

# Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 9, 2023  
3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT

### Committee Members in Attendance:

- Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Chair;
- Pamela Sagness, Behavioral Health Executive Director, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services ;
- Colonel Brandon Solberg, Superintendent, North Dakota Highway Patrol
- Jonathan Holth, Managing Director, Recovery Reinvented
- Aaron Birst, Executive Director, North Dakota Association of Counties
- Mary Korsmo, North Dakota State Association of City and County Health Officials Executive Director, Association of Counties
- Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson, Deputy Director and Attorney at Law North Dakota League of Cities

### Committee Members Absent: None

### Welcome and Call to Order:

Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Chair, called the meeting to order. Committee members introduced themselves. Members of the public in attendance provided introductions as well.

**Overview and history of opioid settlement funds including allowable uses and purpose of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee:** Parrell Grossman and Elin Alm were present, representing the ND Attorney General's office. Parrell Grossman provided history and background on the settlement including a timeline, settlement payment terms, buckets of funds, duties of the committee, and usage of funds.

**Legislative session action related to opioids:** Pamela Sagness provided an overview of House Bill 1447.

**Engagement strategy:** The committee discussed a strategy to engage the public and determined next steps would be to meet with North Dakota citizens regarding state and community needs. Listening sessions will be scheduled where the public will have the opportunity to attend either in person or virtually. There will also be an option for the public to submit written feedback. Listening sessions in Fargo and Bismarck will be scheduled within the next 5 weeks. Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson requested that it be indicated on the record that a listening session be held in western North Dakota.

**Comments from committee members:** Committee members recognized the need for workforce, identified the need for an overview of current efforts in the state, and acknowledged funds should be used to address current critical needs but also create a sustainable impact for many years to come.

**Public Comment:** Members of the public in attendance echoed the need for workforce, identified a lack of services in the jails, identified the need for medication units, and asked for direction for how higher education can help.

**Next Meeting:** A poll will be sent to all committee members to obtain availability for the next scheduled meeting and for listening sessions.

**Adjournment:** Having completed the agenda items and hearing no further comments from Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee members, Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Chair, adjourned at 4:19 PM CT.

*Meeting Minutes submitted by Amy Lies, Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee Board Administrator*