

**New York State Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Board October 28, 2024,
10:00am – 3:00pm Albany: Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY – Meeting
Room 2-4 – Motion Summary**

For the full meeting and more details, please visit:

<https://totalwebcasting.com/view/?func=VOFF&id=nysoasas&date=2024-10-28&seq=1>

Motion on Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 24 meeting was carried. Members Stephanie Marquesano and Tracie Gardner abstained. DOH, DOB, OASAS, and OMH abstained. Member Joyce Rivera confirmed that her summary was included in the September 13 minutes.

Motion to put off voting on the October 8 meeting minutes until the end of the meeting.

Made by: Dr. Lawrence Brown

Seconded by: Dr. Kevin Watkins

Motion carried.

2026 Recommendations Delay

Motion to delay the 2026 recommendations until the Board receives a comprehensive or contemporary presentation by DOH on overdose mortality and nonfatal overdoses.

Made by: Tracie Gardner

Seconded by: Dr. Justine Waldman

Motion amended to include an accompanying minority report detailing concerns about the year 3 report. Specifically, that the report should include a statement separate from the Chair's letter reflecting the sentiment of the Board including the lack of data, concepts and contents as expressed by the members, and members' concerns on the impact of the opioid epidemic.

Amended by: Gardner and J. Rivera

Motion carried.

Abstentions: Dr. Kevin Watkins, DOH, DOB, OASAS, and OMH.

Voting on Recommendations

Harm Reduction Category

- Funding Syringe service programs and other low threshold programs to increase capacity to provide safe smoking supplies, fentanyl and xylazine test strips and interventions to address stimulants and other adulterants.

Made by Gardner, seconded by J. Rivera. Motion carried, abstentions from DOH, OASAS, DOB, and OMH.

- Funding for pilot EMT provision of buprenorphine like the Seattle Model.

Made by Gardner, seconded by J. Rivera. Motion carried, abstentions from DOH, OASAS, DOB, and OMH.

- Funding allocated specifically to programs of the Office of Drug User Health at the New York State Department of Health.

Made by Gardner, seconded by Dr. Brown.

- Marquesano offered a motion with a new recommendation to fund program opportunities for people with co-occurring disorders as part of integrated care.

The motion was withdrawn.

Workforce and Workplace Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging category, p. 15, one recommendation to be voted on.

- “Funding to provide to ensure the workforce is trained to recognize structural inequalities and employ cultural humility in service provision.”

Made by Chair Pantin, seconded. Motion carried. Constantino voted no. Marquesano, DOH, OMH, OASAS, and DOB abstained.

- The other recommendation regarding bilingual clinicians in this category was edited to add “behavioral health field”.

Health Related Social Needs category, p. 15.

This category was amended to include the recommendation previously offered by Lavigne and carried by the Board to fund pilot programs for recovery housing (see minutes from October 8).

Dr. Smith suggested a recommendation in Treatment or Special populations categories about MAT for incarcerated persons.

Motion to put recommendation in the dissent/concern section. Motion carried, abstentions from DOH, OASAS, DOB, and OMH.

Data and Outcomes, pp. 15-16, one recommendation to be voted on.

“The Board asks to see a unified data reporting structure or linkage within a website - in which amounts, and outcomes of the funding initiatives across the three state agencies are reported in a way that reflects the epidemiology including fatal and non-fatal overdose rates, and demographics of the regions in which the funding has been spent.”

Made by Dr. Brown, seconded by J. Rivera. Dr. Brown agreed to include suicides. Motion carried. Abstentions from DOH, OASAS, DOB, and OMH.

Policy recommendations within the report, p. 21, were voted on.

Policy recommendation 2: “The board recommends that the state not utilize Opiate Settlement Funds in situations where there are alternate funds available to address the recommendation presented, as in the case with Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) and the opportunity of the 1115 waiver.”

Policy recommendation 3: “The Board recommends that there be the recognition that cost of training and the action to release staff to be trained is not easily achieved given the current workforce shortage.”

Motion was withdrawn.

Policy recommendation put forth by Chair Pantin: request a strategic and innovation plan for the Board. The members discussed whether such a recommendation could be funded. Motion carried as a policy recommendation without funding. Abstentions from DOH, OASAS, DOB, and OMH.

Policy recommendations 10 & 11 were removed. In policy recommendation 8, the NYS Education department was added.

Priority Tally Sheets continued

In descending order the Board voted on, the categories for recommended funding: Harm Reduction, Grassroots, Co-Occurring, Treatment, Recovery, Prevention, Health Related, Workforce, and Data & Outcomes.

Marquesano offered amendments to the COD section of the report.

Marquesano offered an amendment to the report adding her introductory paragraph. Marquesano made the motion to add the paragraphs without the first sentence; it was seconded by Livingston.

Discussion continued about the pros and cons of adding additional paragraphs. Motion was made to add these paragraphs as amended and it was seconded. Motion failed: 6 members voted no (J. Rivera, C. Moore, A. Constantino, R. Ganoe, Chair Pantin, and Dr. J. Waldman), 6 members voted yes (S. Lavigne, Dr. K. Watkins, Dr. T. Smith, S. Marquesano, Dr. S. Giordano, and A. Livingston), two members abstained (T. Gardner and C. Rivera), DOH, OMH, DOB, and OASAS abstained, and Dr. L. Brown was not in the room for the vote.

Approval of 10-8-2024 Meeting Minutes.

Motion carried. DOH, OMH, DOB, and OASAS abstained.

Final vote on the report.

Motion was made to vote on the report as amended during the meeting and to include a statement of concerns/limitations within the report. Seconded by Constantino. A roll call vote was had, the report was accepted with abstentions from DOH, OMH, DOB, and OASAS.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion carried.

Members

Tracie Gardner; Suzanne Lavigne; Carmen Rivera; Joyce Rivera; Dr. Lawrence Brown; Cheryll Moore; Anne Constantino; Raymond Ganoe; Kevin Watkins; Dr. Tishia Smith; Stephanie Marquesano; Dr. Chinazo Cunningham OASAS; Peggy O’Shea DOB; Dr. David Holtgrave DOH; Debra Pantin; Joelle Foskett; Dr. Justine Waldman; Dr. Stephen Giordano; and Ashley Livingston (virtually).