



Montana Opioid Abatement Trust

Oct. 9th, 2025

Operating Trustees Meeting Minutes

1597 Avenue D, Suite 6 Billings, MT 59102

*Meeting called to order at 1:00PM by
Roll Call Taken*

Operating Trustees Present

Will Selph, Brenda Kneeland, Steve Crawford, Becky Rice, Jake Strissel, Drenda Niemann, Maureen Ward, Jeanna Miller, Rebecca de Camara, Scott Malloy

Staff Present

Rusty Gackle (Executive Director), Steffanie McGowan (Program Director)

Approval of July 10th Meeting Minutes

Approval of the meeting minutes was properly moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

MOAT Updates

Executive Director Rusty Gackle updated the Trustees on the governance committee's progress in the remaining unformed regions. He also shared updates regarding communications with abatement regions, County Commissioners, and County Attorneys.

A financial update was given by the MOAT staff.

- 2025 Projected Budget vs. Actual Q2
- Grant Dollars Disbursed
- Settlement Disbursements Received
- Financial Audit

MOAT staff gave an update of progress on MOAT Goals and Objective Guidelines



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Old Business

The Trustees reviewed fourteen 6-month follow-up reports and two 1-year follow-up reports submitted as part of previously approved applications.

New Business

Trustees reviewed twenty-six submitted applications:

Abatement Region 5 approved

Sanders County Sheriff's Office – Body Scanner ~ \$141,500.00

Approval of the application Sanders County Sheriff's Office – Body Scanner was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Montana Meth Project – Fentanyl Prevention, Education and Outreach ~ \$35,000.00

Approval of the application Fentanyl Prevention, Education and Outreach was moved, seconded and passed 9 in favor, 1 opposed.

Montana Legal Services Association – Montana Health Justice Partnership Recovery Project ~ Year 1: \$15,237.00 ~ Year 2: \$15,164.00 ~ Year 3: \$15,593.00

Consideration of the Montana Health Justice Partnership Recovery Project application was tabled pending additional information from the applicant regarding the program's effectiveness in abatement region 5.

Roots & Resilience – Drive Hope Across Montana: Mineral County ~ \$35,000.00

Approval of the application Drive Hope Across Montana: Mineral County was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Simulation in Motion Montana – Simulation Training & Opioid Response Plan STORPI ~ \$40,000.00

Approval of the application Simulation Training & Opioid Response Plan STORPI was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Be the Light International – BTL Prevention & Recovery Program ~ \$10,000.00

Approval of the application BTL Prevention & Recovery Program was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Trust for Montana Libraries – AED's in Every Library Region 5 ~ \$1,939.00

Approval of the application AED's in Every Library Region 5 was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.



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Ravalli County Metro Region approved

Bitterroot Health Daly Hospital – From EMT to Paramedic – building capacity for the crisis ~ \$68,000.00

Approval of the application From EMT to Paramedic – building capacity for the crisis was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Montana Meth Project – Fentanyl Prevention, Education and Outreach ~ \$35,000.00

Approval of the application Fentanyl Prevention, Education and Outreach was moved, seconded and passed 9 in favor, 1 opposed.

Yellowstone County Metro Region approved

Native American Development Corporation – Harm Reduction & Benefits Access Program at the Billings Urban Indian Health & Wellness Center ~ \$125,000.00

Approval of application Harm Reduction & Benefits Access Program at the Billings Urban Indian Health & Wellness Center was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Missoula County Metro Region

City of Missoula Community Planning, Development & Innovation – Housing Sprint for Johnson Street Emergency Shelter ~ \$250,000.00

Approval of application Housing Sprint for Johnson Street Emergency Shelter was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Missoula City-County Health Department – Missoula Public Health, Substance Use Disorder Prevention (SUDP) Opioid Program~ Year 1: \$72,316.31 ~ Year 2: \$142,208.61

Approval of the application Missoula Public Health, Substance Use Disorder Prevention (SUDP) Opioid Program was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Jeanna Miller abstained from vote*

Partnership Health Center – Medical Outreach to Reduce Opioid-Related Harms ~ Year 1: \$120,836.50 ~ Year 2: \$253,922.29

Approval of the application Medical Outreach to Reduce Opioid-Related Harms was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

City of Missoula Community Planning, Development & Innovation – Pathways to Housing Stability ~ Year 1: \$546,890.09 ~ Year 2: \$309,234.38

Approval of the application Pathways to Housing Stability was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.



