

Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 27, 2024
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 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
- 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:

- Jonathan Holth, Managing Director, Recovery Reinvented

Welcome and call to order:

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

Meeting agenda review

Aaron Birst moved to approve the agenda. Colonel Brandon Solberg seconded the motion. 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Meeting meetings review

Pamela Sagness moved to approve the January 22, 2024 meeting minutes. Stephanie Dassinger Engebretson seconded the motion. 5 in favor 0 opposed.

Opioid settlement updates

Amy Lies, Opioid Addiction Administrator, Behavioral Health Division, DHHS and Committee Administrator provided updates on behalf of the Attorney General's office. The first year of payments were made under the Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walmart, and Walgreen settlements on February 26 and April 22, in the total amounts of approximately \$6.2 million to the state and \$1.1 million to the Counties/Cities. The State reached a settlement in the form of a Consent Judgment with Publicis Health, a marketing company that marketed opioids for several opioid manufacturers. We received full payment in the amount of approximately \$590,000 from that settlement in April.

Amy Lies also shared the state has received just over \$19 million in opioid settlement funds to date.

Updates on the investments of funds

In May 2024, the State Investment Board (SIB) approved the investment of the Opioid Settlement Fund.

ND Opioid Settlement Fund (OSF) Grant

Amy Lies provided information to the committee regarding the OSF grant. Of the approximately \$7 million allocated for the OSF Grant, \$1,330,978.85 has been spent to date. Amy highlighted early successes from the grant. The committee agreed to issue a press release to highlight the early successes.

Overview of subdivision allocation plans

Amy Lies provided updates on the division's receipt of subdivision allocations plans. 32 subdivisions have submitted an allocation plan, 25 subdivisions have not submitted an allocation plan, and 7 subdivisions did not participate in the settlement.

Fargo Cass subdivision allocation plan and Syringe Service Program

Robyn Litke-Sall shared plans for the City of Fargo and Cass County's local settlement allocation. Much of the funding will be used to support the local Syringe Service Program. Robyn shared information about the Syringe Service Program.

Wells County subdivision allocation plan

Jordan Beckley and Caitlynn Roemmich shared plans for Wells County's local settlement allocation. A small portion will be used to support All of Us in Recovery to implement recovery services in the county with a larger portion used to implement an evidence-based program called Keepin' it Real in schools. Jordan shared information about the program.

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

The committee discussed the need to invest in sustainable efforts, one being any necessary policy change. Additionally, workforce and prevention were discussed as needing to continually be prioritized. Committee members agreed that receiving input from the public and sharing of best practices may help guide future work with settlement funds. Committee members will connect with partners and bring information relevant to the upcoming legislative session to the next meeting.

Committee Discussion

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

- Update on the settlement including payments received to date, schedule of payments, and anticipated future payments
- Update on the investment of funds including DHHS' strategy and process
- Update on the OSF Grant including an update on grantee progress towards proposed strategies
- Discuss recommendations for the 69th Legislative Assembly and review term limits in NDCC 50-36.
- Plan from DHHS to bring the public together to share best practices and input for future spending
- Presentation from two of the OSF grantees with one being Heartview's TAAP program.

Public Comment

None.

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

The next meeting will be held in August, 2024 at the Capitol.

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 2:30 PM CT.

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