

GARRETT COUNTY OVERDOSE PREVENTION TEAM

January 5, 2026, 9:00 AM (Virtual Only)

Meeting Minutes

Those Present: Christian Mast, Jennifer Hare, Shannon Sexton, Chelsie Dever, Clarissa Lloyd, Michael Sigmund, Kevin Null, Avery Meyer, Wayne Tiemersma, Jeannie Miller, Ted Bell, JR Bosley, Linley Marcum

Christian called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Christian asked for any changes or corrections to the November 4, 2025, minutes. Seeing none, he asked for a motion to approve. Catherine made the motion, and Jennifer seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Christian Mast and Shannon Sexton introduced Clarissa Lloyd, the new Peer Recovery Specialist that has recently joined the Garrett County Health Department's Health Education and Outreach section.
- Shannon Sexton introduced Linley Marcum, the new Secretary that has recently joined the Garrett County Health Department's Health Education and Outreach section.

UPDATE ON LOCAL ABATEMENT PLAN:

- Shannon Sexton gave an update on the Abatement Funds... (section about Mike and Jennifer's training). There will be a school training in February.
- There was a public forum about how the funds were being spent; a lot of feedback was received from the public, although some of the discussion got a bit off topic. Some of the public commenters were concerned with how the funds were being spent and felt as though bullying should be addressed when discussing how best to utilize the funds. From there, the conversation in the public forum veered back on topic.
- There have been a couple of things voted on, but some of those things don't fall under what is allowable under Exhibit E. We really should go back to the drawing board and discuss the best way to utilize the funds. Since we re-evaluate how the funds are spent every three years and we are mid-cycle, it is imperative that we make sure we're making the best possible use of the



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funds. Christian Mast stated that the decision should be made as a group to better understand where the funding priorities lie.

- Chelsie Dever requested that the next meeting be held in person to have a better discussion and get a better understanding of what is important to the membership. She suggested that a Request for Proposal (RFP) be sent out so that the public can tell us what they want; she also suggested that the group should make a push for the public to be involved in determining how the funds are spent. Christian Mast agreed, saying that it should be a very intentional process when choosing how best to utilize the funds.
- Wayne Tiemersma requested that an email be sent outlining what is and isn't allowable under Exhibit E, as he is not sure what has changed in that regard. Christian Mast replied that he has a copy of what are allowable expenses, and that he will send something out in advance for April's in person meeting. He explained that after he read over the Schedule D documentation that he could understand why the request for a canine was disallowed, but that he is unsure why some of the items had been disallowed.
- Shannon Sexton stated that she had no further business related to the Abatement Fund that needed to be discussed at this time.

COMMUNITY DRUG TRENDS:

- Chelsie Dever spoke about the overdose numbers for the fiscal year (FY) 2026. She stated she won't have the final numbers for several months, but there was a significant decline in Garrett and Allegheny Counties.
- Jennifer Hare added that there had been 113 fatalities (so far?) for FY2026.
- Chelsie Dever then added that these current numbers included redundancies, meaning that the statistics could include the same cases from the sheriff's office as well as emergency medical services (EMS). She continued, saying that there was a modest decline compared to the previous year; 24 this year as compared to 25 last year.
- Chelsie Dever stated that the substances they are seeing in these overdose cases vary greatly and include substances such as cocaine, methamphetamine, cannabis, etc.
- Wayne Tiemersma questioned whether EMS or the sheriff's office were seeing overdoses of veterinary substances, as they seem to be becoming popular among users. Chelsie Dever said that she did not have the numbers on those types of substances, but that she would get the information for an upcoming meeting.



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- Jennifer Hare noted that opioid drug intoxication for the same period last year was three, this year it is up to five. Chelsie Dever commented that this would show up as a big increase in their data, and that it would be interesting to see when the final numbers were released. Jennifer Hare noted that three of the overdose deaths for this year are opioid deaths.
- Chelsie Dever asked Jeannie Miller if she had any data to add to the discussion, but Jeannie Miller stated that she did not have data to share at this time.
- Chelsie Dever then asked Shannon Sexton about metrics that had been shared with her regarding overdose deaths. Shannon Sexton shared that she has received reports of overdoses that seek help from Garrett Regional Medical Center; in quarter one of FY2026, there were nine overdoses at the hospital, and in quarter two of FY2026, there were two, showing that the number of overdoses presenting at the hospital has gone down.
- Chelsie Dever asked if Alisha Martin (who was not present at this meeting) had numbers regarding Narcan saturation. Shannon Sexton said that she did have those numbers but would present them at a future meeting.

COMMUNITY AND AGENCY UPDATES:

- Chelsie Dever stated the importance of getting into the community and stated that the community interaction would be discussed in-depth at the next meeting, since there was no representative from EMS at the meeting today.
- Chelsie Dever then asked Avery Meyer if she had any updates from the state.
 - Avery Meyer told the group that they were working on a dashboard with data that would provide many of the statistics that were discussed today, including the use of animal tranquilizers. She stated that the dashboard is incomplete at this time, but that some samples of what the dashboard would provide can be found with RAD.
 - Ms. Meyer then told the meeting that they are also working on a restitution dashboard. She stated that it would be a good way for the public to also see how funds are being spent.
 - Ms. Meyer next stated that as the group reviews Exhibit E, that she would be willing to act as a resource for information about the document. She stated that once the group meets in person at the next meeting that she will help everyone understand Exhibit E.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- There were no public comments.



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OTHER COMMENTS:

- Chelsie Dever then shared that:
 - Alisha Martin would be performing an Overdose Spike Alert Drill with Allegheny County on January 31.
 - The Overdose Resource Team (ORT) had dissolved. She told the group that Shannon Sexton was working on a plan for the remaining funding held by the dissolved team, but she challenged the group to think of ways to spend the OPT grant money that had been allocated to the ORT. Chelsie Dever said that with the dissolution, part of the concern had been where their money had been spent.
 - Next, she shared that they were working with both EMS and the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) to see how the two work together. She said there had been concern about how they are reaching people at the time of overdose, and that they were working on a regional memorandum of understanding (MOU) with EMS to address the issue.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

Chelsie Dever gave the following closing comments which set goals for the group moving forward:

- It would be helpful for some members of the group to attend the upcoming Sim Mapping, which would be held during the last week of March, 2026.
- We will be looking at EMS and CIT, how they both work, and how they can work together.
- She stated that she has Exhibit E, and the group can examine it and identify things that have been disallowed.

Shannon Sexton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at _____, and the motion was seconded by JR Bosley. There were no objections, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at _____.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 6, 2026. As per the request of Christian Mast, the April meeting will be conducted in-person.



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