

## MINUTES

Aroostook County Opioid Task Force  
September 10, 2024 11:00 AM  
Administrative Hearing Room – Caribou Courthouse

### **Present:**

Peter Johnson, Sheriff, Co-Chair, Committee Member  
Erik Lamoreau, Co-Chair, Committee Member  
Ryan D. Pelletier, County Administrator  
Dana Gendreau, Finance Director  
Christina Wall, Committee Member  
Michael Greenlaw, Committee Member  
Freeman Corey, Committee Member  
Dr. Samuela Manages, Committee Member  
Jon Holabird, Committee Member  
Brooke Nadeau, Committee Member – Zoom  
Jennah Godo – Catherine Cutler Institute - Zoom  
Tammy Pelletier, Operations Assistant

1. Co-Chair Peter Johnson called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.
2. The minutes of August 20, 2024 were approved by consensus.
3. Committee member, Courtney Gary-Allen submitted her resignation from the Opioid Task Force due to other obligations and time commitments. After a short discussion, the committee agreed by consensus to not fill the open spot due to Sheriff Johnson moving from being an Ex-Officio member to being Co-Chair. The committee remains at a count of 9 voting members.
4. Finance Director Dana Gendreau presented a summary of Opioid Settlement funds currently available (\$744,345.16) and projected funds to be received through 2038 (\$1,871,273.31). There are still settlements being negotiated and the projected funds to be received could increase or decrease over time. Funds are in an interest-bearing account and will be moved from the General Fund to their own Fund as soon as our process for distributing the settlement funds is in place.  
Information/documentation needed to make disbursements of the funds to organizations and who does it get reported to is currently not known; however, the responsibility falls on the County to ensure that funds are distributed as outlined in the MOU.
5. Mr. Ryan Pelletier asked if the committee was going to use the Letter of Intent as part of the application process. The LOI's purpose is to be a screening tool to determine if the request is eligible for funding. LOI's that are deemed eligible would then be invited to complete a more in-depth application request for funding. Mr. Erik Lamoreau reminded the committee the Maine Recovery Council received 17 applications from Aroostook County, and that we should expect less than that to come in. The committee agreed by consensus to use an LOI in the process. Mr. Freeman Corey and Mr. Ryan Pelletier will work

on an LOI form to be presented for approval to the Commissioners on October 16<sup>th</sup>. After some discussion, it was agreed by consensus to cap the amount of funding for this first round of funding at \$300,000, with \$75,000 for each of the 4 pillars (treatment, recovery, harm reduction, & prevention). It was also agreed by consensus that the expected timeline would be as follows:

- a. October 16 – Present LOI form to Commissioners for approval.
  - b. November 1 – Announce funding availability via news/website, etc.
  - c. November 15 – Letter of Intent due.
  - d. November 19 – Opioid Task Force meeting to review LOI's. Eligible LOI's will be invited to complete the full application for funding.
  - e. December 16 – Application for funding due.
  - f. December 17 – Opioid Task Force meeting to review and score applications.
  - g. December 18 – Present recommendations for funding to Commissioners for approval.
  - h. January 2025 – Begin disbursements of approved funding.
6. Mr. Ryan Pelletier shared the news of the Fort Kent hospital closing its adolescent and child psych beds, which will impact needs within Aroostook County. Mrs. Christina Wall also commented regarding the DOJ lawsuit against Maine which alleges a lack of community-based services that would allow the children to stay in their homes, violating their civil rights.
7. Co-Chair Peter Johnson adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm.

**Next meeting Aroostook County Opioid Task Force  
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 1:00 PM  
Administrative Hearing Room – Caribou Courthouse**