

Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council
**This public meeting of the Council was hosted on WebEx and in room 1011 of
the LBJ State Office Building.**

Minutes from the September 25, 2023, Council Meeting

Pursuant to the notice of a public meeting, filed with and posted by the Office of the Secretary of State on September 15, 2023, Comptroller Glenn Hegar called the meeting of the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council (“Council”) to order at 10:14 a.m., on Monday, September 25, 2023.

Members Present:

Comptroller Glenn Hegar
Emmanuel Elueze, M.D.
Robert Guevara, M.D.
Lori K. Holleran Steiker, Ph.D., A.C.S.W.
John G. Mills, D.O.
John “Scott” Milton, M.D.
Sanjay P. Patel, M.D.
J. Douglas Thornton, Pharm.D., Ph.D., B.C.P.S.
Denise Wilkes, M.D., Ph.D.
Katherine L. Yoder, M.B.A.
Carrie de Moor, M.D.

Members Absent: Ronald P. “Ronnie” Enriquez, Jr.; Pedro J. Fernandez, M.D.; James Muns, M.D.

The Comptroller noted that a quorum was present for the Council to conduct the business posted in the notice of the meeting.

There being a quorum present, the following business was discussed:

The Comptroller introduced Amanda Lopez, Director of the Opioid Abatement Fund Council Program, to present administrative support and implementation efforts for Council.

The Comptroller presented the minutes of the June 8, 2023, Council meeting for approval. Ms. Yoder moved to adopt the minutes and Dr. Holleran Steiker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council discussed the possibility of creating additional working groups. Dr. Mills moved to create the Notice of Funding Availability Working Group, which would include Dr. Lori Holleran Steiker, Dr. John Mills, Dr. Sanjay Patel, Dr. Douglas Thornton and Katherine Yoder. Dr. de Moor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Yoder moved to create the Short-term Strategies and Research Working Group, which would include Dr. Lori Holleran Steiker, Dr. John Mills, and Katherine Yoder. Dr. Thornton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council heard from Ms. Lopez regarding plans to create roundtable discussion groups for connecting with stakeholders.

The Comptroller called on Ms. Lopez to present the FY 2023 revenue and expenditures from settlement agreements and court orders.

The Comptroller announced that the next Council meetings are tentatively scheduled for October 25, 2023, and November 28, 2023.

The Comptroller opened discussion for each working group to provide updates on their work. Bobby Joe Dale, policy advisor for the Government Affairs and Programs Division, spoke on the Hospital District Formula Working Group. Angelica (AJ) Inglis, communications and community engagement specialist, shared updates on the Peer Review Working Group. Ms. Lopez provided updates from the Cycles and Strategies Working Group. The Council discussed the updates provided from the working groups and directed staff to prepare a draft proposed rule for the hospital district formula.

At 11:01 am, the Council moved into executive session to receive legal advice from its attorneys concerning updates from the Code of Ethics Working Group under Government Code, Section 551.071, regarding legal matters. The Council reconvened in open session at 11:52 am.

Ms. Yoder moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Elueze seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Lopez
Director, Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council