

Tennessee Opioid Abatement Council Emergency Meeting

Date	February 22, 2024
Time	8:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m. CST
Location	OAC Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Council Members Present Via Microsoft Teams: Stephen Loyd, Armando Fuentes, Brian Buuck, Casey Cox, Charme Allen, Clay Jackson, Karen Pershing, Ken Moore, Lisa Tipton, Mike Flynn, Shayne Sexton, Timothy Fournet, Thomas Farmer, Wayne Wyckoff, Stephanie Vanterpool, Sam Boukli

Guest Attending via Microsoft Teams: Tricia Christiansen, Christi Grantstaff, Casey Cox, Amy Brown, Laura Durham, Sarah McCall, Ben & Destiny Thompson, Nikki Kamar, Beth Lentchner, Channie Cretsinger, Ken Trogdon, Jim Roberts, Samuel McMaster, Taryn Sloss, Kristopher McNeil, Chad Elkin, Alysia Smith Knight, McCaa Russum, Cathy Mitchell, Chris Gobble, Sarah Tanksley, Deanne Rease, R. Lyle Cooper, Mary Linden, Janet Lynn Brewer, Dorothy Greene, Holly Jones, Carol Copley, Joyce Washington, Peter J. Phillips, Clark Flatt, Kathleen Collins, Richard Taylor, Rhonda Roper, Andi Clements, Jeremy Kourvelas, Zhi Chen, Chloe Ligon, Meagan Kelley, Liz Beatty, Kim Linkel, Amanda Dunlap, Lee Dilworth, Bill Taylor

Staff: Mary Shelton, Ella Reding, Elizabeth Rickman-Vaden, Sejal West, David Sappington, Mark Carrillo

Presenter	Topic	Discussion
M. Shelton	Welcome, Introductions & Council Roll Call	The meeting was called to order and M. Shelton welcomed guests, presenters, and members. M. Shelton conducted roll call for attendance of Council members.
M. Shelton	Agenda	<p>M. Shelton read the Emergency Meeting Necessity Statement and explained the reasoning to expedite the planning and design of the Community Grant process.</p> <p>She also introduced Sam Boukli as legal counsel present to provide legal guidance.</p> <p>M. Shelton reviewed the agenda to address first, the Meharry Rise Project which had been tabled on February 8th and second, 2024 Community Grant Budget.</p> <p>M. Shelton then turned the floor over to S. Loyd.</p>
S. Loyd M. Shelton	Meharry Rise Project & Motion	M. Shelton briefly reviewed the OAC history of Expediated Review Process which was approved on October 2, 2023 and recognized 29 Harm Reduction applications to be considered.

