

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 November 28, 2023, Council Meeting

Pursuant to the notice of a public meeting, filed with and posted by the Office of the Secretary of State on November 16, 2023, Comptroller Glenn Hegar called the meeting of the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council (“Council”) to order at 10:01 a.m., on Tuesday, November 28, 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.
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.
Ronald P. “Ronnie” Enriquez, Jr.;
James Muns, M.D.
Pedro J. Fernandez, M.D.
John “Scott” Milton, M.D.
Sanjay P. Patel, 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 presented the minutes of the November 28, 2023, Council meeting for approval. Dr. Mill moved to adopt the minutes and Ms. Yoder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council discussed the publication of new 34 Texas Administrative Code §16.222 as a proposed administrative rule to implement the hospital district formula procedure. David Zimmerman provided a summary of the proposed rule and a tentative timeline of implementation of the rule. The Council discussed and asked questions about the proposed rule. Dr. Holleran Steiker moved to submit the proposed rule for publication to the Texas Register for a 30-day comment period in substantially the same form as included in the council meeting materials and Dr. Thornton seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed with Ms. Yoder abstaining from voting.

The Comptroller introduced Dr. Serena Rodriguez of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health, who discussed the findings of a literature review of opioid abatement strategies. The Council asked questions and discussed the information presented.

The Comptroller introduced Amanda Lopez, Director of the Opioid Abatement Fund Council Program, who presented the preliminary analysis of the O AFC program public survey of funding priorities.

The Comptroller opened discussion for each working group to provide updates on their work. Ms. Lopez shared updates on the Short-term Strategies and Research Working Group, including the proposed opioid abatement strategies and grant plan for consideration for the Council. The Council discussed the updates provided from the working groups. Dr. Mills moved to adopt the funding strategies and grant plan and Mr. Enriquez seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Lopez provided updates from the Notice of Funding Available and Cycles and Strategies Working Group.

The Comptroller called on Ms. Lopez to present administrative support and implementation efforts for Council.

The Comptroller called on Ms. Lopez, who presented the FY 2023 revenue and expenditures from settlement agreements and court orders.

The Comptroller announced that the next Council meetings is tentatively scheduled for January 24, 2024.

Ms. Yoder moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Mills seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Lopez
Director, Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council