



RESOLUTION # 48-3/23

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 3-7

BOARD ACTION

Adopted: ✓
For: 35
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 5
Vote Req: —
Other Action: —

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted: ✓
For: 8
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 1

RE: AUTHORIZING LA CROSSE COUNTY TO ENTER INTO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH TEVA PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES LTD., ALLERGAN FINANCE, LLC, WALGREEN CO., WALMART, INC., CVS HEALTH CORPORATION AND CVS PHARMACY, INC., AGREE TO THE TERMS OF THE ADDENDUM TO THE MOU ALLOCATING SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS, AND AUTHORIZE ENTRY INTO THE MOU WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors previously authorized the County to enter into an engagement agreement with Von Briesen & Roper, S.C., Crueger Dickinson LLC and Simmons Hanly Conroy LLC (the "Law Firms") to pursue litigation against certain manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of opioid pharmaceuticals (the "Opioid Defendants") in an effort to hold the Opioid Defendants financially responsible for the County's expenditure of vast money and resources to combat the opioid epidemic;

WHEREAS, on behalf of the County, the Law Firms filed a lawsuit against the Opioid Defendants;

WHEREAS, the Law Firms filed similar lawsuits on behalf of 66 other Wisconsin counties and all Wisconsin cases were coordinated with thousands of other lawsuits filed against the same or substantially similar parties as the Opioid Defendants in the Northern District of Ohio, captioned *In re: Opioid Litigation*, MDL 2804 (the "Litigation");

WHEREAS, four (4) additional Wisconsin counties (Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth) hired separate counsel and joined the Litigation;

WHEREAS, since the inception of the Litigation, the Law Firms have coordinated with counsel from around the country (including counsel for Milwaukee, Dane, Waukesha, and Walworth Counties) to prepare the County's case for trial and engage in extensive settlement discussions with the Opioid Defendants;

WHEREAS, the settlement discussions with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., Allergan Finance, LLC, Walgreen Co., Walmart, Inc., CVS Health Corporation and CVS Pharmacy, Inc.. (the "Settling Defendants") resulted in a tentative agreement as to settlement terms pending agreement from the County and other plaintiffs involved in the Litigation;

WHEREAS, copies of the various settlement agreements relating to the Settling Defendants (collectively "Settlement Agreements") representing the terms of the tentative settlement agreements with the Settling Defendants have been provided with this Resolution;

WHEREAS, the Settlement Agreements provide, among other things, for the payment of certain sums to Participating Subdivisions (as defined in the Settlement Agreements) upon the occurrence of certain events detailed in the Settlement Agreements;

WHEREAS, the County is a Participating Subdivision in the Settlement Agreements and has the opportunity to participate in the benefits associated with the Settlement Agreement provided the County (a) approves the Settlement Agreements; (b) approves the Memorandum of Understanding allocating proceeds from the Settlement Agreements among the various Wisconsin Participating Subdivisions, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution (the "Allocation MOU");

(c) approves the Memorandum of Understanding with the Wisconsin Attorney General regarding allocation of settlement proceeds, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution (the "AG MOU"); and (d) the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance approves the terms of the Settlement Agreements and the AG MOU;

WHEREAS, 2021 Wisconsin Act 57 created Section 165.12 of the Wisconsin Statutes relating to the settlement of all or part of the Litigation;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.12(2), the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance is required to approve the Settlement Agreements and the AG MOU;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.12(2), the proceeds from any settlement of all or part of the Litigation are distributed 70% to local governments in Wisconsin that are parties to the Litigation and 30% to the State;

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 165.12(4)(b)2. provides the proceeds from the Settlement Agreement must be deposited in a segregated account (the "Opioid Abatement Account") and may be expended only for approved uses for opioid abatement as provided in the Settlement Agreements;

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 165.12(7) bars claims from any Wisconsin local government against the Opioid Defendants filed after June 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, the definition of Participating Subdivisions in the Settlement Agreements recognizes a statutory bar on claims such as that set forth in Wis. Stat. § 165.12(7) and, as a result, the only Participating Subdivisions in Wisconsin are those counties and municipalities that were parties to the Litigation (or otherwise actively litigating a claim against one, some, or all of the Opioid Defendants) as of June 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance is not statutorily authorized or required to approve the allocation of proceeds of the Settlement Agreements among Wisconsin Participating Subdivisions;