	<p>Out of the 29 applications 3 were approved. The OAC Office assigned the three applications for scoring and requested an Expedited Review.</p> <p>At the December 14th meeting, the OAC approved the expedited review of the 3 applications which met criteria.</p> <p>Only one of the three had an average score of 85 and it was the Meharry Rise Project.</p> <p>February 8, 2024 Motions for Expedited Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• S. Loyd made the motion to approve the Meharry RISE Project• A. Fontes seconded the motion• T. Fournet made a motion to table the motion• C. Allen seconded to table the motion• S. Loyd advised motion to table carries. <p>Discussion and Decision Point</p> <p>S. Loyd advised the floor is now open to untable the motion.</p> <p>T. Farmer made a motion to untable the motion.</p> <p>S. Loyd seconded the motion.</p> <p>M. Shelton proceeded with a roll call vote.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p> <p>S. Loyd advised the floor is now open for another motion.</p> <p>K. Moore made a motion to move that the Meharry RISE Project be approved.</p> <p>A. Fontes seconded the motion.</p> <p>S. Loyd opened the floor for discussion.</p>
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	<p>K. Moore commented the benefits he felt the Meharry RISE Project would bring to the state and felt it should be moved on.</p> <p>L. Tipton noted that she did not score the Meharry RISE Project. She further discussed that all 95 counties health department are already making Naloxone available along with the anti-drug coalition also make it available.</p> <p>L. Tipton noted she supported getting Naloxone out to the public, but she is not in favor of this proposal.</p> <p>T. Farmer advised he had concerns about the Expedited Review Process for this project and felt it should be placed back with the other proposals.</p> <p>S. Loyd questioned if the Meharry RISE Project is not approved as expedited application would it return to be part of the initial application process.</p> <p>S. Boukli responded stating that this is only for the expedited process. The application will still be considered for the initial process with the other applications that will be scored at the March meeting.</p> <p>K. Pershing stated she is “not very pro Naloxone” but stated she likes this proposal to “getting Naloxone out there.”</p> <p>Further stating her main concern is the expedited nature of the review and explained that the proposal is to be implemented within 30 days.</p> <p>The hiring of 12 staff could take as long as 6 to 8 weeks alone. Another concern is there are already two regional overdose prevention specialists out training and distributing Naloxone kits.</p>
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		<p>These specialists will still be established in the community as opposed to the people hired for six months who will not be there.</p> <p>K. Pershing concluded stating, "were spending extra money on personnel that she believes is not needed for this project."</p> <p>S. Loyd called for a roll call vote by the Council, which concluded with the motion for the Meharry Rise Project not passing.</p> <p>S. Loyd thanked the Council for their time and effort with the project and turned the meeting over to M. Shelton for discussion of the budget.</p>
<p>M. Shelton</p>	<p>Budget Review for Community Grants</p>	<p>M. Shelton reviewed the slides from February 8, 2024, meeting with the balance from December 2023 and stated the Opioid Abatement Council office recommended a "rolling" three-year budget for community grants.</p> <p>M. Shelton reminded the Council some of the grant dollars may be unspent or underspent and that the budget will allow for possible fluctuations from the National Administrator.</p> <p>For 2024 Community Grants, during the February 8th meeting, it was recommended for a budget of \$80 million and how it would breakdown for the 6 strategies.</p> <p>The February 8th meeting regarding the budget closed with a motion to move forward with the proposed budget as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K. Moore made a motion to move forward with the budget structure • K. Pershing seconded the motion • C. Jackson tabled the motion • S. Vanterpool seconded the tabled motion <p>S. Loyd advised motion to table the proposed budget carries. Council tabled motion to the floor to accept the budget.</p>

		<p>S. Loyd advised that the motion must now be untabled.</p> <p>C. Jackson moved that the Council remove the consideration of the budget from the table and make it an active matter of consideration for approval at this meeting.</p> <p>K. Moore seconded the motion to untable.</p> <p>S. Loyd confirmed the motion carried and is untabled.</p> <p>M. Shelton reported that since February 8th, 2024, S. West had been working on the budget and had reached out to several Council members.</p> <p>S. Loyd continued with the reason the budget was tabled was due to the uncertainty of how much would be in reserve in year 2 and 3.</p> <p>S. Loyd asked S. Boukli if it would be appropriate if the budget review could begin there.</p> <p>S Boukli agreed and stated it would be fine and that to allow for discussion before voting again.</p> <p>S. Loyd turned the meeting over to S. West.</p>
S. West	Budget Review for Community Grants Continued	<p>S. West shared her screen to display the proposed budget spreadsheet focusing on the two issues of concern from the February 8, 2024, Council meeting, which were the administrative costs and the annual net reserve.</p> <p>S. Loyd requested a demonstration of what the reserve budget would look like if the budget was increased by \$10 million over the proposed \$80 million.</p> <p>S. West gave a demonstration on her spreadsheet showing that by increasing the proposed budget there would be a negative reserve in years 2026 and 2027.</p>

