

Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council (OERAC)

Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2024

Meeting Location: Hybrid meeting using WebEx and in-person at Wright County Government Center- 3650 Braddock Ave NE, Conference Room 1103, Buffalo, MN.

Members present: (Names in italics are non-voting OERAC members)

Remote: Brock Reed, Dr. Heather Bell, Sadie Broekemeier, Irene Folstrom, Rep. Erin Koegel, Jack Martin, Senator Kelly Morrison, Dr. Charles Reznikoff, Judge Nicole Starr, Dr. Antony Stately

In person: Joe Clubb, Rep. Dave Baker, Dr. Ashwin George, Sarah Grosshuesch, Toni Napier, Dr. Kathy Nevins, Kristi Schoen, *Jolene Rebertus, Dana Farley, Eric Grumdahl*

Members not present:

Pam Hughes, Senator Bill Lieske, Peter Carlson

State Staff Members Present: Alicia Baker, Jeff Campe, Amanda Langston, Laura Farlow, Sam Nord

Guest Speakers: Becky Graham, Ellie Vanasse, Mary DeLaquil, Hannah Millang, Perry Moore, Kari Irber

Call to order

Facilitator Stacy Sjogren began the meeting at 10:00 am, reviewed the OERAC mission, the meeting ground rules and gave a guest welcome. The meeting agenda was confirmed, and a roll call followed. Quorum was secured. See voting log for details.

Public Comment

Facilitator, Stacy Sjogren, welcomed public comment at 10:10AM.

- Colleen Ronni, Executive Director of Change the Outcome. Thanked legislative members on OERAC. Discussed bill that makes an adjustment to Steve's Law. At the time of the meeting, the bill was still in committee. Highlighted a new documentary the organization is using in classrooms with a free screening available in late April.

Facilitator welcomed public comment at 1:50PM.

- Will Lycan, Executive Director of Minnesota Association of Sober Homes (MASH). Advocated for the importance of safe and ethical sober homes that are certified, trained, and inspected. Discussed limited capacity in Minnesota and the need for culturally specific and geographically specific recovery homes.
- Paul Ostrow, Chair of Fentanyl Free Communities. Discussed Minnesota Office of Addiction and Recovery's goal of a 5% reduction of opioid deaths in next 3 years. Emphasized the importance and urgency of overdose prevention efforts.

Business items

Minutes approval: Kristi Schoen moved to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Toni Napier. Motion passed with roll call vote. See voting log for details.

Bylaws: First change to bylaws since originally written. Joe Clubb motioned to approve; Kristi Schoen seconded. Motion did not carry. DHS staff will create comparison document of bylaws, not changing any language but highlighting changes that have been made. Vote moved May meeting.

Update on 2023 RFP OERAC Grants: Amanda Langston presented an overview of the 2023 OERAC grants. All contracts have been executed. The list of grantees was provided in a handout to council members and provided in the room for the public.

Thank-you letters from organizations – some are being mailed to OERAC Chairs, other notes are being collected. Will be shared with council members.

IAA Update: Dana Farley gave an update on the inter-agency agreement (IAA). Staff is meeting with representatives of Minnesota Tribal Nations to develop agreements. Substantial update will be given in June meeting.

OERAC Webpage: Reminder to council members to fill out survey to create member bios for the OERAC webpage.

Wright County Settlements Presentation

Presentation by Wright County staff members, Becky Graham, PHN and Ellie Vanasse, PHN, Chief Strategists for Wright County Opioid Settlement Advisory Council. Presented overview on Wright County Opioid Settlement Advisory Council creation and priorities. Provided information for the community prioritizations and how that was incorporated into the RFP.

The Wright County Settlements packet can be found on the Wright County website.

SUDORS Data Sharing

Presentation by Mary DeLaquil, DHS Drug Overdose Epidemiologist. Presented information from the Minnesota State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System

Overview of Opiate Fund

Presentation by Hannah Millang, MMB Executive Budget Officer, on an overview of the Opiate Fund.

- Forecast information released every February and November. State and counties receive information at same time.
- Opiate fund (2005 fund) comprised of two sources, license and fee revenue and opiate settlement revenue.
- Distributing license and fee revenue to OERAC.
 - Direct appropriations to MMB, DHS, Board of Pharmacy, and DPS. Remaining fund is split equally between county and tribal child protective programs and OERAC.
- Distributing settlement funds to OERAC.
 - Appropriations to DHS for administration. Tribal social services allocation is equal to their allocation from license and fee revenue. Remaining funds are allocated to OERAC.
- Funding is available for 3 years. If not used, it would reset to the 2005 Opiate fund.

