

Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust
Dispute Resolution Committee Public Meeting
June 3, 2026 | 2:15 PM | Virtual

MINUTES

DRC Member Attendees (6):

- Chair Tom VanKirk
- Tumar Alexander
- Commissioner Kevin Boozel
- Stuart Fisk
- Shea Madden
- Commissioner Robert Postal

DRC Members Not Attending (1):

- Senator Christine Tartaglione

Washington County Representatives

- Tiffany Milovac, Deputy Director, Washington County Department of Human Services
- Dr. Mary Jo Podgurski, Founder/President, Academy for Adolescent Health, Inc.
- Dr. John Tamiggi, Director, Washington County Department of Human Services

Other Attendees:

- Briana Anderson, Trust Administrator, CCAP
- Chrystal McCorkel, Trust Liaison, CCAP
- Ashli Rudy, Trust Administrative Specialist, CCAP
- Jayson Wolfgang, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
- Jordan Yeagley, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney
- Members of the public

Announcements by Chair Tom VanKirk

- This meeting of the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust's ("Trust") Dispute Resolution Committee ("DRC") has been duly advertised as a public meeting in accordance with the Sunshine Act and is therefore open to members of the public as observers.
- Participation in this meeting is limited to representatives of Washington County, as beneficiaries under the First Amended and Restated Trust Order ("Amended Trust Order"), Trustees on the DRC, and those that the Trustees have invited in advance to take part.
- This meeting is being recorded, and the video will be available on the Trust's website along with the minutes from this meeting once approved by the DRC.
- An Executive Session was held today immediately prior to this public meeting for the purpose of receiving legal updates and legal advice.
- A quorum of Trustees on the DRC is present at this meeting.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the public DRC meeting held on March 13, 2026, were circulated to Trustees in advance of this meeting. Chair Tom VanKirk indicated he would entertain a motion to approve the minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Tumar Alexander and seconded by Commissioner Robert Postal. With no further discussion, the motion was approved unanimously by the Trustees in attendance.

Appeal from Washington County Concerning Program Nos. 36, 37, 52, and 59

Before Washington County began its presentation, Chair Tom VanKirk noted that the DRC had received additional information in connection with Washington County's appeal. He explained that the new, more succinct information provided greater clarity regarding the remediation programs at issue and would be considered as part of the appeal. Chair Tom VanKirk also stated that, in future proceedings, the Trust would expect this level of responsive and concise information to be provided during the initial reporting and requests for additional information rather than on appeal.

Program No. 36 – DHS Training and Continuing Education

Chair Tom VanKirk asked whether the additional information was sufficient for the DRC to make a determination on any of the appealed programs without an oral presentation. Stuart Fisk moved to approve Washington County Program No. 36, stating that he believed the DRC had enough information to approve the program without a presentation but indicated that he still had questions

about the remaining programs and would like to hear presentations on those. Tumar Alexander agreed and seconded the motion to approve Washington County Program No. 36.

Chair Tom VanKirk then presented the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that, the Dispute Resolution Committee of the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust hereby reverses the decision of the Board of Trustees that Washington County Program No. 36 (DHS Training and Continuing Education) is not compliant with Exhibit E. A “yes” vote would reverse the current denial by the Trust, whereas a “no” vote would maintain the decision by the Trust that the program is not compliant with Exhibit E.

Yeses (5)

- Tumar Alexander
- Commissioner Kevin Boozel
- Stuart Fisk
- Shea Madden
- Commissioner Robert Postal

The outcome of the vote was thus to reverse the current denial by the Trust.

Program No. 37 – Direct Consulting Solutions – The Childcare Group Solutions Center

Tiffany Milovac, Deputy Director of the Washington County Department of Human Services, presented Washington County Program No. 37 and explained that the County believes the program aligns with Schedule B, Section E, Subsections 6, 7, and 8 of Exhibit E. She stated that the program would provide on-site childcare for children of individuals in treatment and recovery, reducing a significant barrier to participation in treatment, recovery services, workforce training, and other supportive services. Ms. Milovac emphasized that the program is family-centered, supporting not only individuals with opioid use disorder (“OUD”) but the entire family unit. She further explained that the program includes trauma-informed behavioral health services, family stabilization supports, employment opportunities for parents and guardians in recovery, and connections to recovery partners.

Washington County representatives were asked to provide additional clarification regarding the intended use of opioid settlement funds (“OSF”) for the program. Dr. John Tamiggi, Director of the Washington County Department of Human Services, explained that the \$75,000 in OSF awarded to the program was part of the aggregate funding for the total project budget.

Commissioner Robert Postal asked whether the \$75,000 award was based on the anticipated number of families impacted by OUD who would be served through the program. Dr. Tamiggi

explained that, when Washington County received the application, the program was still in its early stages. As a result, the funding was intended to assist with launching the initiative. He noted that the County may consider providing additional funding to the organization in the future once the program becomes operational.

