

# Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 22, 2024

12:30 p.m. to 1:30 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
- 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.

### Roll call

Roll call was completed with all committee members in attendance.

### Meeting agenda review

Aaron Birst moved to approve the agenda. Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson seconded the motion. 6 in favor, 0 opposed.

### Meeting meetings review

October 17, 2023 meeting minutes reviewed. Aaron Birst moved to approve. Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson seconded the motion. 6 in favor 0 opposed.

### Opioid settlement updates

Elin Alm from the Attorney General's office presented an update on the settlements. The settlement with CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart has been finalized. North Dakota could start seeing payments this year.

### Updates from the State Investment Board

Amy Lies, Opioid Addiction Administrator, Behavioral Health Division, DHHS and Committee Administrator provided information regarding the investment of the opioid settlement funds. The funds are not currently being invested. By reaching out to the State Investment Board, the process to invest the funds has now begun. Amy will provide an update at the next meeting.

### ND Opioid Settlement Fund (OSF) Grant

Amy Lies, Opioid Addiction Administrator, Behavioral Health Division, DHHS and Committee Administrator provided information to the committee regarding the grant. The Behavioral Health Division (BHD) announced the OSF grant in November and received 65 applications for opioid settlement funds. BHD awarded 14 agencies. No further funding is available for the grant and therefore has been closed for any application submissions. More information can be viewed here: [www.hhs.nd.gov/news/hhs-announces-nd-opioid-settlement-fund-grant-awards](http://www.hhs.nd.gov/news/hhs-announces-nd-opioid-settlement-fund-grant-awards)

### Committee Discussion

The committee agreed to add the following items to the next meeting agenda:

- Update on the investment of funds

- Report from BHD on OSF Grant efforts including funds expended and any success stories
- Presentation from local subdivisions to learn more about local settlement funds
- Presentation from a Syringe Service Program to learn more
- Discuss the recommendations from the committee for the next legislative session

Information on the discussions in Grand Forks regarding Syringe Service Programs was provided.

**Public Comment**

John Greenwood from Gold Finch Health commended the state of ND on the structure and process of distributing opioid settlement funds.

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

The next meeting will be held in April with exact date to be determined.

**Adjournment:** Having completed the agenda items and hearing no further comments from Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee members, Lt. Governor Tammy Miller, Committee Chair, adjourned at 1:30 PM CT.

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