WHEREAS, the Law Firms have engaged in extensive discussions with counsel for all other Wisconsin Participating Subdivisions resulting in the proposed Allocation MOU, which is an agreement between all of the entities identified in the Allocation MOU as to how the proceeds payable to those entities under the Settlement Agreements will be allocated;

WHEREAS, the proposed Addendum to the MOU ("Addendum") provided with this Resolution provides for allocation of settlement proceeds among the Wisconsin Participating Subdivisions according to the same percentages as that provided in the previously-approved MOU allocating the settlement proceeds of the settlements involving McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., AmerisourceBergen Corporation, Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Ortho-McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc.;

WHEREAS, there is provided with this Resolution a summary of the essential terms of the Settlement Agreements, the deadlines related to the effective dates of the Settlement Agreements, the ramifications associated with the County's refusal to enter into the Settlement Agreements, the form of the Addendum, the form of the AG MOU, and an overview of the process for finalizing the Settlement Agreements;

WHEREAS, the County, by this Resolution, shall deposit the proceeds of the Settlement Agreements consistent with the terms of this Resolution and Wis. Stat. § 165.12(4)(b);

WHEREAS, pursuant to the County's engagement agreement with the Law Firms, the County shall pay up to an amount equal to 25% of the proceeds from successful resolution of all or part of the Litigation, whether through settlement or otherwise, plus the Law Firms' costs and

disbursements, to the Law Firms as compensation for the Law Firms' efforts in the Litigation and any settlement;

WHEREAS, the Law Firms anticipate making application to the national fee fund established in the Settlement Agreements seeking payment, in whole or part, of the fees, costs, and disbursements owed the Law Firms pursuant to the engagement agreement with the County;

WHEREAS, it is anticipated the amount of any award from the fee fund established in the Settlement Agreements will be insufficient to satisfy the County's obligations under the engagement agreement with the Law Firms;

WHEREAS, the County, by this Resolution, and pursuant to the authority granted the County in the applicable Order emanating from the Litigation in relation to the Settlement Agreements and payment of attorney fees, shall authorize and direct the escrow agent responsible for the receipt and distribution of the proceeds from the Settlement Agreements to establish an account for the purpose of segregating funds to pay the fees, costs, and disbursements of the Law Firms owed by the County (the "Attorney Fees Account") in order to fund a local "backstop" for payment of the fees, costs, and disbursements of the Law Firms;

WHEREAS, in no event shall payments to the Law Firms out of the Attorney Fees Account and the fee fund established in the Settlement Agreements exceed an amount equal to 25% of the amounts allocated to the County in the Addendum;

WHEREAS, the intent of this Resolution is to authorize the County to enter into the Settlement Agreements, the Addendum, and the AG MOU, establish the County's Opioid Abatement Account, and establish the Attorney Fees Account; and

WHEREAS, the County, by this Resolution, shall authorize the County's corporation counsel to finalize and execute any escrow agreement and other document or agreement necessary to effectuate the Settlement Agreements and the other agreements referenced herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the County Board of Supervisors hereby approves:

1. The execution of the Settlement Agreements and any and all documents ancillary thereto and authorizes the [Board Chair] or designee to execute same.
2. The final negotiation and execution of the Addendum in form substantially similar to that presented with this Resolution and any and all documents ancillary thereto and authorizes the [Board Chair] or designee to execute same upon finalization provided the percentage share identified as allocated to the County is substantially similar to that identified in the Addendum provided to the Board with this Resolution.
3. The final negotiation and execution of the AG MOU in form substantially similar to that presented with this Resolution and any and all documents ancillary thereto and authorizes the [Board Chair] or designee to execute same.
4. The execution by the County Board Chair or designee of any additional documents or agreements for the receipt and disbursement of the proceeds of the Settlement Agreements as referenced in the Addendum.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: all proceeds from the Settlement Agreements not otherwise directed to the Attorney Fees Account shall be deposited in the County's Opioid Abatement Account. The Opioid Abatement Account shall be administered consistent with the terms of this Resolution, Wis. Stat. § 165.12(4), and the Settlement Agreements.

