



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 Friday, February 27, 2026, at 1 pm. The meeting will take place at 200 Piedmont Ave., SE (James H. “Sloppy” Floyd Building) - West Tower - Suite 512, Atlanta, GA 30334 and via WebEx 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://dbhdd.webex.com/weblink/register/r77d5eb31b5cbd8a00dc730f6b05523c1>

All interested parties are invited to attend.



Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission

Friday, February 27, 2026, 1 p.m.

200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E.

West Tower, 5th Floor, DBHDD Board Room 512

Atlanta, GA 30334

This meeting will be conducted in person and via WebEx 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

**Introduction of Recovery Speaker Taylor Peyton, Assistant Director
Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust**

**Introduction of Grant Recipient Holly Lynde, Executive Director
Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust**

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

Next Meeting Discussion Sam Hatcher, Chair GOSAC

Public Comment

Adjourn



Georgia Opioid Settlement Advisory Commission

Meeting Summary

Friday, February 27, 2026, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Hybrid Meeting)
200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. West Tower, 5th Floor, Board Room 512
Atlanta, GA 30334

Chairman Sam Hatcher called the meeting to order at 1:07 P.M. The hybrid meeting was held at 200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. West Tower, 5th Floor, Board Room 512 Atlanta, GA 30334 and online via Webex; the following GOSAC members participated:

Commission members Attending in Person: Chairman Sam Hatcher (*Office of the Governor*), Cassandra Price (*DBHDD*), Clay Davis (*Spalding County BOC*), David Kidd (*Georgia Association of Community Service Boards*), Emily Yona (*DCH*)

Commission Members Attending via WebEx: Dr. Chris Rustin (*DPH*), Mayor Betty Cason (*Carrollton, GA*), Sheriff Gary Sisk (*Catoosa County*)

DBHDD Staff in Attendance: Holly Lynde (*GOCAT Executive Director*), Taylor Peyton (*Opioid Abatement Liaison*), Jeffrey Holiday (*Opioid Abatement Coordinator*)

Meeting Summary:

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

Chairman Hatcher brought the first order of business of approving the minutes from the November 4, 2025, meeting. GOCAT staff noted that a member of their team had been accidentally excluded from the list of DBHDD Staff in Attendance. The members accepted this change. After no further changes, the members unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the November 4, 2025, meeting.

Chairman Hatcher invited Executive Director Holly Lynde to introduce the meeting's recovery speaker who was invited to share their story of recovery. Executive Director Lynde, in turn, invited Taylor Peyton to introduce the meeting's recovery speaker. Ms. Peyton introduced Dr. Rob Bohler, Assistant Professor at Georgia Southern University. Dr. Bohler shared his 11-year story spent in long-term recovery and how he transformed a once-derailed medical career into purpose and impact. After struggling with substance use disorder during his time in college and his dependency leading to his dismissal from medical school, Dr. Bohler committed to a 15-month residential treatment program, where he embraced recovery and began rebuilding his professional path. Dr. Bohler went on to earn a master's degree of Public Health and a Ph.D. in Behavioral Health. Now, Dr. Bohler partners with the Georgia Association of Recovery Residences to advance



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collegiate recovery initiatives, reduce stigma, and help shape the next generation of behavioral health professionals.

Chairman Hatcher thanked Dr. Bohler for his willingness to participate. Executive Director Lynde then introduced awardee speaker, Dr. Joe Carpenter from Emory Healthcare. Dr. Carpenter highlighted critical gaps in hospital-based responses opioid use disorder, noting that most hospitals are not adequately equipped to provide meaningful recovery pathways. Following a 2013 mass overdose incident involving fentanyl-laced cocaine, Dr. Carpenter helped secure funding for a pilot program developed based out of Grady Memorial Hospital. In collaboration with the Georgia Council for Recovery, this program embedded both active and passive patient engagement strategies within hospital settings. This initiative was expanded in 2025 and now supports over 70 facilities.

Next, Chairman Hatcher invited Executive Director Holly Lynde to provide an update on the concluded 2025 application process and the upcoming 2026 application process. Executive Director Lynde reported \$42 million in funding, across 110 projects had been recommended by GOSAC at their latest meeting. She reported this brings the total to 237 projects and \$112 million in grant dollars funded. Executive Lynde reported 41 first-year contracts are set to conclude on March 14th, 20 applicants requested extensions, 15 approved for a nine-month continuation, and approximately 55 activities were fully executed since they began on February 1st. Executive Director Lynde followed up on a point Sheriff Gary Sisk made at the November 2025 meeting by sharing that contracts now contain a clause that ensures funds deployed in and around QBG areas serve those outside those areas as well. Executive Director Lynde shared the NOFO for 2026 is expected for release in early April, followed by a series of statewide workshops, including virtual session as well as in-person events in Americas, Cumming, and Savannah.

Chairman Hatcher thanked Executive Director Lynde and asked that the Commission set dates for the next meeting. The members indicated they wish to schedule the meeting for June but would like to hold off on setting a firm date so that they may get a better idea of any conflicts.

Chairman Hatcher then invited those wishing to make public comment to do so. There was no public comment.

Chairman Hatcher thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.