Chair Tom VanKirk asked how much funding the organization originally requested. Ms. Milovac stated that the organization applied for \$1.8 million but was awarded \$75,000, which was designated for purposes determined by Washington County to be compliant with Exhibit E. Due to the significant funding gap, Ms. Milovac explained that the organization is seeking additional funding sources to support the program's full implementation and long-term sustainability.

Chair Tom VanKirk then asked how the \$75,000 award amount was determined from the original \$1.8 million request. Ms. Milovac explained that discussions were held with the organization to identify specific components of the program that Washington County believed could be funded with OSF. Ultimately, the funding was designated to support an opioid navigator position, which would serve as a dedicated staff member responsible for overseeing program components related to supporting families impacted by OUD. The awarded funds were intended primarily to support the salary associated with this role.

Chair Tom VanKirk asked whether efforts had begun to fill the opioid navigator position or whether the organization was waiting until it secured the full \$1.8 million requested before moving forward with the entire project. Ms. Milovac explained that the organization is currently working to secure a location for the center, as the initial site identified was ultimately purchased by another contractor. She further stated that the organization continues to seek the remaining funding needed to move the project forward.

Chair Tom VanKirk then questioned whether any programming had begun. Dr. Tamiggi confirmed that programming had not yet started.

Shea Madden asked whether the \$75,000 awarded by Washington County to the organization would support childcare services. Dr. Tamiggi clarified that the award was intended to support the opioid navigator position, who may assist families with accessing childcare resources as part of the broader support services provided through the program.

Ms. Milovac explained that Washington County has discussed with the organization the possibility of supporting subsidized childcare opportunities for families in the future once the program becomes operational. She noted that Washington County currently has only one residential unit available for women and children, and that program typically does not have availability. She stated that expanding childcare services could help families impacted by OUD access needed services while remaining together within Washington County, rather than having to seek services outside the County.

Commissioner Kevin Boozel asked the Washington County representatives whether the County had established policies regarding expenditure deadlines for OSF awards and what processes were in place to ensure the funds were being used as intended, noting that the organization had already been awarded \$75,000 but had not yet spent the funds. Dr. Tamiggi explained that the County maintains ongoing communication with award recipients to ensure they are taking steps toward meeting their identified goals. He added that the County continues to develop and refine best practices related to the monitoring and administration of OSF.

Shea Madden and Stuart Fisk noted that the supporting documentation submitted as part of Washington County's appeal gave the impression that the program would provide childcare services. They asked for clarification regarding whether childcare would be a component of the program and, if so, what the anticipated cost would be to families, particularly those impacted by OUD.

Dr. Tamiggi stated that the organization is still in the planning stages of developing the program. He noted that the organization has reportedly implemented similar initiatives in the past and that the County is relying on the organization's experience to help ensure the program is sustainable. Ms. Milovac explained that her understanding was that the program would be similar to a Head Start model in that most families participating in the program would qualify for subsidized childcare. Shea Madden then asked whether childcare services were currently available in the area. Ms. Milovac responded that childcare availability is extremely limited throughout Washington County.

The Trustees of the DRC had no further questions regarding Program No. 37.

Program No. 52 – Shawn Patrick House

Dr. Tamiggi presented Washington County Program No. 52 and explained that the County believes the program aligns with Schedule B, Section B, Subsections 1, 2, and 4 of Exhibit E. He stated that the renovation and operation of the Shawn Patrick House would provide wraparound recovery services, continuum of care supports, and safe, medication-friendly recovery housing for men with OUD and any co-occurring substance use disorders ("SUDs") and/or mental health ("MH") conditions.

Dr. Tamiggi explained that the Shawn Patrick House is intended to serve as a comprehensive recovery environment rather than simply providing housing. He stated that the program would offer supportive housing, transportation assistance, employment and education resources, case management, service coordination, and life skills development. He further explained that the program would incorporate a continuum of care model through peer support services, connections to counseling and treatment providers, community navigation services, individualized recovery planning, and partnerships with behavioral health, treatment, and social service organizations.

Dr. Tamiggi stated that the renovation and operation of the Shawn Patrick House would help address the critical shortage of recovery housing for men in the region by increasing access to safe, supportive recovery housing for individuals with OUD and any co-occurring SUDs and/or MH conditions. He explained that the program would provide a structured recovery environment consistent with best practices for OUD treatment and would offer Medication-Assisted Treatment (“MAT”)-friendly housing, ensuring that individuals using FDA-approved medications for OUD are not excluded from residency. Dr. Tamiggi further stated that the program would provide housing stability, which is associated with reduced recurrence of use, improved treatment retention, and long-term recovery success, while also supporting residents’ reintegration into the community by providing a stable foundation for employment, education, and community engagement.

