

## Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

**Date:** 8/18/2025

**Location and Time:** Via Microsoft Teams 10 – noon

**Present:** Kelly Dougherty, Kristin Atwood, Shawn Burke, Daniel Franklin, Liz McLoughlin, Jess Kirby, Deb Wright, Ruth Hardy, Monica Hutt, Eric Maguire, Madeline Motta, Matt Prouty, Stacey Sigmon

**Absent:** Heather Stein, MD

**Meeting Facilitator and Note Taker:** Kelly Dougherty, Sarah Gregorek

Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
Advisory Committee new members	Kelly introduced two new members to the committee: Daniel Franklin from VAMHAR and Commander Matthew Prouty from the City of Rutland	
New Agenda item Review the ACLU's proposed edits to the written policies and procedures; Proposed Executive Session to receive legal guidance on ACLU's proposed edits to the written procedures and response	Lauren Layman asked the committee if they would be willing to add an agenda item to review the ACLU's proposed edits to the OSAC written procedures, offered as part of a settlement in the matter of <i>American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Vermont v. Vermont Department of Health et al</i> , and to propose to meet in Executive Session with Assistant Attorney General David Groff, who is representing the Committee in the ACLU lawsuit, to receive legal guidance in the matter.  Deb Wright made a motion to add an agenda item to discuss ACLU proposed edits to OSAC written procedures and Proposed Executive Session, Liz McLoughlin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.	
Written policies and procedures for	Lauren Layman made some amendments to the written operating policies and procedures based on the feedback she received from committee members including amendments that would address the following:	See Committee and ACLU's recommended changes/additions to

<p>committee, 18 VSA 4772(f)(3) Lauren Layman</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice chair and responsibilities</li> <li>• Definition of meeting</li> <li>• Committee member additions to meeting agendas</li> <li>• Public comment</li> <li>• Voting processes for preliminary review of applications and final approval of recommendations (amendments reflected in draft written procedures)</li> </ul> <p>Jess Kirby asked that we include language in the policy about encouraging organizations to appoint members with lived experience (or family members of those with lived experience) and to state that the two seats appointed from VAMHAR and Howard Center are members with lived experience with opioid use disorder.</p> <p>Monica Hutt requested that we include that the committee has the authority to set a deadline by which all committee members shall review and vote on the proposals.</p> <p>AAG David Groff shared the ACLU's suggested changes to the draft written procedures during the meeting. The ACLU made its suggestions as part of a settlement offer in the matter of <i>ACLU v. Vermont Department of Health et al</i> and waived its right to confidentiality with regard to this specific settlement offer.</p>	<p>the written procedures document.</p>
<p>Review FY 2027 Proposal for Funding Application – Kelly Dougherty</p>	<p>Kelly shared the draft FY2027 proposal for funding application with the committee for their feedback. Liz McLoughlin had some feedback on the application and would like proposals to include a partner letter of support from either a municipality or partner organization. She also included application criteria and scoring for the committee to consider. It was also recommended that the application specifically state that grants are issued on an annual basis and ongoing funding is not guaranteed. We will continue to ask if a project will require ongoing funding as a point of consideration.</p>	<p>The funding application will be posted on the web site by 8/29/25.</p>

	<p>Do we want to prioritize one time funding or ongoing funding?</p> <p>Some proposals are being funded year after year by legislation and that could become a problem because these funds are not unlimited. The statute does say that priority should be for ongoing initiatives. Senator Hardy suggested that the committee base its funding decisions on available funding annually. Monica Hutt mentioned that the committee should review funding that has been appropriated but not spent so that it can be reallocated to another program.</p> <p>Senator Hardy made a motion that the Department of Health, Deputy Commissioner Dougherty and her team be given the authority to revise the application as discussed today and make it available to the public by August 29, 2025. Liz McLoughlin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.</p>	
Budget Presentation – Kelly Dougherty	Kelly presented a summary of how much has been appropriated and obligated from the opioid abatement settlement fund by the General Assembly and the Department to date. It does not include the total the Department has received from the fund. As of now, there is approximately \$6.3 million that has not been appropriated or obligated by the General Assembly and the Department.	Refer to Document posted with the minutes.
Decriminalization caused major rises in crime in both Oregon and Washington state article – Deb Wright	We didn't get to this agenda item. It will be placed on the September agenda.	
Public Comment	Ed Baker – Mr. Baker provided a summary of the ACLU litigation and the causes thereof	
Proposed Executive Session	Deb Wright made a motion to move into executive session via 1 VSA 313 (a)1 (f) for the purposes of the committee receiving confidential client/attorney information. Representative Maguire seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.	

Executive Session	The Committee entered executive session at 12:05pm and the executive session ended at 1:00pm.	
Next Meeting	September 15, 2025, 10 - noon	