

**Opioid Abatement Funding Advisory Board
Pinellas County
December 5, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

The Opioid Abatement Funding Advisory Board (OAFAB) met in regular session at 1:01 PM on this date in the Cypress Room at the St. Petersburg College EpiCenter, 13805 58th Street North, Clearwater, Florida.

Present

Chief Ian Womack, Chair, City of St. Petersburg Fire Rescue
Dr. Ulyee Choe, Vice-Chair, Florida Department of Health in Pinellas County Director
Kathleen Beckman, City of Clearwater Councilmember
Sandra Bradbury, City of Pinellas Park Mayor (late arrival)
Kathleen Peters, County Commissioner (late arrival)

Others Present

Sara Gordils, Human Services Planning Section Manager
Abigail Stanton, Human Services Contracts Director
Karen Yatchum, Human Services Director
Cody Ward, Assistant County Attorney
Sitara Coyle, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk
Other interested individuals

All documents provided to the Clerk's Office have been filed and made a part of the record.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Chair Womack called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM and welcomed those in attendance.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Ms. Beckman made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 14, 2023. The motion was seconded by Dr. Choe and carried unanimously.

Mayor Bradbury arrived at 1:03 PM.

RANK AND REVIEW – LEADERSHIP, PLANNING, AND COORDINATION SOLICITATION (GAP ANALYSIS)

Ms. Gordils indicated that previous discussions regarding rankings by the Board will not be used; and that the Board will start with fresh scoring at today's meeting. Ms. Gordils

provided a brief overview of the scoring process; whereupon, the members discussed and scored the applications of Advocates for Human Potential, Inc., Ernst and Young LLP, KPMG LLP, and Public Consulting Group LLC.

Commissioner Peters arrived at 1:12 PM.

During discussion and in response to comments by the members, Ms. Stanton pointed out that negotiations regarding specific concerns related to an application may take place following the selection process.

The meeting was recessed at 3:02 PM and reconvened at 3:13 PM.

Following the Board's completion of the rank and review process, Ms. Gordils related that Ernst and Young LLP and KPMG LLP received the two highest scores of the four applicants; whereupon, she displayed the completed scoring rubric and provided the scores for each applicant.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to invite Ernst and Young LLP and KPMG LLP to present oral presentations to the Board. The motion was seconded by Mayor Bradbury and carried unanimously.

Attorney Ward indicated that the Board members would need to attend the oral presentations in person; and that the applicants could appear virtually. Discussion ensued regarding scheduling and content of the presentations; whereupon, Ms. Gordils indicated that the next meeting of the Board would be tentatively scheduled for January 26, 2024, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM, and would include the oral presentations.

Dr. Choe made a motion to invite Ernst and Young LLP and KPMG LLP for a formal presentation to the Board to address the weak areas in their applications. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters; whereupon, she recognized that the Board had already voted to invite the two top-scoring applicants to provide oral presentations. Dr. Choe clarified that he intended to emphasize that the presentations should include weak points identified by the Board.

PROGRAM SOLICITATION DISCUSSION

Ms. Gordils provided information regarding the program solicitation, including its phases and scoring process; whereupon, in response to a comment and query by Commissioner Peters regarding proposals for similar programs, she indicated that programs may be joined together upon recommendation by the Board.

In response to comments by Dr. Choe, Ms. Yatchum related that there is no penalty if the funds are not spent in year one; whereupon, responding to queries by the members,

Mses. Yatchum and Gordils discussed the timeline related to the submittal of program funding recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for approval and the subsequent contract and onboarding process.

In response to a query by Mayor Bradbury, Ms. Gordils indicated that the Pinellas County Opioid Task Force has gathered data and identified gaps, which are contained in its strategic plan, but that additional information could be solicited from fire and police departments; whereupon, discussion ensued wherein Pinellas County Opioid Task Force Chair Marianne Dean provided information regarding the long-term strategic plan, which is based on feedback from various sources, identifies gaps, and highlights areas with the most need. She emphasized the importance of including the recovery community in future discussions and indicated that she will provide a copy of the plan to the Board.

Thereupon, discussion ensued wherein Mses. Yatchum and Gordils responded to comments and concerns expressed by the members regarding programs and solicitations currently focused on the opioid crisis, timeline considerations, summary of the streamlined proposal application, and other topics.

Responding to comments by Commissioner Peters, Ms. Gordils indicated that she heard a motion to pause program solicitations until feedback has been received from the contracted evaluator, and Commissioner Peters stated that would be her motion. The motion was seconded by Mayor Bradbury, and discussion ensued.

Dr. Choe expressed optimism that the process of selection of an evaluator could be expedited, and Commissioner Peters indicated that she would like to amend her motion to include his comments; whereupon, Commissioner Peters, with input from Ms. Gordils, clarified that the amended motion is to pause the solicitation until feedback has been received from the contracted evaluator and to include a fast-tracked implementation. The motion was seconded by Mayor Bradbury and carried unanimously.

NEXT STEPS

Ms. Gordils related that the meeting scheduled for December 6, 2023, has been cancelled; and that staff will coordinate with the members regarding the January meeting.

Chair Womack commended the members for their efforts with the scoring process.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Womack made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mayor Bradbury and carried unanimously; whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 PM.