

Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee
Fargo Listening Session Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 29th, 2023
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 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

Committee Members Absent:

- Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson, Deputy Director and Attorney at Law North Dakota League of Cities

Welcome and Call to Order:

- Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Chair, called the meeting to order. Committee members introduced themselves.

Public Comment:

- Heidi Eukel – NDSU School of Pharmacy
 - Provided information about the NDSU ONE Program and their recent work with home health, jails, and colleges. Recommended utilizing existing entities or universities in North Dakota to research gaps in an evidenced-based way. Additionally, asked what proportion of the efforts and funding will be used for prevention
- Mark Strand – NDSU School of Pharmacy
 - Recommended reengaging community opioid task forces and strengthening adolescent prevention and work in colleges. Additionally, acknowledged that individuals are victims and the path through opioid use and to recovery can be a long journey
- Michel Dulitz – Grand Forks Public Health
 - Acknowledged the value of Syringe Services Programs and recommended funds be used to support harm reduction services, specifically Syringe Service Program injection supplies, which are often not covered by grants. Emphasized the importance of Local Public Health Units who are doing the “boots on the ground” work
- Jeremy Traen – ShareHouse
 - Acknowledged the benefit of the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Voucher program. Stated the solution isn’t always more money but rather restructuring the system. Additionally, recommended using funds to address addiction as a whole rather than being used for a specific substance.
- Senator Judith Lee – North Dakota Senate Human Services Committee Chair
 - Educated on recent legislation included the requirement of a 20% set aside for prevention for the opioid funds. Acknowledged the importance of using peers, especially with youth. Emphasized the benefit of the SUD Voucher program. Recommended more collaboration especially with tribal governments and local law enforcement.
- Morgan Bigalke – Community Medical Services
 - Identified the need for coverage for buprenorphine

Adjournment: Hearing no further comments from the public or from the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee members, Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Chair, adjourned at 1:00 PM CT.

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