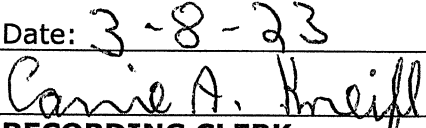
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: the County hereby authorizes the establishment of an account separate and distinct from any account containing funds allocated or allocable to the County

which shall be referred to by the County as the "Attorney Fees Account." An escrow agent shall deposit a sum equal to up to, but in no event exceeding, an amount equal to 20% of the County's proceeds from the Settlement Agreements into the Attorney Fees Account. If the payments to the County are not enough to fully fund the Attorney Fees Account as provided herein because such payments are made over time, the Attorney Fees Account shall be funded by placing up to, but in no event exceeding, an amount equal to 20% of the proceeds from the Settlement Agreements attributable to Local Governments (as that term is defined in the Allocation MOU) into the Attorney Fees Account for each payment. Funds in the Attorney Fees Account shall be utilized to pay the fees, costs, and disbursements owed to the Law Firms pursuant to the engagement agreement between the County and the Law Firms provided, however, the Law Firms shall receive no more than that to which they are entitled under their fee contract when considering the amounts paid the Law Firms from the fee fund established in the Settlement Agreements and allocable to the County. The Law Firms may make application for payment from the Attorney Fees Account at any time and the County shall cooperate with the Law Firms in executing any documents necessary for the escrow agent to make payments out of the Attorney Fees Account.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all actions heretofore taken by the Board of Supervisors and other appropriate public officers and agents of the County with respect to the matters contemplated under this Resolution are hereby ratified, confirmed and approved.

FISCAL NOTE: Any settlement dollars received will be appropriated towards expenditures authorized in the settlement agreement. The expenditure of any settlement funds will require County Board approval.

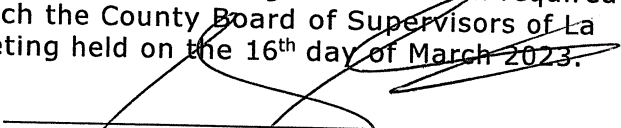
Date: 3-8-23

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: 3-8-23

RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Requested By: Corporation Counsel Date Requested: February 22, 2023 Drafted By: Corporation Counsel
Fin. Director	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Corp. Counsel	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
Board Chair	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 16 Day of March, 2023

STATE OF WISCONSIN
 COUNTY OF LA CROSSE
 I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 16th day of March 2023.



 Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk

**ADDENDUM TO WISCONSIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

WHEREAS, the Local Governments entered into the MOU for purposes of memorializing their agreement surrounding, among other things, allocation of the proceeds of the settlements with McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, Inc., AmerisourceBergen Corporation, Johnson & Johnson, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Ortho- McNeil-Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Janssen Pharmaceutica, Inc.;

WHEREAS, the settlement discussions with Walgreens, Walmart, CVS, Teva, and Allergan resulted in tentative agreements as to settlement terms (“Settlement Agreements”) pending agreement from the State of Wisconsin, the Local Governments and other parties involved in the Litigation; and

WHEREAS, the Local Governments intend this Addendum to the MOU to effectuate the terms of the Settlement Agreements and allocate the proceeds of the Settlement Agreements to each of the Local Governments in the same manner and same percentages as set forth in the MOU and Exhibit A thereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Local Governments enter into this Addendum to the MOU upon the terms described herein.

1. The Local Governments ratify, confirm and agree in all respects to the MOU. By this Addendum, the Local Governments agree that any and all proceeds of the Settlement Agreements defined herein shall be distributed, allocated and otherwise disposed of in the same manner as set forth in the MOU and Exhibit A thereto.
2. Nothing in this MOU is intended to alter or change any Local Government’s right to pursue its own claim. Rather, the intent of this MOU is to provide a mechanism for the receipt and expenditure of Opioid Funds.
3. This MOU may be executed in counterparts. Electronic signatures shall in all respects be considered valid and binding.

[Signatures on Following Page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereby execute this Addendum as of the date set forth below.

ON BEHALF OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

Adams County
Printed: _____ Date: _____

Ashland County
Printed: _____ Date: _____

Barron County
Printed: _____ Date: _____

Bayfield County
Printed: _____ Date: _____

Brown County
Printed: _____ Date: _____

Buffalo County
Printed: _____ Date: _____

Burnett County
Printed: _____ Date: _____

**WISCONSIN STATE-LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING FOR THE ALLOCATION OF
OPIOID SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS**

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin (“State”), its communities, and their people have been harmed by misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance committed by certain entities that engage in or have engaged in the manufacture, marketing, promotion, distribution or dispensing of an opioid analgesic, specifically related to the covered conduct by Defendants *In re: Opioid Litigation*, MDL 2804 pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio (“Litigation”);