Traditional Healing Grants Presentation

Presentation by Perry Moore, DHS Traditional Healing Program Coordinator.

Currently securing next 5 years of contracts. Greater sense of trust in program has been growing, especially with respectful distance of oversight by state.

Legislative Session Update

Representative Erin Koegel and Representative Dave Baker gave update on current bills moving through the Minnesota Legislature. Topics included Interlock Bill, Sober Homes, Peer Recovery Specialists, LADCs, and the Sunset on licensing fees.

Quarterly Financial Update

Kari Irber, DHS Budget and Finance Director presented information on OERAC financials.

- Funds are received in September and October. Appropriations are effective for 3 Fiscal Years and the year of appropriation counts as the first year. The OERAC Financial Statement, including FY2022-FY2024, was presented.

Joe Clubb, Vice Chair, began conversation regarding leftover funds from Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 and FY2023 which amounts to \$871,959. It is possible for OERAC to use this funding to extend existing programs, apply to next round of RFP, or make an allocation with the funds.

- *Member comments: Martin, Clubb, Nevins, Grumdahl, Reed, Stately, George, Broekemeier*
- Kari Irber and Jeff Campe offered expert information. If bill in current legislation withdraws \$500,000 from OERAC fund, the appropriation will likely happen July 1, 2024. Unable to save funding to allow accrual for future investments, as statute only allows funding to be effective for 3 years.

- The available revenue balance for the RFP is \$13,918,000. The additional leftover funds of \$871,959 may be applied to RFP or given through a direct allocation.
- Group discussion of OERAC funding sources and options of where to allocate funding.

Joe Clubb motioned that DHS will explore the sustainability of the Naloxone Portal funding and will report to OERAC for OERAC to make an informative funding decision. Seconded by Kathy Nevins. Motion carried with roll call vote. See voting log for details.

RFP Drafting Update

Amanda Langston, DHS staff member, provided update on OERAC RFP Drafting. Subject matter experts have completed reviews. On track to publish in June. Previous year's RFP process timeline is provided. Current year is following similar timeline.

- *Member comments: Nevins, Clubb, Baker, Broekemeier*
- Reminder that reviewers will be needed near August 2024. Approval of proposals will occur in Fall 2024.
- Discussion of delays from previous year and actions to prevent future delays.
 - Targeted communication with selected grantees and providing expectations at beginning of process.
- Discussion on if other sources of funding applicant organizations receive is asked in RFP.

Adjourn

OERAC Chair Dr. Kathy Nevins adjourned the April 2024 meeting.

Next meeting: May 17th: 12:00PM -1:00PM

Roll Call and Voting Log

April 18, 2024

P = in person R = remote participant A = absent

Member	Attendance status	Minutes approval for 3/15/24	Vote: Bylaws	Vote: Unencumbered funding – Have DHS explore current funding sources for naloxone and report in May	Vote:
Rep. Dave Baker	P	-	-	Y	
Dr. Heather Bell	R	Y	Y	-	
Sadie Broekemier	R	Y	ABSTAIN	Y	
Peter Carlson	ABSENT	-	-	-	
Joe Clubb	P	Y	Y	Y	
Irene Folstrom	R	-	-	-	
Dr. Ashwin George	P	Y	Y	Y	
Sarah Grosshuesch	P	Y	Y	Y	
Pam Hughes	ABSENT	-	-	-	
Rep. Erin Koegel	R	Y	ABSTAIN	-	
Senator Bill Lieske	ABSENT	-	-	-	
Jack Martin	R	Y	ABSTAIN	Y	
Senator Kelly Morrison	R	Y	Y	-	
Toni Napier	P	Y	Y	Y	
Dr. Kathy Nevins	P	Y	Y	Y	
Brock Reed	R	Y	ABSTAIN	Y	
Dr. Charles Reznikoff	R	-	-	-	
Kristi Schoen	P	Y	Y	Y	
Judge Nicole Starr	R	Y	ABSTAIN	Y	
Dr. Antony Stately	R	-	-	Y	
Dana Farley	P				
Jolene Rebertus	P				
Eric Grumdahl/Kristine Preston	P				
Tally	voting members present= 17 absent=3	Motion to approve: Kristi Schoen Second:	Motion: Joe Clubb Second:	Motion: Joe Clubb Second: Kathy Nevins	Motion: Second:

Roll Call and Voting Log

April 18, 2024

		Toni Napier Minutes approved	Kristi Schoen Motion did not carry, moved to May agenda	Motion approved.	
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