BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER AND RESOLUTION

IN THE MATTER OF ADVOCATING FOR A STATEWIDE ADDICTION RECOVERY CONTINUUM OF CARE

NO: 19-10-08-03

WHEREAS, Oregon law now defines substance use disorder and alcoholism to be a chronic disease; and

WHEREAS, these statutory definitions are designed to improve access to multiple systems of care and a lifetime of support; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorder and alcoholism are treatable conditions, as exemplified by the millions of people who identify as in recovery; and

WHEREAS, according to data compiled by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for 2017, Oregon has the 4th highest rate of substance use disorder rate in the country; and

WHEREAS, according to data compiled by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for 2017, Oregon ranks 50th in access to addiction treatment; and

WHEREAS, according to an 2006 EcoNorthwest analysis, untreated substance abuse disorder in Oregon represents economic costs of $5.9 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of Oregonians have a friend or family member who suffers from addiction; and

WHEREAS, five Oregonians die each day in alcohol-related deaths and one to two Oregonians die each day from drug-overdoses; and

WHEREAS, more than 2100 people die each year in Oregon from untreated addiction; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has tasked the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission with producing a strategic plan to address alcohol and drug abuse prevention and treatment service delivery in the state of Oregon; and

WHEREAS, Oregon will be the first state to measure a “recovery rate,” a metric which can be used to track the success of the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission’s strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, Lane County is committed to the ongoing work of its Mental Health Advisory/Local Drug and Alcohol Planning Committee and its Public Health Advisory Committee in identifying and recommending policies and procedures addressing addictions.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners ORDERS AND RESOLVES as follows:

1. That Lane County supports Governor Brown’s May, 2018 executive order on addiction as a public health crisis; and

2. That Lane County is closely monitoring the work of the Oregon Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission; and
3. That Lane County will continue to advocate to state and federal elected leaders to develop and implement a new, comprehensive statewide addiction recovery continuum-of-care, and to provide adequate funding for same.

ADOPTED this 8th day of October, 2019.

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Pete Sorenson, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners