

**New Hampshire Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission  
Regular Meeting  
Department of Justice, 1 Granite Place South, Concord, NH  
July 08, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Attending In-person:**

Senator Cindy <b>Rosenwald</b>	Commission Chair
James <b>Boffetti</b>	Attorney General's Designee
Jill <b>Burke</b>	Rep. Jennifer Sabin, DHHS Commissioner's Designee
Elizabeth <b>Dragon</b>	Governor Appointed, City with <75k
Jason <b>Henry</b>	Governor Appointed, County Corrections Superintendent
Kathryn <b>Kindopp</b>	Governor Appointed, County Nursing Home Supervisor
Rachel <b>Miller</b>	State Treasury
David <b>Nagel MD</b>	Representative, NH House of Representatives
Toni <b>Pappas</b>	Governor Appointed, County of +100k
Emily <b>Rice</b>	Governor's Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs Appointed
<b>Dr. Seddon Savage</b>	Governor's Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs Appointed
Peter <b>Spanos</b>	Governor Appointed, County of <100k

**Attending Virtually:**

Bobbie <b>Bagley</b>	Governor Appointed, City with 75k+
Traci <b>Fowler</b>	NH Charitable Foundation
Paul <b>Raymond</b>	Rep. Helen Hanks Commissioner, Department of Corrections

**Absent:**

Patricia <b>Conway</b>	Governor Appointed, County Attorney
Dave <b>Mara</b>	Governor's Designee
Bianca <b>Monroe</b>	Attorney General Appointed
Ellen <b>Riiska</b>	New Hampshire School Administrators Association Appointed
Kevin <b>Rourke</b>	Governor Appointed, Municipal Police Chief
Patrick <b>Tufts</b>	Chair of the Governor's Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs
James <b>Watkins</b>	Governor Appointed, Municipal Fire Chief
<b>VACANT</b>	Governor Appointed, Town with <20k

## **Welcome and Roll Call**

- Senator Rosenwald opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. with a roll call. A quorum<sup>1</sup> was established at that time.
- Those attending virtually for the following reasons:
  - Bobbie Bagley has job responsibilities that require leaving early and driving to Concord to attend this meeting in-person would prevent this from happening.
  - Traci Fowler has to remain at home due to childcare needs/duties.
  - Paul Raymond does not attend large public meetings to protect immune-suppressed family member.

## **Adoption of Minutes from March 11, May 13, and June 10, 2024**

- Motion: Commissioner Jason Henry motioned to adopt all three meeting minutes without correction with Commissioner Rachel Miller seconded the motion.
- Outcome: Commission members voted 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstain.

## **Open to Public Comment**

- No public comment was made.
- Commissioner Traci Fowler would like the Commission to consider developing some external/public-facing communications that would:
  - Provide the public with more information so they have an understanding about monies received, the allocation of the monies, and why it is important.
  - Draft press release(s) over the coming weeks to detail and educate about the housing contracts that were recently approved at Governor & Council (G&C).
  - Create website callout(s) which are a good way to highlight particular information within a webpage, and can be shared by partners/providers on their websites.
  - Discussion to be continued at the August Commission meeting.

## **Update on Housing Contract Awards**

- Contracts were passed at the June 26, 2024 Governor & Council (G&C).
- [MOU-2025-DBH-06-SUPPO-01](#)
  - NH Housing Finance Authority
  - \$6 Million per Year
  - State Fiscal Years 2025, 2026, and 2027
- [MOU-2025-DBH-07-EXPAN-01](#)
  - NH Judicial Branch
  - NH Department of Corrections
  - \$6.75 Million Total
  - State Fiscal Years 2025, 2026, and 2027
- NHPR picked up NH Department of Corrections.
- Supportive housing is recognized as an ongoing need by public councils.
- The MOU with NH Housing Finance Authority outlines the creation of a housing advisory committee, and will require some of the members from this Commission to be a part of that committee as well. This committee will begin meeting within 30 days from the commencement of the MOU.

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<sup>1</sup> Eleven members constitutes a quorum pursuant to RSA 126-A: 85, IV.

### **Update on Settlements and Funds Distribution**

- No new funds were received since the Commission meeting in June, a payment from the settlement is due later this month, and more payments from other settlements will be scheduled shortly.
- To date, \$81 Million has been received from opioid settlements, \$12.2 Million has been distributed to qualifying subdivisions, and roughly \$68 Million has been deposited into the dedicated Opioid Abatement Trust Fund.
- Subdivisions will be submitting their annual reporting requirements in September, then all these reports will be made available on the [Opioid Abatement webpage](#).
- Purdue Pharma Update and Supreme Court Decision:
  - In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court struck down the Purdue Pharma bankruptcy plan ([https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-124\\_8nk0.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-124_8nk0.pdf)).
  - The Supreme Court asserts that bankruptcy is decided by the courts with all financials being sent in and the courts considering and devising a bankruptcy plan as well as then releasing that person from their loans/leases.
  - In the case of Purdue Pharma, the Sacklers had not filed for bankruptcy or disclosed all their assets for distribution to creditors, yet they were expecting to be released from loans/leases as well as preventing future lawsuits from being filed.
- \$2.5 Million will be voted on at the next fiscal meeting, this will be to fund the expense of the Opioid Abatement Program Specialist position and all associated costs of that role as well as the second position that supports the Opioid Abatement work which is currently posted for applications and waiting to be filled.
- No other indirect costs are being incurred by DHHS at this time, and the Commission wants to be notified when this funding will be transferred (ongoing basis).
- Motion: Attorney James Boffetti motioned to require DHHS to submit for approval prior to making a money transfer with Commissioner Jason Henry seconded the motion.
- Outcome: Commission members voted 14 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstain.

### **Update on RFP for Facilitating Organization (FO)**

- DHHS held an internal kick-off meeting with the Contracts Unit and the Finance Department to discuss the requirements and structure of this Request For Proposal (RFP).
- A high level summary of this RFP will be presented by DHHS to the Commission in a future meeting with further updates being offered in August.

### **Discussion of Additional Reporting Requirements & Format for Grantees**

- The first year of grant reporting has been requested and grantees are expected to submit their annual reports by August to DHHS for review and completeness.
- Commissioner Jennifer Sabin had asked about any formatting and/or other requirements that the Commission has determined should be a requirement as part of the reporting.
- Would like to see numbers/data clearly identified and outlined, and do not need any narrative that has already been included within their initial application.

### **Update on New Position at DHHS**

- It has been posted internally, if a candidate is not chosen during the internal process, the position will then be posted for external applicants to apply.

- There has been one internal applicant that will be scheduled for an interview.
- Anticipating having the position filled by mid-August, early September.

#### **Date of Next Meeting and Discussion Topics**

- Next meeting will be 8/12/2024 at 1:00 p.m.
- Senator Rosenwald will be virtual for the next meeting, requested that Representative Dave Nagel, MD facilitate it being an in-person attendee.
- Further discussion on external communications and ways to improve public awareness.
- Update on the Facilitating Organization (FO) RFP.
- Updates on funding.

#### **Adjournment**

- At the call of the Chair, the meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.