



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council

Inaugural Meeting

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 @ 1:30 p.m.

13th Floor Media Room, Walter Sillers State Office Building

Jackson, MS

Hybrid In-Person/Virtual Meeting

<https://itsmsgov.zoom.us/j/86020391171?pwd=NJwMhcoDixJDazQFb1K8eq6XP8RpGV.1>

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Committee Member Introductions
Attorney General Lynn Fitch, Chair
- II. Summary of Opioid Litigation, Settlement Agreements, SB 2767, and Council Duties and Expectations
Caleb A. Pracht, Special Assistant Attorney General
- III. New Business
 - A. Proposed Rules
 - B. Proposed Request for Grant Applications and Application Form
 - C. Proposed List of Priorities
- IV. Questions from Committee Members
- V. Adjourn

Next Meeting: November 3, 2025



Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council July 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Call to order

The first meeting of the Mississippi Opioid Settlement Fund Advisory Council was called to order at the Walter Sillers State Office Building in Jackson, Mississippi at 1:31 p.m on July 9, 2025.

Introductions and Roll Call

Council members introduced themselves and announced their attendance at the meeting. A quorum was established. An attendee list is attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

Background

Attorney General Lynn Fitch gave remarks on the opioid litigation and settlement agreements. Special Assistant Attorney General Caleb Pracht spoke on the role of the Council and the financial status of the Opioid Settlement Fund.

New Business

Acting as Chair by the Attorney General's designation, Special Assistant Attorney General (SAAG) Caleb Pracht brought forward the Council's Proposed Rules as the first item of new business.

Ms. Veazey moved to amend Rule 100 to add a definition of "Qualified Applicant" to be tied to the eligibility criteria in the Council's Request for Grant Applications. The motion was seconded by Chief Cooper and passed by voice vote.

Mr. Taggart moved to amend Rule 404 to add "(h)," aligning the project with the core strategies outlined in the settlement agreements under Opioid Remediation Uses. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and passed by voice vote.

Mr. Sclafani moved to amend Rule 405 to add that applications will be evaluated according to a scoring rubric and to assign point values to each recommendation tier. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and passed by voice vote.

Mr. Taggart moved to amend Rule 502 to add "financial and" before "performance" on line 2 and to amend Rule 501 to add "accountability" after "appropriation on line 4. The motion was seconded by Chief Cooper and approved by voice vote.

Sheriff Jones moved to approve and adopt the Proposed Rules, as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hudson and approved by voice vote, with Chief Justice Randolph voting No.

SAAG Pracht then brought forward the Council's Proposed Priorities for 2025 as the second item of new business.

Mr. Sclafani moved to amend Priority 3 to add "including but not limited to the organization's ability to provide matching funds in cash or in kind" after "project." The motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey and approved by voice vote.

Chief Cooper moved to amend the Priorities to add as (10) the same language referring to core strategies in the settlement agreements as had been approved for the Rule 404. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and approved by voice vote.

Ms. Veazey moved to amend Priority 8 to add "the disproportionate impact of the opioid epidemic on the population to be served." The motion was seconded by Dr. Edney and approved by voice vote.

Ms. Bailey moved to amend Priority 1 to add "surveil" before "or reduce. . . ." The motion was seconded by Mr. Collier and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Moore moved to approve and adopt the Priorities, as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey and approved by voice vote, with Chief Justice Randolph voting No.

SAAG Pracht then brought forward the Council's Proposed Request for Grant Applications (RGA) as the third item of new business.

Upon the request of Chief Cooper, and without objection, the Council took a brief recess.

Mr. Taggart moved to conform the "Application Evaluation" section of the RGA to the Rules and the Priorities, as amended and adopted. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wiggins and approved by voice vote.

Sheriff Jones moved to amend the "Proposal Narrative" section of the RGA to clarify that the page limit applies only to Items 1-13. The motion was seconded by Chief Cooper and approved by voice vote.

Ms. Veazey moved to amend Item 4 in the "Application Submission Information" section of the RGA to change "audit" to "statement of financial affairs" and tie the form of that statement to that required by the Secretary of State. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and approved by voice vote, with Mr. Taggart and Chief Justice Randolph voting "No."

Sheriff Jones moved to add as Item 18 in the "Proposal Narrative" section of the RGA a requirement that applicants submit a proposed project budget in which no more than 10% of grant funds are assigned to administrative costs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and approved by voice vote.

Mr. Sclafani moved to amend by striking the "s" in "audits" and to add "of grant funds" after "annual audit" in line 4 of the Post-Award Reporting Requirements Section of the RGA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stovall and approved by voice vote.

Without objection, the members agreed to adjourn and table a vote on the RGA as amended until the next meeting, at which time SAAG Pracht agreed to provide the Council with the following for their review and approval: a revised RGA, a scoring rubric, a Memorandum of Understanding, and a sample budget.

Announcements

The members agreed to meet again in the near future by zoom and to set the date and time for the next meeting via an online poll.

Adjournment

Sheriff Jones made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Veazey seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Caleb Pracht

Caleb Pracht

August 8, 2025

Date of approval

APPROVED