



Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission

Legal Notice

***** NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING *****

In accordance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1, *et seq.*), notice is hereby given that the Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission will conduct a meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025, at 3 pm. The meeting will take place at the Georgia Sheriffs' Association located at 1000 Sheriffs Way, Madison, GA 30650 and via Zoom for Commission Members and members of the public. It may be joined virtually at the following link. Those wishing to make public comments will be given the opportunity to do so in the registration process, or by signing up for public comments in person prior to the Meeting.

Registration Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/W8yYwntgQmifxlzVsCwBKQ>

All interested parties are invited to attend.



Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission

Georgia Sheriffs' Association Training Room

Monday, August 11, 2025, 3 p.m.

1000 Sheriffs Way

Madison, GA 30650

This meeting will be conducted in person and via Zoom for the public and Commission Member(s).

Meeting Agenda

Welcome Sam Hatcher, Chair

Roll Call Evan Frey, GOSAC Liaison

Call to Order Sam Hatcher, Chair

Approval of Meeting Minutes Sam Hatcher, Chair

**Introduction of Recovery Speaker Holly Lynde, Executive Director
Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust**

**Presentation of Current Grant Status Holly Lynde, Executive Director
Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust**

Meeting Schedule for 2025 Sam Hatcher, Chair GOSAC Funding

Public Comment

Adjourn

*Next Meeting – TBD
Notice to be posted on www.GaOpioidTrust.org*



Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission

Meeting Summary

Monday, August 11, 2025, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Hybrid Meeting)

Georgia Sheriffs' Association

1000 Sheriffs Way

Madison, GA 30650

Chairman Sam Hatcher called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M. The hybrid meeting was held at the Georgia Sheriffs' Association Headquarters at 1000 Sheriffs Way, Madison, GA 30650 and online via Zoom; the following GOSAC members participated:

Commission members Attending in Person: Cassandra Price (*DBHDD*), Trey Bennett (*Governor's Office of Planning and Budget*), David Kidd (*Georgia Association of Community Service Boards*)

Commission Members Attending via WebEx: Chairman Sam Hatcher (*Office of the Governor*), Mayor Betty Cason (*Carrollton, GA*), Sheriff Gary Sisk (*Catoosa County*), Clay Davis (*Spalding County BOC, joined following approval of the meeting minutes*),

Commission Members Absent: Dr. Chris Rustin (*DPH*), Mayor Ed Reynolds (*Bainbridge, GA*)

DBHDD Staff in Attendance: Holly Lynde (*GOCAT Executive Director*), Melissa Malcom (*Opioid Litigation Attorney*)

Meeting Summary:

Chairman Sam Hatcher welcomed each of the members to the Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission's (GOSAC) August meeting.

Chairman Hatcher brought the first order of business of approving the minutes from the March 24, 2025, meeting. After giving the members, a chance to review the minutes, the members unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2025, meeting.

Chairman Hatcher invited Mrs. Holly Lynde to run through the items on the meeting agenda. Mrs. Lynde started by introducing the meeting's recovery speaker who was invited to share their story of recovery. Mrs. Lynde introduced Mr. Lewis Ponzo, Substance Misuse and Mental Health Promotion Director at the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). Mr. Ponzo shared his father's story of substance abuse and explained how it motivated him to become a recovery ally that advocates for positive outcomes for those who experience issues relating to mental health and substance abuse.



Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission

Meeting Summary

Monday, August 11, 2025, 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Hybrid Meeting)

Georgia Sheriffs' Association

1000 Sheriffs Way

Madison, GA 30650

Chairman Hatcher thanked the recovery speaker for his willingness to participate, and asked Mrs. Lynde to introduce the next speaker. Mrs. Lynde introduced Mat Jeanius from Black Boys Better – Creative Connections who discussed how the organization was utilizing its grant money received last funding cycle to fund and support outreach programs aimed at black male wellness in the next generation.

Next, Chairman Hatcher invited Holly Lynde to provide an update on the 2025 application process. Mrs. Lynde reported that GOCAT staff had finished completeness checks on all 460 applications received this funding cycle, and that 421 had been deemed complete. She then provided an updated breakdown on the complete applications by region and project category. She also noted that all complete applications had been sent to the respective Regional Advisory Councils and Interagency Workgroup members.

Chairman Hatcher thanked Mrs. Lynde and asked that the Commission set dates for the final 2025 meeting. Chairman Hatcher reminded the members that the meeting was originally scheduled for October 9th. He asked the members if there were any conflicts. Multiple members identified that October 9th no longer worked for their schedules, so Chairman Hatcher asked that scheduling poll be sent around, and the next meeting date be decided later.

