

# Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council (OERAC)

## Meeting Minutes for September 20, 2024

**Meeting Location:** Hybrid meeting using WebEx and in-person at 190 Sailstar Dr NW, Downstairs Meeting Room, Cass Lake, MN 56633

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

Remote: Dr. Heather Bell, Sadie Broekemeier, Peter Carlson, Dr. Ashwin George, Senator Zaynab Mohamed, Brock Reed, Dr. Charles Reznikoff, *Jolene Rebertus, Teresa Steinmetz*

In person: Dr. Kathy Nevins, Joe Clubb, Rep. Robert Bierman, Sarah Grosshuesch, Toni Napier, Kristi Schoen, *Deepa McGriff*

**Members not present:** Rep. Dave Baker, Irene Folstrom, Pam Hughes, Senator Bill Lieske, Jack Martin, Judge Nicole Starr, Dr. Antony Stately

**State Staff Members Present:** Amanda Langston, Laura Farlow

### Call to order

Facilitator Stacy Sjogren began the meeting at 9:00 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:** Joe Clubb moved to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Peter Carlson. Motion passed with roll call vote. See voting log for details.

**New Member introduction:** OERAC Chair, Kathy Nevins, welcomed Teresa Steinmetz and Deepa McGriff as new members of the council.

**Officer nominations:** The OERAC Chair nominee, Joe Clubb, and the OERAC Vice Chair nominee, Sarah Grosshuesch, individually accepted the nomination and spoke about their commitment to OERAC. No other nominations were presented on the day of the meeting. The official vote will take place October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Tentative 2025 meeting calendar presentation:** Amanda Langston reviewed the proposed OERAC meeting calendar for 2025, which was initially presented at the August meeting. The meetings will be held from 10am – 3:30pm on the following dates: February 21<sup>st</sup>, March 21<sup>st</sup>, May 16<sup>th</sup>, July 18<sup>th</sup> (2-hour hybrid meeting), Early September (subcommittee), September 19<sup>th</sup>, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and December 5<sup>th</sup>.

- **Member comments: Mohamed, Nevins**
- There was clarification that the subcommittee is open to all OERAC members and will take place during a separate meeting in September 2025.

## Public Comment

Facilitator, Stacy Sjogren, welcomed public comment at 9:25AM.

- Abdirahman Warsame, Executive Director of Generation Hope, spoke about their organization and emphasized the need for continuum of care and more resources for people in long term recovery. He implores OERAC to take this into consideration when deciding funding.
- MJ Lansana is the Community Engagement Director for the Council for Minnesotans of African Heritage. This council advises the Minnesota Governor on legislation and are focused on policies that are people centered.

## Legislative Report Development Process and Council Recommendations Opportunity

Amanda Langston presented the 2023 OERAC Legislative Recommendations and the proposed changes for the 2024 Legislative Recommendations. The new recommendations will be available in the formal report that is finalized in January 2025. The purpose of discussion was to identify any recommendations that need to be modified, removed, or added.

- **Member comments: Nevins, Grosshuesch, Bell, Bierman, George, Reznikoff, Reed**
- OERAC Chair recommends that the 2023 recommendations be reviewed and annotated to identify which had movement in the past legislative session.
- Rep. Bierman added that there has been movement on the waiver for those coming out of incarceration and the removal of prior authorization for MOUD medication and services.
  - Clarification that “movement” in this context means that it was passed and is now in law.
- There is support for continuing the recommendation for funding mobile methadone clinics. Important to consider that clinics must have support and resources for purchasing and maintaining a vehicle.
- Discussion on the significant logistical challenges for approving sublocade to adolescents, as well as adults. Council member suggestion to adjust recommendation to account for the removal of prior authorization from all buprenorphine products was supported.
- Sustainable funding for integrating PDMP into healthcare software is still ongoing. Current funding will support project for one year. In terms of IRB-approved research, it is important that the data is protected.
- Potential progress on Good Samaritan Law language.

- Discussion about impact of Good Samaritan Law in medical settings. While some hospitals and clinics have clear guidelines to define medical intervention from good Samaritan action, other medical facilities do not have clarity.
- Council members support maintaining the recommendation for increasing reimbursement rates for providers that specialize in chronic pain management. This is a complex patient population and increased reimbursement rates are essential.

## **Adjourn**

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

Next meeting: October 25<sup>th</sup>, 10AM – 2PM in Duluth, MN.

# Roll Call and Voting Log

September 20, 2024

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

Member	Attendance status	Minutes approval
Dr. Kathy Nevins	p	y
Joe Clubb	p	y
Rep. Dave Baker	a	--
Dr. Heather Bell	p	y
Rep. Robert Bierman <i>(replacing Rep. Erin Koegel)</i>	p	y
Sadie Broekemier	p	y
Peter Carlson	p	y
Irene Folstrom	a	
Dr. Ashwin George	p	y
Sarah Grosshuesch	p	y
Pam Hughes	a	--
Senator Bill Lieske	a	--
Jack Martin	a	-
Senator Zaynab Mohamed	p	--
Toni Napier	p	y
Brock Reed	p	y
Dr. Charlie Reznikoff	p	y
Kristi Schoen	p	--
Judge Nicole Starr	a	--
Dr. Antony Stately	a	--
Deepa McGriff <i>(replacing Dana Farley)</i>	p	
Jolene Rebertus	p	
Teresa Steinmetz <i>(replacing Eric Grumdahl)</i>	p	
Tally	voting members present= 16 absent= 5	Motion to approve: Clubb Second: Carlson Minutes approved

Motion to adjourn Move – Clubb Second - Schoen