

## LOUISIANA LEGISLATURE ACT 88:

### ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HEROIN AND OPIOID PREVENTION AND EDUCATION

Date: March 12, 2019

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Louisiana Department of Health

628 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Bienville Building, Room 118

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

#### Minutes:

1. Call to Order - Dr. Hussey called the meeting to order at 1:06
2. Roll Call –

*Present:*

Dr. James Hussey (Chair) – Dept. of Health  
Dr. Allison Smith – Board of Regents  
Sheral Kellar – Workforce Commission  
Mona Michelli – Dept. of Children and Family Services  
Michael Comeaux – Dept. of Education  
Major Bob Brown – State Police  
Judge Jules Edwards – 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court JCD  
Thomas Travis – Dept. of Insurance  
Monica Taylor – Attorney General’s Office  
Troy Prevot – LCTA Workers’ Comp  
Senator Regina Barrow – Senate

*Absent:*

Linda Theriot – Veterans Affairs  
Dr. John Morrison – Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections

3. Approval of new agenda – Dr. Hussey requested to reorder agenda items to allow for election of Co-Chair after introductions; Motion to approve by Judge Edwards; Seconded by Mona Michelli; Unanimous vote to approve agenda with revision.
4. Introductions
  - a. New LDH team members –
    - i. Dr. Alex Billioux, OPH Assistant Secretary
    - ii. Keetsie Gunnels, OBH Opioid Coordinator
  - b. New HOPE Council Members
    - i. Dr. Allison Smith – Board of Regents
    - ii. Monica Taylor – AGs Office
5. Election of Co-Chair
  - a. Mona Michelli volunteered; There were no additional nominations; Judge Edwards moved to elect Mona Michelli as co-chair; Major Brown seconded the motion; Council unanimously voted for Mona Michelli for co-chair.
6. PEW Charitable Trust Update – Andrew Whitacre

Mr. Whitacre distributed the *Substance Use Disorder Treatment Policy Recommendations for the State of Louisiana, Final Report, March 2019* to council members (available at <http://www.ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/2970> ) and highlighted the eight policy recommendations grouped by four key components of an effective treatment system:

- a. Treatment System Transformation
- b. Substance Use Disorder Workforce
- c. Coverage and Reimbursement
- d. Underserved Populations

Council members had questions and comments for Mr. Whitacre, as recorded below:

- Mr. Prevot: What are the identified issues with PAs and NPs writing schedule III prescriptions?

Mr. Whitacre: Statute allows PAs and NPs to write schedule III prescriptions, however statutory clarification is needed.

- Judge Edwards: Agrees with all recommendations for MAT, but not with medications only.

Mr. Whitacre: MAT is inclusive of medication and counseling.

- Ms. Michelli: What is eligibility criteria for opioid use when seen in the ED? Are pregnant women included?

Mr. Whitacre: Part of the expectation of the billing code is access to GYN services.

- Ms. Kellar: Observed that the recommendations to legislative committee were not well received. What is the plan to move forward?

Mr. Whitacre: Bills may be required for statutory changes; some may only need resolution; PEW is in active conversations with the legislature.

- Public question: Any thoughts about maternal/child services for mothers with substance use?

Mr. Whitacre: Maternal/child services are outside of PEWs recommendations.

7. Approval of December minutes – Mr. Travis moved to approve and Dr. Smith seconded; Unanimous vote to approve December minutes.

8. Review of HOPE Council's 2018 End of Year Report to the Governor's Drug Policy Board

- a. Dr. Hussey read through the recommendations included in the report
  - i. Dr. Hussey asked if Council would prefer to have a lead for each strategy or if keeping the subcommittees previously formed (Interagency Coordination and Data Surveillance) would be preferable.
  - ii. Judge Edwards inquired about the timeline.
  - iii. Kristy Miller and Chaunda Mitchell stated there is no expectation by the Drug Policy Board (DPB) for the recommendations to be addressed in a specific order or timeframe and suggested that the 2020 session would be a good goal to work toward.
  - iv. Dr. Hussey asked if the Council would prefer to maintain the same form/format and update the current report or if the Council would prefer to reinvent the form/format.