Chairman Hatcher then invited those wishing to make public comment to do so. One individual from Radox Toxicology spoke to advocate for a postmortem toxicology machine.

Chairman Hatcher thanked those that participated in public comment and adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.



Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission
Monday, August 11, 2025 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Hybrid Meeting)
Georgia Sheriff's Association
1000 Sheriffs Way
Madison, GA 30650

This meeting was conducted in person and via WebEx for the public and Commission Members.

Meeting Called By: Sam Hatcher, Chair

Recording Secretary: Evan Frey, GOSAC Liaison

Commission Members

- **In-person Conferencing:** Cassandra Price (*DBHDD*), Trey Bennett (*Governor's Office of Planning and Budget*), David Kidd (*Georgia Association of Community Service Boards*)
- **Virtual Conferencing:** Chairman Sam Hatcher (*Office of the Governor*), Mayor Betty Cason (*Carrollton, GA*), Sheriff Gary Sisk (*Catoosa County, GA*), Clay Davis (*Spalding County, GA BOC*, joined following approval of the meeting minutes)
- **Absent:** Dr. Chris Rustin (*DPH*), Mayor Ed Reynolds (*Bainbridge, GA*)
- **Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust (GOCAT) Leadership in Attendance:** Holly Lynde (*GOCAT Executive Director*), Melissa Malcom (*Opioid Litigation Attorney*)

Agenda

Call to Order:

Chair Sam Hatcher called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Chair Hatcher asked each of the members to review a copy of the minutes, which were provided via email in advance, from the June 26, 2025, meeting. He asked if there was any discussion to be had on the approval of the minutes. Hearing no discussion, Chair Hatcher asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. A motion was made by Cassandra Price and was seconded by Trey Bennett. The minutes from the June 26, 2025, meeting, were approved unanimously.

Recovery Story:

Chair Hatcher invited Holly Lynde to present the next two (2) agenda items, and she, in turn, introduced the meeting's recovery speaker Lewis Ponzo, Substance Misuse and Mental Health Promotion Director at the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities (DBHDD). Mr. Ponzo shared his father's story of substance abuse. Mr. Ponzo underscored that his experience motivated him to become a recovery ally that advocates positive outcomes for those in crisis due to their mental health or substance misuse. Chair Hatcher thanked the recovery speaker for his willingness to participate, and asked Mrs. Lynde to introduce the next speaker

Presentation on Awardee Experience:

Holly Lynde then introduced Mr. Mat Jeanius from Black Boys Better – Creative Connections who discussed how his organization was utilizing its grant money received in the 2024 funding cycle. He explained Black Boys Better – Creative Connections was able to fund and support outreach programs aimed at black male wellness in the next generation. Mr. Jeanius emphasized his organization's success in recruiting youth ambassadors during school programs conducted in Clayton County, Georgia.

Presentation on Current Grant Status:

Next, Chairman Hatcher invited Holly Lynde to provide an update on the 2025 application process. Mrs. Lynde reported that GOCAT staff had finished completeness checks for all 460 applications received during the 2025 funding cycle. She denoted that 421 had been deemed complete. Mrs. Lynde then provided an updated breakdown on the complete applications by region and project category. She also noted that all complete applications had been sent to their respective Regional Advisory Councils and Interagency Workgroup members.

Meeting Schedule for 2025:

Chair Hatcher thanked Mrs. Lynde and asked the Commission to set dates for the final 2025 meeting. Chair Hatcher reminded the members that the meeting was originally scheduled for October 9th. He asked the members if there were any conflicts. Multiple members identified that October 9th no longer worked for their schedules, so Chair Hatcher asked that scheduling poll be sent around, and the next meeting date be decided later.

Public Comment:

Chair Hatcher then invited those wishing to make public comment to do so. One individual from Radox Toxicology spoke to highlight technological advancements made in the field of toxicology, including advancements made in postmortem toxicology machines.

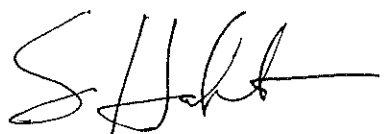
Adjournment:

Chair Hatcher asked if there were any further business for the day, and after hearing none, Chair Hatcher asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Clay Davis, which was seconded by Gary Sisk. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

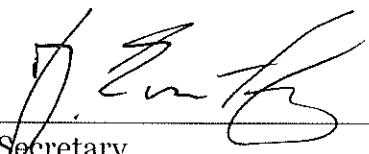
Respectfully submitted by:

Evan Frey, recording secretary

Signatures:



Chair



Secretary