

Oklahoma Overdose Fatality Review Board

Meeting Minutes

Seventh Meeting – April 16th, 2021

The Opioid Overdose Fatality Review board held its seventh meeting at 1:00pm via WebEx, and was held consistent with the amendments to the Open Meeting Act, 25 O.S. 2011, § 301 *et seq.*, signed into law by Gov. J. Kevin Stitt on February 10, 2021. *See* Senate Bill No. 1031, 2020 O.S.L 3, §2. The agenda was posted on the Attorney General’s website 24 hours in advance in accordance with 25 O.S. § 311. The meeting notice was sent to the office of the Oklahoma Secretary of State, also pursuant to 25 O.S. § 311, and was date-stamped by that office on April 2, 2021 at 2:13pm.

Members present: Senior Deputy Attorney General Lori Carter, Buffy Heater, Tracy Wendling, Angie Woodrow, Andrea Hamor-Edmondson, Dr. Jason Hill, Debi Knecht, Shannon Desherow, Chief Brandon Clabes, District Attorney Chris Boring, Dr. Timothy Moser, Jennifer Postlewait, Shannon Desherow, Sheriff Derek Manning, Dr. Jason Beaman, Sheila St. Cyr, and Judge Paul Hesse.

Call to Order and Welcome 1:02pm

Dr. Beaman called the meeting to order and welcomed the group.

Roll Call, Statement of Compliance with Open Meetings Act, and Recognition of a Quorum 1:04pm

Megan Wurzer, Senior Prevention Field Representative with the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, called roll and there was a recognition of a quorum. Alexandra Adkins, Assistant Attorney General, confirmed that the meeting was in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. “Call-in User” was identified as Chief Clabes.

Approval of Minutes from November 13th, 2020 Meeting 1:07pm

Dr. Jean Hausheer moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Sheila St. Cyr seconded. District Attorney Chris Boring abstained due to technical difficulties. A roll call vote was recorded and the minutes were approved by the Board at 1:10pm.

Discussion and Adoption of Board Recommendations for 2021 Annual Report: 1:10pm

Dr. Beaman presented the Chairman’s Report to the Board and explained that the report was informational in order to comply with statutory requirements and did not contain any recommendations since the Board was unable to vote. Megan Wurzer reviewed recommendations mentioned at the November 2020 meeting, including media messaging to remind the public that the opioid epidemic is still prevalent during COVID-19, education to family members about Narcan and overdoses, education at the pharmacy level and all points of care, additional discharge planning, primary prevention and community prevention, and increased information among youths and young adults. Andrea Hamor-Edmondson explained that some of these recommendations are already ongoing, including a statewide media campaign and primary and community prevention

programs. Dr. Beaman recommended that the Board recognize the importance of such programs and highlight the current work being done by state agencies. Tracy Wendling agreed that reinforcement would be beneficial. Dr. Jean Hausheer moved to adopt the recommendations of the Board. Debi Knecht seconded. A roll call vote was recorded with all members voting in favor except District Attorney Chris Boring who abstained due to technical difficulties. The recommendations were adopted by the Board at 1:16pm.

Presentation and Discussion on Resources: 1:17pm

Dr. Beaman presented two articles to the group: “Polysubstance Use Among People Who Use Opioids” and “PDMP Policies and Capabilities: Results from 2020 State Assessment.” He explained that the first article highlights the negative impacts of fentanyl. He stated that Oklahoma is facing diversion of fentanyl patches as well as other drugs laced with fentanyl. He explained that they are seeing positive fentanyl tests after patients purchase illicit oxycodone, and this is leading to an increase in overdoses. The article also highlights that many people with opioid use disorder are also misusing other substances, such as methamphetamines and marijuana, along with other classes and substances. The second article looks at different utilities within the PMP and access. Ms. Woodrow explained that Oklahoma is still the only state with real time reporting, and she said that integration plans are ongoing.

Presentation providing update on opioid related legislation from Oklahoma’s 2021 legislative session: 1:26pm

Senior Deputy Attorney General Lori Carter gave a legislative update to the Board regarding relevant opioid legislation, including HB1567, HB2510, HB2676, SB57, SB58, SB94, SB241, SB605, and SB888.

Discussion and Possible Action on Case Review Assignment Protocol: 1:34pm

Dr. Beaman explained that when the Board met in person, groups of two would review cases and report back to the Board. Approximately eight cases were reviewed per meeting. He highlighted that virtual meetings have limited the number of cases that the Board can review and proposed rotating assignments of cases in pairs so each member of the Board can still be heard. Dr. Hausheer asked if breakout sessions were possible. Assistant Attorney General Alexandra Adkins said that WebEx does have breakout capabilities. Dr. Beaman asked the group if anyone is opposed to rotating case assignments, and no member expressed concern. He stated that rotating cases will be used going forward and we will look into breakout platforms.

Consideration, Discussion, and Possible Action on Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session Pursuant to 25 O.S.Supp. 2018, § 307C (10) for the purpose of reviewing cases: 1:40pm

Dr. Hausheer moved to enter Executive Session and Sheila St. Cyr seconded. A roll call vote was recorded, and the motion passed unanimously at 1:42pm.

Action to Return to Open Session. 2:28

Dr. Hausheer moved to return to Open session. Senior Deputy AG Carter seconded. A roll call vote was recorded, and the motion passed unanimously at 2:28pm.

Consideration, Discussion, and Possible Action on items considered in Executive Session: 2:28pm

No items were addressed.

Discussion and possible action on any items of new business: 2:29pm

No new business.

Adjournment

Dr. Beaman announced that the next Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Board Meeting will be a regular meeting held on Friday, July 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. and potentially will be held virtually. Dr. Hausheer moved to adjourn and Sheila St. Cyr seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.