

Nebraska Opioid Settlement Remediation Advisory Committee Meeting
August 1, 2022
Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Offices, 1335 H Street, Lincoln, NE
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

1. Open Meetings Act Statements:

Chairperson Todd Stull called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Chair Stull informed attendees that the meeting follows the **Open Meetings Act**, which was posted at the front sign-in table and can be found at <https://ago.nebraska.gov/open-meetings>.

2. Establishment of a Quorum/Member Roll Call:

Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was determined to exist, with 17 voting members present. There are 24 initial voting members, therefore, quorum would be 13 members present.

Voting Members

Members in Attendance: Ann Anderson-Berry, Susanna Batterman, Kevin Borchert, Yohance Christie, Sara Howard, Brandon Kelliher, Christopher Kratochvil, Paul Lambert, Charity Menefee, Neil Miller, Marcia Mueting, Amy Reynoldson, Cory Schmidt, Deb Schorr, Jason Scott, Kevin Spencer, Todd Stull, Davidson Wissing.

Members Absent: Mary Ann Borgeson, Jerome Kramer, Dana Miller, Brandon Pete, Helen Stockman, Bill Tielke.

Non-Voting Attendees

Members in Attendance: Sabrina Beck, Morgan Bletscher, Nathaniel Cacy, Kim Engel, Suzanne Gage, Zack Hicks, Christina Hitz, Jeri Keller-Heuke, Don Lease, Joseph LeDuc, Doug Peterson, Tabi Prochazka, Traci Reuter, Raj Selvaraj, Joshua Shasserre, Joni Street, Danielle Wing.

3. Opening Remarks/Announcements:

Chair Stull stated that any public attendees would be able to make comments during the allotted period at 11:00 a.m. Public attendees were reminded to sign in at the front if they wished to make comments, or if attending virtually, to let the moderator know via the virtual chat box.

Documents pertaining to these meetings, including agendas, past meeting minutes and virtual attendance links, can be found on the DHHS Division of Behavioral Health website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Opioid-Settlement-Workgroup.aspx>. Upcoming meeting information can also be found on the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar at <https://www.nebraska.gov/calendar/index.cgi>.

4. Approval of July meeting minutes:

Chair Stull presented the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes for review and confirmed that voting members had reviewed these. Chair Stull asked if there were any corrections or comments. Hearing none, Chair Stull asked for a motion to accept the July 11, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion was made and seconded to accept the July 11, 2022 minutes. Motion was approved by roll call vote, with 15 ayes and 2 abstains.

5. Conflicts of Interest Disclosures Follow Up:

Chair Stull reminded committee members to complete a *Conflict of Interest Disclosure* form and return to Jeri Keller-Heuke at DHHS Division of Behavioral Health. There are paper copies available at today's meeting. These disclosures will also be emailed out again after the meeting. Those members who have not yet completed a form are asked to do so by the September meeting.

6. Data Overview-Continuation of Zack Hicks's Report

Zack Hicks, Epidemiologist, from DHHS Division of Behavioral Health presented the "Use of Population Health Surveys and Online CDC Mortality Data for Nebraska Overdose Tracking", highlighting the data collection process and use of health surveys. Questions and discussion focused on data availability, risk factors and potential gaps in data. Links to surveys discussed will be sent out to attendees.

Public Comment Period

Joseph LeDuc, a Nebraska citizen, shared his concern for the overprescribing of opioids and thanked the committee for their work.

Joni Street, Pharmacist with CHI Health, commented that Naloxone/Narcan and medication-assisted treatments are highly effective in combating opioid addictions and overdoses. Ms. Street recommended that the Nebraska state statute regulating Naloxone/Narcan distribution be reviewed and possibly updated to clear any ambiguity in the dispensing of Naloxone/Narcan. Ms. Street inquired as to whether opioid settlement funds could be used to provide more Naloxone/Narcan to distributors.

Traci Reuter, from CHI Health St. Mary's, shared the concern that some hospitals and emergency departments do not dispense Naloxone/Narcan. Ms. Reuter advocated for more education and access to Naloxone/Narcan.

Don Lease, a Nebraska citizen, shared the opinion that the various areas of the state should be able to make their own decisions as to the spending of settlement funds. Mr. Lease stated that parts of the state lack easy access to treatment facilities or housing for homeless addicts who are seeking treatment.

There was no additional public comment.

7. Q & A with Joshua Shasserre and Sheri Dawson

Joshua Shasserre, Nebraska Attorney General's Chief of Staff, noted that there have been some news releases related to funds being disbursed from three other settlement agreements. Discussion focused on the funds allocation rules as set forth in the settlement agreement.

8. Subcommittee Updates/Reports:

- Data/Needs Assessment Subcommittee—Dr. Ann Anderson-Berry stated that the Data/Needs Assessment Subcommittee has not met recently, but they have identified some gaps in the data necessary to create a needs assessment. Additional information will be requested from Joshua Shasserre and Sheri Dawson.
- Disbursement Criteria Subcommittee—The Disbursement Criteria Subcommittee is moving forward with creating application and scoring templates to be used in the disbursement process.
- Outcomes Measurements Subcommittee—There were no updates from the Outcomes Measurements Subcommittee.

9. New Business

Conflict of Interest Disclosures are due to Jeri Keller-Heuke by the September meeting.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Nebraska Opioid Settlement Remediation Advisory Committee is scheduled for Monday, September 11, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., at the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Offices, 1335 H Street, Lincoln, NE. This meeting is being moved back one week due to Labor Day occurring on September 5th (the first Monday of the month). This meeting is being extended from two hours to three hours, due to the anticipated amount of discussion regarding Needs Assessments.

September agenda items to include:

- Conflict of Interest Disclosures

- Continuation of discussion surrounding Needs Assessments

Adjourn

Due to the length of the meeting, the committee voted by acclamation to adjourn. Chair Stull declared the meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.