

Opioid and Substance Use Disorder (OSUD) Grants Committee Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2026, 2:00 PM
City Hall, 1st Floor, Lynwood Robets Room
Chair: Dr. Antonio Nichols
Vice-Chair: Sarah Smith
Secretary: Heather Rios

Committee Member Attendance

- Dr. Antonio Nichols - Chair - Present
- Sarah Smith - Vice-Chair - Present
- Heather Rios - Secretary - Present
- B. Brian Beardsley - Member - Present
- Dr. Lantie Jorandby - Member - Not Present
- Debbie O'Neal - Member - Present

Quorum Present: Yes

City Council Liaison (non-voting member):

- City Councilmember Ron Salem, At-Large, Group 2 (not present)

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

- *Legislation & State Reporting*
 - Re-Appointment of Sarah Smith to Committee (2026-0608-A)
 - Adopted
 - Appointment of B. Brian Beardsley to Committee (2026-0594-A)
 - Adopted
 - Brian Beardsley replaced Dr. Tanner in one of the Healthcare Professional designations
 - Appointment of Dr. Christopher Stephano to Committee (2026-0730)
 - Ordinance filed and assigned to Rules Committee
 - To replace Dr. Jorandby in one of the Healthcare Professional designations
 - Prospective candidate to fill vacant Mental Health Professional spot.
 - FY 26-27 OSPG Program Budget (2026-0510)
 - Ordinance filed and assigned to Finance Committee
 - State Reporting
 - Annual Financial Report submitted on 8/28/26 - covers the period of 7/1/25 to 6/30/26.
- *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 1/15/26. All Q1 reports (16/16) have been reviewed and approved.
 - QPRs for Quarter 2 (covering 1/1/26 to 3/31/26) were due to the Office of Opioid Abatement on 4/15/26. All Q2 reports (16/16) have been reviewed and approved.
 - QPRs for Q3 (covering 4/1/26 to 6/30/26) were due to the Office of Opioid Abatement on 7/15/26. 15 have been approved and 1 is pending revisions following an initial review.
 - QPRs for Q4 (covering 7/1/26 to 9/30/26) are due on October 15th.
 - 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 176 invoices anticipated from programs for the months of October 2025 through August 2026, 172 have been processed and submitted for payment, 1 has been received and is being processed, and 3 have not yet been submitted by the agency.
 - The 172 invoices that were processed and submitted for payment totaled just under \$3.5 million.
 - A detailed chart was shared during this section of the update which can be requested by emailing opioidabatement@coj.net.

- *Site Visits and Agency Assessments*
 - Purpose: To evaluate compliance with the grant standards outlined in Exhibit C of the Opioid Settlement Proceeds Grant Agreement.
 - All site visits (16/16) were completed, taking place from July 22nd to August 18th.
 - 16/16 Agency Assessments have been approved - all passed in all sections.
- *Fiscal Year 2026-2027 OSPG Program Tentative Timeline*
 - May 14 and May 20: Mandatory Application Workshop (MAW) #1 and #2 held
 - June 1: Application opened
 - July 1: Application closed
 - July 21: OSPG Appeals Board meeting
 - July 27 - August 28: Scoring period
 - August 24: Interviews, if requested by Committee (none were requested)
 - October 5: Tentative application rankings and funding allocations will be announced
 - October 13: Tentative OSPG Appeals Board meeting
 - October 19: Final application rankings and funding allocations will be announced
 - October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027: OSPG Agreement period of performance
 - Note: All dates listed above are tentative and subject to change

IV. Presentation: Data Update

Next, Ms. Viafora Ray provided an overdose data update, summarized as follows:

- *Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department Data*
 - The measure “# of Suspected Opioid-Related (O-R) Overdose (OD) Patients” is down 18% from January to August of 2026 compared to the same time period in 2025.
 - June of 2026 to July of 2026 saw an increase of 35%, and July 2026 to August 2026 saw a small decrease of 3%. The past two months have seen the highest counts for this measure in the past 12 months.
 - Two detailed graphs as well as data definitions were shared during this section of the update which can be requested by emailing opiodabatment@coj.net.

V. Presentation: FY 25-26 Q3 OSPG Program Data Update

Next, Ms. Viafora Ray shared that the Office of Opioid Abatement had extracted information from the QPRs for Q3 covering October 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, to

compile a summary report with key highlights of program activities as well as demographic data of program participants for awarded programs in FY25-26. They noted that full report will be available pending the approval of one final QPR that is still being revised, but the demographic data had been compiled.

Ms. Viafora Ray explained that demographic data (zip code of residence, race, and gender) of unduplicated program participants/clients/patients was analyzed to compare who the funded programs were reaching with JFRD data, specifically the percentage of “Suspected O-R OD Patients,” over the same time period by zip code of residence of patient and race and gender. They highlighted that the counts presented in these charts do not represent the full scope of individuals reached through OSPG Program efforts, just those for which zip code of residence data and/or gender and race data were collected and reported on. They shared that the programs had reached over 10,000 unduplicated individuals in quarters 1-3, and this was a conservative estimate.

The detailed charts that were shared during this section of the update can be requested by emailing opiodabatement@coj.net.

VI. Presentation: FY 25-26 OSPG Program Site Visits

Ms. Zarou and Ms. Viafora Ray shared information and highlights from the site visits with all FY25-26 funded programs.

VII. Public Comment

Dr. Nichols opened the floor to public comment. There was one public comment from John Nooney. Their public comment card is on file and available upon request by emailing opiodabatement@coj.net.

VIII. Vote: Meeting Minutes from July 27, 2026

Debbie O’Neal put forth a motion to vote to approve the meeting minutes from the July 27, 2026, meeting. Sarah Smith, Vice President, seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. New Business

Dr. Nichols opened the floor for new business.

Ms. Smith introduced a topic of discussion: appropriate funded categories for applicants to apply under based on their program activities. The committee members discussed, and City of Jacksonville staff (Office of Opioid Abatement and Office of General Counsel) answered questions and provided additional insight.

It was determined that Ms. Zarou would share applicable slides from the Mandatory Application Workshop Training with committee members via email, and the committee members would further discuss at the next meeting.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Nichols at 3:20 PM.

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

***Next Meeting Date - Monday, October 5, 2026, at 2:00 PM
(tentative and subject to change)***

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

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Official signed original is on file and available upon request.