		<p>Further stating this was an estimate because the Council had not determined the award yet.</p> <p>However, if a number such as \$78 million were given then there would be assurance of \$10 million (minimum) in reserve.</p> <p>S. Vanterpool asked if \$7.5 million from the Meharry Rise Project could be taken out of the spreadsheet to see how it would change.</p> <p>S. West reminded the Council that Meharry Rise Project (\$7.5 million) is a one-year grant and by removing it she would be able to spread those dollars (7.5 million) out over 3 years making the first-year budget \$81 million as opposed to \$78 million.</p> <p>Further explaining it would not be a dollar for dollar and spread out over 3 years.</p> <p>S. West concluded by asking the Council to approve the 2024 budget and going forward approve the next year based on new funds and review of the fiscal statements.</p> <p>S. Loyd thanked S. West on the budget proposal and opens the floor for discussion.</p> <p>M. Shelton recognized T. Farmer.</p> <p>T. Farmer questioned if the Meharry Rise Project goes back in to the normal grant review, would it still be a one-year project.</p> <p>S. Loyd advised this is correct.</p> <p>T. Farmer thanked S. Loyd.</p>
S. Loyd	Budget Discussion Continued	<p>M. Shelton acknowledged S. Vanterpool.</p> <p>S. Vanterpool wanted clarification on what the Council's thoughts were on the necessary reserves.</p> <p>She wanted the Council to know that they are making these calculations on an estimated</p>

		<p>maximum payment and they may not come through which could take the \$10 million in reserve much lower and potentially into the negative.</p> <p>S. Loyd noted that this is a good point and stated as a reminder there is still Purdue money which is still high and Purdue Pharma lawsuit and bankruptcy and how that money comes in as well as other lawsuits which will still bring millions of dollars to the Opioid Abatement Council as well.</p> <p>S. Loyd advised this is a very fluid and Council can try to make the best decision based on the information we have. But still subject to change.</p> <p>S. Loyd advised the floor recognizes K. Moore.</p>
<p>S. Loyd</p>	<p>Budget Discussion Continued</p>	<p>K. Moore stated the important point to make is the budget is fluid and why Council should have a reserve.</p> <p>\$10 million reserve was an arbitrary number we suggested with the idea Council still had money going out the door giving them the opportunity to give more money to grants doing well if needed and still have reserves.</p> <p>Also releasing there may be some grants that fail.</p> <p>K. Moore continued with the idea to hire a Policy Analyst to confirm what the policy would be on the reserve long term.</p> <p>K. Moore concluded with \$10 million reserve in 2027 was being safe and move that we approve the 2024 budget as presented</p> <p>K. Moore made a motion to approve the budget.</p> <p>S. Sexton seconded the motion.</p> <p>C. Jackson stated, "I think it's important, I like the \$10 million figure for the reserve but we are projecting on the administrative cost of \$1.2M and \$1.5M.</p>

		<p>The industry standard is that there be 180 days cash on hand for administrative operations.</p> <p>Closes with agreeing with how the budget has been laid out.</p> <p>S. Vanterpool asks for the motion to be read back to ensure the Council will only be voting on the 2024 year budget as presented.</p> <p>K. Moore advised his motion was to approve strictly the 2024 year.</p>
S. Loyd	Budget Discussion Concludes	<p>S. Loyd asks if there are any additional comments before the vote and stated being very pleased and agrees it's good and responsible.</p> <p>M. Shelton begins roll call vote.</p> <p>S. Loyd advised motion carries unanimously.</p>
M. Shelton	Upcoming Council Meeting	<p>M. Shelton advised the next OAC Meeting will be as follows: March 18th at 9:00 am.-1:00 p.m. CST Farragut Community Center 239 Jamestowne Blvd #201 Assembly Hall Farragut, TN</p> <p>She also noted the meeting will be live streamed as well as first come first served for those wishing to attend.</p>
S. Loyd M. Shelton	Public Comment	<p>S. Loyd opened the floor for public comment and M. Shelton gave instructions to guests on how to proceed with comments.</p> <p>S. Loyd recognized the guests.</p>
M. Shelton	Adjournment	<p>S. Loyd made a motion to adjourn. K. Moore made a motion to adjourn. T. Fournet seconds. M. Shelton followed with the roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. CST</p>