

OPIOID AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER (OSUD) GRANTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2026, 2:00 PM

City Hall, 1st Floor, Lynwood Roberts Room

Chair: Antonio Nichols

Vice-Chair: Sarah Smith

Secretary: Heather Rios

Committee Meeting Attendance	
Present	Dr. Antonio Nichols - Chair
Present	Sarah Smith - Vice-Chair
Present	Heather Rios - Secretary
Present	Dr. Lantie Jorandby - Member
Present	Debbie O’Neal - Member
Present	Nancy St. Claire - Member
Present	Dr. John Tanner - Member

Quorum Present: Yes

City Council Liaison (non-voting member):

- City Councilmember Ron Salem, At-Large, Group 2

City of Jacksonville Staff:

- Madelaine A. Zarou, Manager of Opioid Abatement - Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department
- Laura Viafora Ray, Program Coordinator - Opioid Abatement - Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department
- Ashley Smith, Assistant General Counsel - Office of General Counsel, City of Jacksonville

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM by Dr. Antonio Nichols, Chair.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Staff members introduced themselves, and each OSUD Grants Committee member in attendance introduced themselves.

III. Office of Opioid Abatement (OOA) Update

Madelaine A. Zarou, Manager of Opioid Abatement, provided an update from their office covering the following:

- *Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Agreements and Purchase Orders (POs)*
 - 15 out of 15 agreements have been fully executed.

- 15 out of 15 of the POs associated with those agreements have been released, meaning that invoices from the programs can be submitted for payment.
- One agreement is on hold - with the University of Florida Foundation, Inc. - pending approval of legislation that would waive a subsection of Chapter 118. This was discussed in further detail at the January meeting. The bill was filed on February 18th and will be introduced to City Council on February 24th.
- *Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs)*
 - QPRs for Quarter 1 (covering 10/1/25 to 12/31/25) were due to the Office of Opioid Abatement on January 15th. All QPRs were submitted on time. Six have been reviewed and approved, seven are pending revisions, and the remaining two are pending review by Office of Opioid Abatement staff.
 - A detailed chart was shared during this section of the update which can be requested by emailing opioidabatement@coj.net.
- *Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Invoice Processing*
 - Out of a total of 45 invoices* anticipated from programs in Quarter 1, 31 have been submitted for payment, 2 are currently being reviewed/processed, and 12 have not yet been submitted by the agency.
 - **Excludes UFF while awaiting waiver legislation*
 - Out of a total of 15 invoices* anticipated from programs in January, 6 have been submitted for payment, 1 is currently being reviewed/processed, and 8 have not yet been submitted by the agency.
 - **Excludes UFF while awaiting waiver legislation*
 - As of February 23rd, 37 invoices had been processed and submitted for payment totaling just over \$600,000.00.
 - A detailed chart was shared during this section of the update which can be requested by emailing opioidabatement@coj.net.

IV. Presentation: Data Update

Laura Viafora Ray, Program Coordinator - Opioid Abatement, provided a data update, summarized as follows:

- Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department (JFRD) Data
 - The measure “# of Suspected Opioid-Related (O-R) Overdose (OD) Patients” is down 21% in January of 2026 compared to January of 2025. In addition, January 2026 is down 14% compared to the previous month, December 2025.
 - Two detailed graphs as well as data definitions were shared during this section of the update which can be requested by emailing opioidabatement@coj.net.

Councilmember Ron Salem asked if there was any data showing changes in the types of drugs causing overdoses. Ms. Viafora Ray answered by sharing that JFRD does not collect toxicology data, but that they would investigate CM Salem's question further by looking into medical examiner data.

V. Public Comment

Dr. Nichols opened the floor to public comment. There were no public comments.

VI. Vote: Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2025

Sarah Smith, Vice-Chair, put forth a motion to vote to approve the meeting minutes from the January 26, 2026, meeting. Dr. John Tanner seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Vote: FY 2026-2027 OSPG Application Process

Ms. Zarou reminded the committee that per Chapter 84, *"on or before March 1 of each year, the OSUD Grants Committee shall also recommend whether the OSUD Grants Committee shall award funding to requesting agencies under this Part via a Request for Proposal pursuant to Chapter 126, Ordinance Code, or through the grant application process outlined in [Chapter 84]."* They noted that the Committee had voted to adopt the grants application process in lieu of a Request for Proposal (RFP) process in all previous cycles. They also presented a chart that was provided by the Division of Procurement outlining the Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

Dr. Nichols opened the floor for committee members to discuss. There was no discussion.

Heather Rios, Secretary, put forth a motion to adopt the grant application process outlined in Chapter 84. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Vote: FY 2026-2027 OSPG Program Funded Category Percentage Allocations

Ms. Viafora Ray reminded the committee that per Chapter 84, *"On or before March 1 of each year, the OSUD Grants Committee shall assess the needs of the community and recommend to the City Council the percentage of Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grants funds appropriated by the City Council to be allocated to each of the following Opioid Settlement Proceeds funded categories: (1) Prevention; (2) Treatment; (3) Recovery Support."* They further explained that the recommendation would be incorporated into legislation.

Ms. Viafora Ray presented program data showing how the percentages were allocated across funded categories in previous cycles and what percentages were ultimately expended. A detailed chart was shared during this section of the update which can be requested by emailing opiodabatment@coj.net.

Dr. Nichols opened the floor for committee members to discuss. There was no discussion.

Ms. Smith put forth a motion to allocate 34% to Prevention, 33% to Treatment, and 33% to Recovery Support. Debbie O'Neal seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. New Business

Dr. Nichols opened the floor for new business. There was no new business.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Nichols at 2:14 PM.

Meeting recording available upon request. Email opioidabatement@coj.net.

Next Meeting Date - Monday, March 23, 2026, at 2:00 PM

To be signed by Heather Rios, Secretary, certifying approval by the Committee:

Signature: _____

Date: _____