

Agenda and Minutes

Washington County Opioid Settlement Council

Meeting Information

- Date and time: November 20, 2024 (Wednesday) from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm
- Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater
- Regular schedule: Council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

Opioid Settlement Council Members

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emily Brunner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Kelley | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seth Perry |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Feider | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rose Kosin | <input type="checkbox"/> Carla Schweich |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristi Gullett | <input type="checkbox"/> Denise Lasker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamie Steber |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alicia House | <input type="checkbox"/> Suzy Oswald | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Josephine Igwacho | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jay Pernu | |

Public Health and Environment (PHE) Chief Strategist Representatives

- Rolando Vera | *Correctional Health Nursing Manager*
- Sean Young-Stephens | *Public Health Program Coordinator*
- Allison Spears | *Administrative Assistant*

Agenda Items

- Welcome and introduction
- Opioid settlement funding – updates and changes
 - Update on contract agreements with funding awardees

PHE is currently working through the contracting process with funding awardees.

- Council member transitions

Two Council members have voluntarily stepped down from participating in the Opioid Settlement Council. PHE is exploring options for replacing the two members.

- Open Meeting Law and Council meeting schedule

Based on updated guidance from the Washington County Attorney's Office, PHE is taking new steps to ensure compliance with [Open Meeting Law \(State Law\)](#). Members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings as observers. From this point forward, all Council meetings will need to be held in person.

The Council agreed to continue meeting on a monthly schedule and discussed practices for public attendance at future Council meetings. Council members agreed that it would be beneficial to set a time for public comment at each meeting.

- Updates on 2025 budget

In 2025, the county is allocating some of the budgeted opioid settlement funding to expenses that will support the Council's work:

- *The PHE Opioid Response Coordinator position will be funded with opioid settlement funding.*
- *An additional amount will be allocated for administrative expenses to support the Council. Examples of administrative expenses: per diem/mileage reimbursement for Council meetings, continuing education, public messaging/promotion, translation of materials, etc.*
- *The majority of Washington County's opioid settlement funding will continue to be distributed through the established community distribution process.*

PHE will continue to refine budget details and share more information with the Council.

- Technology change (WashEx extranet site)

In 2025, Washington County will be transitioning from the WashEx/extranet system to Microsoft Teams. Currently, most Council members are not frequently using the WashEx site. Email is generally working well for communication and document sharing. PHE and the Council will continue to monitor technology needs and systems.

- Open time for topics/questions/feedback from Council
- Closing and next steps

The Council decided to cancel the December Council meeting and will reconvene in January.

In early 2025, the Council will continue discussions about the recent awardees and plans for the next round of funding. A 2025 timeline is expected to be established in quarter one.

Shared Agreements

Washington County Opioid Settlement Council

- Honor confidentiality
- Be present at meetings and participate
- Listen to understand, not respond – we all have something different to offer
- Allow space to ask and receive questions
- Be open and respectful to the ideas of others – use respectful language to talk about those impacted
- Speak from your own experience and speak objectively
- Take space/make space – everyone has an equal voice during the meeting
- Have an agenda and stick to it – be efficient
- Share the role/context you're speaking from
- Only one person speaks at a time