- v. Judge Edwards suggested maintaining the current form/format that may require documents/instruments as attachments.
- vi. Chaunda Mitchell stated the DPB meets in October and January, so suggested Council proposals/recommendations should be provided to the DPB before December to allow the DPB sufficient time to initiate preparation for legislation.
- vii. Dr. Hussey asked if the Council would prefer to form new subcommittees or maintain previous subcommittees.
- viii. Mr. Comeaux stated that recommendations and data points that are relevant should be mandated.
- ix. Ms. Taylor suggested that data requests should be concise.
- x. Senator Barrow stated that a resolution is in order to assist with data collection and she will file it for the 2019 session. The Council should provide information to her attorneys on what data is required and they will submit a draft recommendation.
- xi. Kristy Miller suggested that data mining of current documents for data gaps would help to inform draft recommendations for the resolution.
- xii. Senator Barrow suggests a laser focus on who data would be requested from.
- xiii. Mr. Comeaux stated agencies should be mandated to provide requested data.
- xiv. Senator Barrow stated a resolution would ensure data requested is received.
- xv. Ms. Taylor suggested distributing the resolution with the survey to encourage agencies to respond as requested.

b. Next Steps –

- i. Council will reach out to Senator Barrow’s staff with identified gaps/ recommendations which will then be provided to Senator Barrow.
- ii. Dr. Hussey asked if there was a motion to move forward; Ms. Taylor made a motion to move forward with subcommittees that were previously formed.
- iii. Judge Edwards moved to adopt the plan outlined in the 2018 Year End report that identified recommendations and strategies to proceed with the work.
- iv. Public asked who is the agency lead going to be?
- v. Ms. Taylor withdrew her motion.
- vi. Judge Edwards withdrew his motion.
- vii. Mr. Travis moved to make LDH lead agency; Dr. Hussey stated the Council does not have the authority to assign the lead agency. Mr. Travis withdrew his motion.
- viii. Senator Barrow stated the resolution will include that LDH will be the lead agency.
- ix. Judge Edwards motioned to adopt the plan of action labeled in the HOPE Recommendations to the DRP; Ms. Taylor seconded and the Council voted unanimously to approve.

9. ASTHO work – Dr. Hussey and Dr. Billioux (via teleconference)

- a. Purpose of ASTHO collaborative was reviewed
- b. ASTHO Goals
  - i. Apply cross-sector data to Louisiana’s opioid crisis
  - ii. Develop multi-agency strategic planning and action on opioids
  - iii. Participate in multi-state learning collaborative

10. LODSS Update – Jay Besse

Currently working with 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2018 data (typically 2 quarters behind); working on a mobile friendly version; continue to explore new data sets that bring value; looking at National Forensic Laboratory Information System data to see if it is of value to add to the system. Dr. Hussey recommended reviewing information on LODSS at <https://lodss.ldh.la.gov>

11. OBH Grants Update – Dr. Janice Petersen

- a. STR Grant - \$16M for 2 years; Official end date is 2019; An extension request was submitted; currently waiting on a response from SAMHSA; Also working on sustainability plan
- b. LA Opioid Response Grant – Working with data waived providers and LSU and Tulane to provide intervention strategies to open their doors and provide services for those who need services.
- c. President’s budget continues to include dollars for the opioid response through the Support Act for Patients in Communities.
- d. Other grants – Several grants to include state-targeted treatment grants (\$250K-\$800K) to support First Responders.

**Question:** Are narcan kits still available?

**Answer:** Yes, working with LGEs to distribute; plan to order more through the LaSor grant; There is also an OBH coordinator to coordinate narcan distribution.

**Question:** Is narcan available for OBOTs?

**Answer:** Yes.

12. Public Comment

- a. Judge Edwards – Voiced concerns he read about in an article regarding fraud and abuse due to increased accessibility to drug treatment services and asked what would be done to insure tax dollars are being used appropriately for needed services.
  - i. Ms. Taylor listed avenues for reporting suspicious activities to law enforcement, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance.
  - ii. Dr. Hussey asked if OTPs check the PMP **data** base.
  - iii. Kristy Miller referenced a national brief on treatment ethics.
  - iv. Senator Barrow requested Judge Edwards to forward to her the article he mentioned.
- b. Public – Will the public continue to be allowed to participate in the subcommittees as they were previously?
  - i. Dr. Hussey – Interested parties should provide their information to Ms. Gunnels; Will receive an email invitation to participate if previously participated.
  - ii. Dr. Smith – Where is naloxone data use collected with regard to use of Naloxone by LSU Campus Police. Jay Besse responded that the data may only be at the local level; and she should contact Campus Police. Per Mr. Besse, nothing has been standardized on how to capture that data.

13. Quorum challenges – Dr. Hussey stated quorum has only been met once or twice previously and encouraged continue participation. Ms. Gunnels thanked Kristy Miller for making phone calls to members to encourage attendance at this meeting.

14. Next meeting date, time, location – June 20, 2019, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Bienville Building, Room 118.

15. Dr. Hussey adjourned the meeting at 2:55.