WHEREAS, certain Wisconsin local governments identified on the attached Exhibit A (“Local Governments”), through their counsel, and the State of Wisconsin, through its Attorney General, are separately engaged in investigations, litigation, and settlement discussions seeking to hold the Defendants in the Litigation accountable for the damage caused by their misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance;

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin and the Local Governments share a common desire to abate and alleviate the impacts of the misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance described above throughout the State of Wisconsin and in its local communities;

WHEREAS, the settlement discussions with Walgreens, Walmart, CVS, Teva, and Allergan (“Settling Defendants”) resulted in tentative agreements as to settlement terms (“Settlement Agreements”) pending agreement from the State of Wisconsin, the Local Governments and other parties involved in the Litigation;

WHEREAS, while the Local Governments and the State recognize that the sums which may be available from the aforementioned Settlement Agreements will likely be insufficient to fully abate the public health crisis caused by the Opioid epidemic, they share a common interest in dedicating the most resources possible to the abatement effort;

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin enacted Wis. Stat. § 165.12 which provides for an allocation of opioid settlement proceeds;

WHEREAS, the State and the Local Governments intend this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) to effectuate the terms of future Settlement Agreements arising out of the Litigation in a manner consistent with Wis. Stat. § 165.12(2); and

WHEREAS, this MOU does not supersede or alter any previously agreed upon MOU between the State and Local Governments related to the Litigation.

NOW, THEREFORE, the State and the Local Governments, enter into this MOU upon the terms described herein.

1. As used in this MOU, the term “Opioid Settlement Proceeds” shall mean all funds allocated by a Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Payments”) to the State or Local

Governments for purposes of opioid remediation activities, as well as any repayment of those funds and any interest or investment earnings that may accrue as those funds are temporarily held before being expended on opioid remediation strategies. "Opioid Settlement Proceeds" do *not* include the "Additional Restitution Amount" (also known as additional remediation, or any other fund, proceed, or amount paid to States who did not utilize outside counsel), reimbursement of the United States Government, or separate funds identified in Settlement Agreements as direct or indirect compensation for a Party's litigation fees, expenses, and/or costs.

2. The Settlement Administrator shall directly distribute the Opioid Settlement Proceeds to the State and to Local Governments in such proportions and for such uses as set forth in this MOU.
3. Opioid Settlement Proceeds shall be allocated as follows: (i) 30% to the State of Wisconsin ("State Share"); and (ii) 70% to Local Governments ("LG Share"). Opioid Settlement Proceeds shall not be considered funds of the State or any Local Government unless and until such time as each annual distribution is made.
4. 100% of the "Additional Restitution Amount" shall be paid to the State and deposited with the Department of Health Services.
5. Except for Opioid Settlement Funds expended in payment of attorney fees as provided in Wis. Stat. § 165.12(6), all Opioid Settlement Proceeds, regardless of allocation, and the entire "Additional Restitution Amount," shall, consistent with Wis. Stat. § 165.12(3) and (4), and except as provided in Wis. Stat. § 165.12(5), be utilized only for purposes identified as approved uses for abatement in a Settlement Agreement.
6. If any portion of the LG Share is used for the payment of owed attorney fees as authorized under Wis. Stat. § 165.12(6), the Local Governments shall report to the Attorney General and the Joint Committee on Finance the amount of the payment(s) and provide the contract(s) under which the attorney fees are purportedly owed.

Notwithstanding any limitations or characterization of funds herein to the contrary, any payments for attorneys' fees and expenses may only be paid for out of the owing Local Governments' share.

7. The parties agree to comply with the terms of the Settlement Agreements, including but not limited to (a) a requirement that a certain percentage of the Settlement Payment be spent on remediation, and (b) that at least 70% of a Settlement Payment be used solely for future Opioid Remediation as defined by the Settlement Agreements.
8. The LG Share shall be paid to each Local Government by the Settlement Administrator based on the allocation created and agreed to by the Local Governments which assigns each Local Government a percentage share of the LG Share, less any applicable attorney fees as authorized under Wis. Stat. § 165.12(6) and referenced above.