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*Missoula Public Health – Missoula Foster Child Health Program ~ Year 1: \$9,957.10 ~
Year 2: \$41,423.20*

Approval of the application Missoula Foster Child Program was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Jeanna Miller abstained from vote*

Gallatin County Metro Region

HRDC – Supportive Housing Response ~ \$100,000.00

Approval of the application Supportive Housing Response was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Scott Malloy abstained from vote*

*Intermountain Deaconess Children's Services – Increasing Access to Mental Health
Issues ~ \$21,339.13*

Approval of the application Increasing Access to Mental Health Issues was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Abatement Region 2

Montana Meth Project – Fentanyl Prevention, Education and Outreach ~ \$35,000.00

Approval of the application Fentanyl Prevention, Education and Outreach was moved, seconded and passed 8 in favor, 2 opposed.

*Mountain Pacific Quality Health Foundation – Opioids: Know the Facts, Change the
Future ~ \$55,391.00*

Approval of the Opioids: Know the Facts, Change the Future was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

*The LifeGuard Group – Montana Human Trafficking Hotline Regional Liaison ~
\$34,960.00*

Approval of the Montana Human Trafficking Hotline Regional Liaison was properly moved, seconded and passed 6 in favor, 1 opposed. *Steve Crawford, Will Selph, Jeanna Miller abstained from vote*

*Alliance for Youth, Inc. Fentanyl Awareness Community-Based Education Campaign ~
\$128,668.00*

Approval of the Fentanyl Awareness Community-Based Education Campaign was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Home N' School – Shelby Elementary Playground Project ~ \$16,124.00

The application was denied unanimously due to its limited alignment with the approved uses outlined in Exhibit E – Opioid Remediation Uses.



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Abatement Region 1

Eastern Montana Community Mental Health Center- Substance Abuse Prevention Services in Eastern Montana ~ Year 1: \$208,293.00, Year 2: \$208,293.00

Approval of the application Substance Abuse Prevention Services in Eastern Montana was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Brenda Kneeland abstained from vote*

Butte-Silver Bow Metro Region

Butte Silver Bow Health Department – BSBHD SSP September 8, 2025 Opioid Abatement Proposal ~ \$34,037.00

Approval of the application BSBHD SSP September 8, 2025 Opioid Abatement Proposal was moved, seconded and passed 8 in favor, 2 opposed.

Lewis & Clark Metro Region

Florence Crittenton Family Services – Pathways to Care for Women & Families ~ \$94,280.00

Approval of the application Pathways to Care for Women & Families was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

St. Peter's Health Foundation – No Wrong Door: Expanding OUD/SUD/COD Treatment Access via Peer Support ~ \$174,835.00

Approval of the application No Wrong Door: Expanding OUD/SUD/COD Treatment Access via Peer Support was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Becky Rice abstained from vote*

***Disbursements for proposed Opioid Remediation programs and services to Participating Abatement Regions shall be reviewed by the MOAT Advisory Committee to determine whether the proposed disbursements meet the criteria for Opioid Remediation and Approved Purposes. The MOAT may not deny a proposal for distribution of funds from a Region or Local Government, provided the proposal identifies Approved Purposes for which the funds are currently available and will be expended as defined and provided for in the Settlement Agreements.*

Next Meeting: January, 2026

Meeting adjourned at: 3:00PM