

Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 15, 2024

12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. CT

Committee members in attendance:

- Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Committee Chair
- Pamela Sagness, Executive Director, Behavioral Health Division, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services
- Colonel Brandon Solberg, Superintendent, North Dakota Highway Patrol
- 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
- Jonathan Holth, Managing Director, Recovery Reinvented

Committee members absent:

- Aaron Birst, Executive Director, North Dakota Association of Counties

Welcome and call to order:

Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Meeting agenda review

Jonathan Holth moved to approve the agenda. Pamela Sagness seconded the motion. 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Meeting meetings review

Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson moved to approve the June 27, 2024 meeting minutes. Jonathan Holth seconded the motion. 5 in favor 0 opposed.

Opioid settlement updates

Elin Alm from the ND Attorney General's Office shared updates. ND has received approximately \$3 million in additional opioid settlement funds since last meeting. As of the meeting date, the state has received approximately \$22 million in settlement funds and subdivisions have received approximately 2.7 million in settlement funds. The settlement is back in negotiations with Purdue.

ND Opioid Settlement Fund (OSF) Grant

Amy Lies shared that \$2.1 million of the \$7 million in OSF grant funds has been spent to date. All grantees have reported progress towards proposed deliverables.

Updates on the investments of funds

Eric Haas from the ND Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS) shared updates. \$16 million of the opioid settlement dollars is in the process of being transferred from the Office of ND State Treasurer to the Retirement Investment Office. The funds will be invested into cash and short-term investments. Longer term investments could be explored if the future of settlement funds was better defined.

Training Academy of Addiction Professionals (TAAP)/Heartview

Kurt Snyder shared updates on deliverables for the OSF grant

Endeavor Sober Living

Jonathon Layne shared updates on the deliverables for the OSF grant. Olivia shared her personal testimony on the positive impact Endeavor Sober Living has had on her life.

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Plans for a public event to facilitate best practice sharing and public input

James Knopik with DHHS Behavioral Health Division (BHD) shared plans to host an Opioid Best Practice round table event in collaboration with the BHD hosted Day for Prevention in December. The goal of the event will be for North Dakotans to share best practices happening in the state and identify how needs and gaps in the state can be addressed regarding opioid use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, recovery.

Review NDCC 50-36-06 and discuss recommendations for the 69th Legislative Assembly

The committee discussed the balance between continued funding for current OSF grantees and funding to new OSF grantees. Committee members identified priority focuses to include work force, gaps in services, enhancing current services, and innovative strategies.

Committee Discussion

No additional topics discussed.

Public Comment

None.

Discuss next steps, next meeting agenda, and next meeting date

The next meeting will be held in December following the opioid best practice event. Exact date and time to be determined.

Adjournment: Having completed the agenda items and hearing no further comments from Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee members or the public, Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Committee Chair, adjourned at 2:00 PM CT.

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