

Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council (OERAC)

Meeting Minutes for August 28, 2026

Meeting Location: Hybrid meeting using WebEx and in-person at Health Professional Regulatory Boards, Board of Pharmacy building: 335 Randolph Ave, St Paul, MN 55102

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

Remote: Brock Reed, Dr. Ashwin George

In person: Joe Clubb, Sarah Grosshuesch, Rep. Dave Baker, Rep. Robert Bierman, Jack Martin, James Marthaler, Dave Matteson, Richard Printon, Dr. Charles Reznikoff, Kristi Schoen, Yussuf Shafie, *Deepa McGriff, Jolene Rebertus, Jen Sather*

Members not present: Dr. Heather Bell, Curtis Jackson, Senator Zaynab Mohamed, Dr. Antony Stately, Abdirahman Warsame

State Staff Members Present: Laura Farlow, Alicia Baker

Call to order

DHS Staff Laura Farlow and Chair Joe Clubb began the meeting at 8:00 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.

Business items

Minutes approval: Sarah Grosshuesch moved to approve the minutes from the June 12, 2026 meeting. Seconded by Robert Bierman. Motion passed with roll call vote. See voting log for details.

Announced opening for nominations to the OERAC Chair and Vice Chair position

2026 Legislative Session Update

Gena Savage, DHS Behavioral Health Administration's Legislative Director, provided an overview of the 2026 Minnesota Legislative Session. Topics included the 1115 Reentry Waiver, licensed SUD programs, Peer Recovery

Services, billing limits, Recovery Residences, Substance Use Disorder Rates, and Direct payments to Tribal Behavioral Health programs.

Financial Status Update

Introduction of the DHS Behavioral Health Administration's new Budget Director, Chris Zempel. Chris Zempel reviewed the Opioid Epidemic Response Fund and the dollars available for grant making.

Bylaws Discussion and Vote

Updates to the OERAC Bylaws were discussed. These changes were presented to the Council in June 2026.

Updates included:

- Adjustment to language on Absenteeism and Removal, aligning OERAC bylaws with MN Statute 15.059.
- Language adjustment to election procedures, removing "secret ballot" language to adhere to Open Meeting Law.
- Updates to standard language referring to the State.
- Additional information to clarify that conflicts of interest are reviewed and council members are recused when necessary for RFP procedures.
- Extension of terms Council members are allowed to serve, from two terms to three terms.

Dave Baker moved to approve the Bylaws as presented. Seconded by Kristi Schoen. Motion passed with roll call vote. See voting log for details.

Adjourn

Next meeting: September 18th, 10AM – 3:30PM in St Cloud, MN.

Roll Call and Voting Log

August 28, 2026

P = in person R = remote participant A = absent Y = yes (approve)

Member	Attendance status	Minutes approval	Bylaws Vote
Joe Clubb	P	Y	Y
Sarah Grosshuesch	P	Y	Y
Rep. Dave Baker	P	Y	Y
Dr. Heather Bell	A	A	A
Rep. Robert Bierman	P	Y	Y
Dr. Ashwin George	R	Y	Y
Curtis Jackson	A	A	A
Jack Martin	P	ABSTAIN	Y
James Marthaler	P	Y	Y
Dave Matteson	P	Y	Y
Senator Zaynab Mohamed	A	A	A
Richard “Rick” Printon	P	Y	Y
Brock Reed	R	Y	Y
Dr. Charlie Reznikoff	P	Y	Y
Kristi Schoen	P	Y	Y
Yussuf Shafie	P	Y	Y
Dr. Antony Stately	A	A	A
Abdirahman Warsame	A	A	A
Deepa McGriff	P		
Jolene Rebertus	P		
Jen Sather	P		
Tally	voting members present= 13 absent= 5	Motion: Grosshuesch Second: Bierman Approved	Motion: Baker Second: Schoen Approved