



**Montana Opioid
Abatement Trust**

April 21st, 2026

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

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

Operating Trustees Absent

Becky Rice

Staff Present

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

Additional Attendees

Clark Nuber

Approval of Jan. 13th Meeting Minutes

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

MOAT Updates

Executive Director, Rusty Gackle, gave an update on Abatement Region committees and communications.

Clark Nuber presented an update on the finalized 2025 MOAT audit.

MOAT staff provided a financial update including:

- MOAT Updated Disbursement Policy
- Overview of Investment Portfolio
- Overview of 2026 Budget
- Grant Dollars Disbursed



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Old Business

The Trustees reviewed six 6-month follow-up reports and twelve 1-year follow-up reports submitted as part of previously approved applications. These reports were submitted as part of previously approved applications.

New Business

Trustees conducted a biennial vote for committee Chair and Vice Chair. Will Selph was nominated to serve as Chair for an additional two-year term; the motion was moved, seconded and approved unanimously. Scott Malloy was nominated to serve as Vice Chair for an additional two-year term, the motion was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Trustees reviewed nineteen submitted applications:

Abatement Region 1

Bighorn Valley Health Center ~ Integrated SUD & Behavioral Health Care to Combat the Opioid Epidemic in Eastern Montana ~ Year 1: \$260,000.00 ~ Year 2: \$265,000.00

Approval of the application Integrated SUD & Behavioral Health Care to Combat the Opioid Epidemic in Eastern Montana was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Abatement Region 2

Big Sandy Volunteer Fire Department ~ Rural Opioid Overdose Response ~ \$15,000.00

Approval of the application Rural Opioid Overdose Response was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Chouteau County DES ~ CHORE Chouteau County Harm Reduction & Opioid Response Enhancement ~ \$52,280.00

Approval of the application Chouteau County DES ~ CHORE Chouteau County Harm Reduction & Opioid Response Enhancement program was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Rebecca de Camara and Maureen Ward abstained from voting*

Health Equity Solutions ~ Kyle's House Foundation Supporting Recovery in Havre ~ \$149,450.00

Approval of the application Health Equity Solutions ~ Kyle's House Foundation Supporting Recovery in Havre was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Jake Strissel abstained from voting*



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Abatement Region 3

*Mountain Shadow Association – Kaala’s Village Family Healing Center
~ Year 1: \$50,000 ~ Year 2: \$100,000*

Approval of application Kaala’s Village Family Healing Center was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Abatement Region 5

Montana Professional Learning Collaborative – Resilient Futures: Opioid Prevention in Schools ~ \$80,326.00

Approval of application Resilient Futures: Opioid Prevention in Schools was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Abatement Region 4

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

Approval of the application Fentanyl Prevention, Education and Outreach was properly moved, seconded and passed 7 in favor, 2 opposed.

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

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

Trust for Montana Libraries – AED’s in Every Library ~ \$13,573.00

Approval of the application AED’s in Every Library was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Park County, Montana – Peer Support Specialist (.5FTE) Services for Mobile Criss Response Team ~ \$41,680.00

Approval of the application Peer Support Specialist (.5FTE) Services for Mobile Criss Response Team was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Greater Butte Community Coordinated Child Care (Butte 4-C’s) – Strengthening Rural Families ~ \$60,000.00

Approval of the application Strengthening Rural Families was properly moved, seconded and passed unanimously.



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Flathead County Metro Region

Boys & Girls Club of Glacier – Opioid Prevention & Resistance Program ~ \$60,000.00

Approval of the application Opioid Prevention & Resistance Program was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Butte-Silver Bow Metro Region

Greater Butte Community Coordinated Child Care (Butte 4-C's) – Building Resilient Families~ \$100,000.00

Approval of the application Building Resilient Families was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

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

Consideration of the application The LifeGuard Group – Montana Human Trafficking Hotline Regional Liason was tabled pending further review and clarification from Butte-Silver Bow Metro Region.

Butte Cares Inc. – Opioid Prevention, Education and Community Connection ~ \$169,568.56

Approval of the application Opioid Prevention, Education and Community Connection was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Lewis & Clark Metro Region

Lewis & Clark Public Health – Grow Together: Expanding the Universally Offered Home Visiting to Address the Opioid Epidemic~ \$16,000.00

Approval of the application Grow Together: Expanding the Universally Offered Home Visiting to Address the Opioid Epidemic was moved, seconded and passed unanimously. *Drenda Niemann abstained from voting.*

Good Samaritan Ministries – Strategic Outreach Peer Specialist (STOPS) Campaign ~ \$100,000.00

Approval of the application Strategic Outreach Peer Specialist (STOPS) Campaign was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

Prevention Support Services – Community Capacity Building for the Prevention of Opioid Use Disorder ~ \$43,536.89

Approval of the application Community Capacity Building for the Prevention of Opioid Use Disorder was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.



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Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Office – Detention Center Medical Provider and MAT Bridges Program ~ \$115,200.00

Approval of the application Detention Center Medical Provider and MAT Bridges Program was moved, seconded and passed unanimously.

***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: Tuesday July 21st, 2026

Meeting adjourned at: 2:15PM



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 406.534.2024

1597 Avenue D, Suite 6 · Billings, MT 59102

 info@montanaopioid.org

 www.montanaopioid.org