

South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund Board Meeting
December 18, 2024
Via Zoom

Call to Order

Vice Chair Aditi Bussells called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 9:04 AM via Zoom. Those in attendance via Zoom and constituting a quorum were:

Board members present via Zoom: Vice Chair Aditi Bussells, Hon. H. Bruce Williams, Gary Mixon, Toby Chappell, Martine Helou-Allen, Lisa Montgomery

Excused: Chairman Bedingfield, Jared Stone, Steve Donaldson

2025 Administrative Budget

Alana Williams, SFAA Director of Strategic Initiatives, provided a comprehensive overview of the administrative budget for the South Carolina Opioid Recovery Fund (SCORF) for 2025. She explained that per the settlement agreement, 2% of the SCORF funds would be allocated to the administrative subfund, with \$662,549 planned for expenditure for 2025, which is within the allotted 2% for administrative costs. Vice Chair Bussells asked whether the budget included an epidemiologist, and Ms. Williams confirmed that staff is working closely with the epidemiologist. Motion to accept the 2025 SCORF administrative budget by Gary Mixon and second by Hon. H. Williams, m/c unanimous.

Capital Investment Guidelines

Vice Chair Aditi Bussells presented the capital investment guidelines to the SCORF Board, expressing gratitude to Mr. Chappell for his revisions. Mr. Chappell explained that the guidelines establish a pre-approval process for capital investments by political subdivisions, allowing the Board to pre-approve the purchase of vacant land up to \$30,000 per acre and buildings up to \$2 per square foot. This process enables political subdivisions to identify and get pre-approval for buildings, then return to the Board for review. If there are no red flags, they can proceed more quickly. The Board had no questions, and Vice Chair Bussells emphasized the importance of implementing these guidelines for efficiency. Motion to adopt the capital investment guidelines by Martine Helou-Allen and seconded by Gary Mixon, m/c unanimous.

Old Business

Vice Chair Aditi Bussells lead the revised GPS application review.

1. **Horry County.** This is a revised continuation application that includes more detail on their prior outcomes at the SCORF Board's request. Motion to approve revised Horry County application in the amount of \$1,152,159.56 by Hon. H. Williams and seconded by Ms. Helou-Allen, m/c unanimous.
2. **Chesterfield County.** SCORF Staff are requesting the SCORF Board's approval for an additional \$5,000 in funds on top of the previously approved amount of \$466,105 that was disbursed to Chesterfield County. Staff clarified there are actually 14 training attendees rather than the 12

initially approved. Motion to approve clarified Chesterfield County application in the additional amount of \$5,000 by Lisa Montgomery and seconded by Hon. H. Williams, m/c unanimous.

3. **Orangeburg/Calhoun Counties. Orangeburg/Calhoun Counties.** SCORF Staff explained to the SCORF Board that Staff executed a disbursement form based on this group's revised budget, which was not submitted to Board for review due to staff oversight, allocating 5% for Orangeburg and 2% for Calhoun Counties for administrative costs. Staff did not recognize the difference in administrative costs due to the removal of Naloxone from this group's budget, and therefore did not pass the revised budget to the SCORF Board.

Ms. Williams clarified that the application had already been approved by the SCORF Board, and the additional administrative costs were now being requested for approval. Mr. Chappell raised a concern about the discrepancy of the amounts listed in the narrative versus the budget in the revised application. The Hon. H. Williams suggested reconsidering the application due to the raised concerns, and Vice Chair Bussells stated that new information could be treated as a new motion. Staff explained that the revised budget, which excluded Naloxone, is what led to a \$29,191.45 overpayment, and Vice Chair Bussells then suggested treating the revised budget as an amendment to the application.

Mr. Chappell restated his concern about the application budget and Mr. Mixon asked whether the Board had the authority to change the previously approved budget. Vice Chair Bussells indicated that the Board could request further revisions to the application. The Hon. H. Williams moved to return the application for revisions based on the concerns raised, with Attorney Libet reminding the Board that they had already approved an older version of the application. The Board discussed whether their questions required legal advice and determined this was needed. Motion to move into Executive Session by Vice Chair Bussells and seconded by Mr. Chappell, m/c unanimous.

The SCORF Board moved into Executive Session to receive legal advice from Counsel.
The SCORF Board returned from Executive Session.

Motion to inform Orangeburg and Calhoun Counties that they were overpaid by \$29,191.45, therefore these funds are to be held in an account, unspent, and carried over for next year's application, along with a request that these counties revise their budget to reflect that overpayment, by Vice Chair Bussells and seconded by Martine Helou-Allen, m/c unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:34 AM.