in critical populations, including individuals entering the criminal justice system, including, but not limited to approaches modeled on the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring ("ADAM") system.

Qualitative and quantitative research regarding public health risks and harm reduction opportunities within illicit drug markets, including surveys of market participants who sell or distribute illicit opioids.

Geospatial analysis of access barriers to MAT and their association with treatment engagement and treatment outcomes.

Needs List

• Parking lot Expansion

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- Upgrade to Current Sewer/Pipe System
- Need for Community Outreach Person on Staff
- Need for Additional Peer Support Specialist staff to have housed at local hospital or doctors' offices
- Expanding to allow for Women's IOP group
  - Charleston Center is the only other local facility who caters to women's services
- Outgrowing Building/ Need for larger facility to conduct Services
- Expanding to allow for Residential Treatment Services