9. Nothing in this MOU is intended to alter or change any Local Government's right to pursue its own claim. Rather, the intent of this MOU is to provide a mechanism for the receipt and expenditure of Opioid Settlement Proceeds. Notwithstanding the foregoing, only Local Governments who are Participating Subdivisions under a Settlement Agreement, and who agree to the terms of this MOU may directly receive Opioid Settlement Proceeds.
10. Notwithstanding any limitations or characterization of funds herein to the contrary, any payments for Local Government attorney's fees and expenses may be applied only to the LG Share or any Local Government share of the LG Share. The State shall have no responsibility for payment of attorneys' fees or litigation expenses.
11. The parties understand that the United States may claim a portion of the Opioid Settlement Proceeds for Medicaid reimbursement. The parties agree that, to the extent a claim for Medicaid reimbursement is made, the parties shall bear the liability for the reimbursement on a pro rata basis based upon the particular claims made by the United States related to the Medicaid reimbursement. The parties agree to meet, confer, and cooperate in good faith concerning the allocation of any such liability.
12. The Attorney General may extend this MOU to apply to future settlements with other entities who engage in or have engaged in the manufacture, marketing, promotion, distribution or dispensing of an opioid analgesic, specifically related to the covered conduct by Defendants in the Litigation. To exercise this option, the Attorney General shall send written notice to counsel for the Local Governments. The Local Governments shall have 30 days from the date of the notice to express in writing any objection(s) to the extension of the MOU to the settlement(s). If any Local Government objects to the extension of the MOU to the settlement(s), it shall not be extended.

Notice to the Local Governments shall be sent via regular U.S. Mail or email to:

Andrew Phillips
Attolles Law, s.c.
222 E. Erie Street
Suite 210
Milwaukee, WI 53202
aphillips@attolles.com

Erin Dickinson
Crueger Dickinson LLC
4532 N. Oakland Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211
ekd@cruegerdickinson.com

Burton LeBlanc
2600 CitiPlace Drive
Suite 400
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
bleblanc@baronbudd.com

Shayna Sacks
360 Lexington Avenue
Eleventh Floor
New York, NY 10017
ssacks@napolilaw.com

Christopher Smith
von Briesen & Roper, s.c.
411 E. Wisconsin Ave.
Suite 1000
Milwaukee, WI 53202
christopher.smith@vonbriesen.com

Steven Nelson
von Briesen & Roper, s.c.
411 E. Wisconsin Ave.
Suite 1000
Milwaukee, WI 53202
steven.nelson@vonbriesen.com

Any objection(s) by a Local Government shall be sent via regular U.S. Mail or email to:

Laura E. McFarlane
Assistant Attorney General
Wisconsin Department of Justice
17 W. Main Street
Post Office Box 7857
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7857
mcfarlanele@doj.state.wi.us

and

R. Duane Harlow
Assistant Attorney General
Wisconsin Department of Justice
17 West Main Street
Post Office Box 7857
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7857
harlowrd@doj.state.wi.us

13. This MOU may be executed in counterparts. Electronic signatures shall in all respects be considered valid and binding.

[Signatures on Following Page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereby execute this MOU as of the date set forth below.

ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF WISCONSIN:

Attorney General Josh Kaul

Date: _____

ON BEHALF OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

Adams County
Printed: _____

Date: _____

Ashland County
Printed: _____

Date: _____

Barron County
Printed: _____

Date: _____

Bayfield County
Printed: _____

Date: _____

Brown County
Printed: _____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT A
Litigating Local Governments

Adams County
Ashland County
Barron County
Bayfield County
Brown County
Buffalo County
Burnett County
Calumet County
Chippewa County
Clark County
Columbia County
Crawford County
Dane County
Dodge County
Door County
Douglas County
City of Superior
Dunn County
Eau Claire County
Florence County
Fond Du Lac County
Forest County
Grant County
Green County
Green Lake County
Iowa County
Iron County
Jackson County
Jefferson County

Juneau County
Kenosha County
City of Kenosha
Village of Pleasant Prairie
Kewaunee County
La Crosse County
Lafayette County
Langlade County
Lincoln County
Manitowoc County
Marathon County
Marinette County
City of Marinette
Marquette County
Menominee County
Milwaukee County
City of Cudahy
City of Franklin
City of Greenfield
City of Milwaukee
City of Oak Creek
City of South Milwaukee
City of Wauwatosa
City of West Allis
Monroe County
Oconto County
Oneida County
Outagamie County
Ozaukee County

Pepin County
Pierce County
Portage County
Price County
Racine County
Village of Mount Pleasant
Village of Sturtevant
Village of Union Grove
Town of Yorkville
Richland County
Rock County
Rusk County
Sauk County
Sawyer County
Shawano County
Sheboygan County
St Croix County
Taylor County
Trempealeau County
Vernon County
Vilas County
Walworth County
Washburn County
Washington County
Waukesha County
Waupaca County
Waushara County
Winnebago County
Wood County