

Governor's Advisory Council on Opioids, Substance Use and Addiction

Meeting Minutes

Date: 06/07/2023
Location: In person, WebEx

Participation

Participating members

Remote: Colin Cash, Kyle Christianson, Autumn Dillie, John Donovan, Wendy Jones, Fiyyaz Karim, Anderson Saint Georges, LaTricia Tate, Arden Two Bears, and Travis Winship.

In-person: Beth Elstad, Bill Messinger, and Jeffery Lind.

Absent: Farhia Badul, Paula Lanhart, Bobby Marines, Kate Nofke, and Kimberly Stokes.

Office of Addiction and Recovery (OAR), Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) Department of Human Services (DHS), and staff: Jeremy Drucker, Jennifer Blanchard, Stacy Sjogren, Kate Eifrig, Beth Ryan, Sam Nord, and Lynn Peterson.

Presenters: Representative Dave Baker, Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council Chair (OERAC), Evan Romanoff and Eric Maloney, MN Attorney General's office, Jen Sather, DHS, Emily Lefholz, DOC, and Dana Farley, MDH.

Welcome and Opening Announcements

Members and guests were welcomed, and the new Chair, Beth Elstad, providing opening remarks.

Opening remarks and review of agenda:

- Agenda and objective for the meeting were reviewed. OAR director, Jeremy Drucker, asked members to confirm move to 4-hour meetings and announced the office will be moving to MMB as of July 1st, 2023.

Council education and engagement

Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council Chair Representative Dave Baker: Representative Dave Baker provided an overview and background of OERAC, shared their priorities, results of the legislation session and

noted a desire to establish on-going communication between the two councils. He also shared that OERAC is adding another tribal representative member to their council.

Council Logistics and organizational Activities

Roll call and introductions: Roll call was taken, and introductions were made.

Approve minutes:

- Members voted to approve April 2023 meeting minutes.

Select vice chair:

- Collin Cash was elected as Vice Chair.

Finalize charter:

- The charter was approved as presented.

Review SharePoint site:

- Jennifer Blanchard gave an overview of the new member SharePoint site and reminded members of the necessary training process before gaining access.

Council education and engagement

Presentations and discussion:

- Attorney General's Office, Teva Settlement – Evan Romanoff and Eric Maloney presented a slide desk on the upcoming settlement decisions that the state of Minnesota will be engaged in. They asked the council to provide initial feedback and offered an opportunity to provide additional written feedback. The council members will receive a follow-up email with instructions to provide written feedback.
- Results of the legislative session – Jeremy Drucker provided an overview of results from the 2023 legislation session, noting the unprecedented historic investments in substance use disorder and recovery services. 2023 budget invests of over \$200M over four years. He also shared that the budget includes an appropriation for a permanent OAR, including 5 FTEs and funds to create an all-SUD funding database. Jen Sather, DHS provided an overview of the behavioral health investments, sharing a list of session results. Emily Lefholz, from the Department of Corrections provided an overview of the organization's SUD-related activities and the impact of the session results on those activities. Dana Farley, MDH, provided a high-level overview of the public health investments made during the session.
- Subcabinet priorities – Jeremy Drucker provided an update on the initial planning and areas of focus for the subcabinet. Each focus area will be assigned an action team. Initial action teams will focus on unsheltered populations, justice-involved populations, and "phase 2" youth addiction and recovery.
- Council discussion on priorities.

Council priorities discussion:

- The Advisory Council participated in a discussion using an online platform to share written feedback on how members thought the legislative session results and emerging focus of the Subcabinet effort could inform the work of the council in 2023-2024. Results of the discussion will be synthesized and shared with the chair and vice chair to inform planning for the next council meeting.

Public comment

No public commentors.

Next meeting and adjourn

The Advisory Council meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 2, 2023, from 10:00 – 3:00 pm. The meeting will be in-person in Duluth.