Chair Tom VanKirk asked whether the organization receiving the funds was a nonprofit entity. Ms. Milovac explained that the organization was an LLC owned by individuals with approximately a decade of lived experience in recovery. She stated that the organization purchased the Shawn Patrick House from Resurrection Power after that organization was no longer able to maintain operations. Ms. Milovac further explained that, rather than allowing the male recovery housing beds to be lost, Resurrection Power approached the organization about purchasing and operating the property to preserve the recovery housing.

Chair Tom VanKirk asked how the \$350,000 award would be utilized. Ms. Milovac explained that the property had already been purchased, renovated, and furnished. She stated that the organization had hired a full-time certified recovery specialist and had been operating the home for approximately four months. She further noted that rent paid by program participants would support ongoing operational expenses.

Chair Tom VanKirk expressed concern regarding the organization's long-term financial sustainability, noting that, as an LLC rather than a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, its ability to generate revenue and access certain funding opportunities was more limited. Ms. Milovac explained that Washington County had internal discussions regarding this issue and determined that, beginning with the 2026 Request for Proposal (“RFP”) cycle in Washington County, entities seeking funds for property acquisition would be required to be nonprofit organizations. She noted that the organization has since established a nonprofit entity but was operating as an LLC when the award was made.

Chair Tom VanKirk asked whether the organization had applied for licensure through the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (“DDAP”). Ms. Milovac stated that the organization is currently in the process of seeking licensure.

Stuart Fisk commented that he appreciated the appeal materials clarifying that the Shawn Patrick House would allow for the integration of MAT, noting that this information had not been clearly identified in the previously submitted materials and would have been helpful during the initial

review process.

The Trustees of the DRC had no further questions regarding Program No. 52.

Program No. 59 – WHS Teen Outreach – Common Ground Teen Center

Dr. Tamiggi introduced Dr. Mary Jo Podgurski, Founder and President of the Academy for Adolescent Health, Inc. (“Academy”), to present Washington County Program No. 59. Dr. Podgurski clarified that, while the Academy operates multiple programs, the OSF received are specifically designated for the Educate Children for Healthy Outcomes (“ECHO”) program.

Dr. Podgurski explained that Washington County believes the ECHO program aligns with Schedule B, Section G, Subsections 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of Exhibit E. She stated that ECHO is an evidence-based prevention and educational mentoring program that provides individualized, one-on-one support to youth identified as being at risk for opioid use, substance use, and related challenges by addressing the risk factors that contribute to those behaviors.

Dr. Podgurski explained that the program focuses on early intervention by addressing risk factors and providing intensive mentoring, with mentors meeting with participants approximately 4 to 6 hours each month. She reported that the program is currently serving 20 youth between the ages of 12 and 19 through this funding, with the cost of services estimated at approximately \$4,000 per mentee. She further explained that the program incorporates additional evidence-based initiatives, including Teen Mental Health First Aid and SOS Suicide Prevention. She noted that the Academy trained 75 teens in Teen Mental Health First Aid and provided programming in 6 school districts during the current year.

Dr. Podgurski stated that ECHO participants receive individualized mentoring by an individual with a master’s degree in counseling at the Common Ground Teen Center (“Teen Center”), which serves as a safe meeting space for the program, and, when appropriate, in their homes. She reported that the program has demonstrated positive outcomes, including improved grades, reduced truancy, increased school attendance, and reduced or delayed substance use among participants.

Dr. Podgurski further explained that the Academy provides community-based education and prevention programming throughout Washington County, including partnerships with local schools. She stated that the ECHO program utilizes evidence-based assessment tools, including the Piers-Harris Self-Concept Scale, to evaluate youth self-concept and support the development of healthy decision-making skills.

Dr. Podgurski explained that the Academy also addresses the mental health needs of youth at risk for substance use through initiatives such as Teen Mental Health First Aid, SOS Suicide Prevention, and the ECHO program. She shared that the Academy developed its ECHO drug and alcohol curriculum in 2010 and, at that time, was working through the Single County Authority

("SCA"). She highlighted the Academy's peer leadership model, through which older teens mentor younger youth, explaining that prevention messages are often more effectively received from peers than from adults.

She further described additional Academy programming, including the Ambassadors for Mental Health program, a teen-led initiative designed to promote mental health awareness and peer support; youth mental health education and outreach activities; a monthly support group for teens whose families are impacted by SUD; and a Teen Mental Health Advisory Board that helps identify activities and resources most beneficial to youth. These initiatives include partnerships with the local school districts and Washington County Behavioral Health & Development Services ("BHDS").

Dr. Podgurski concluded by emphasizing that the Academy's approach is teen-based and teen-driven.

Commissioner Robert Postal asked whether the \$80,000 awarded to the Academy was designated solely for the ECHO program. Dr. Podgurski confirmed that it was. Commissioner Robert Postal recalled that the original application from the Academy included a request for \$20,000 to support the Teen Center. Dr. Podgurski explained that, while that had been the initial intent, enrollment in the ECHO program exceeded expectations. As a result, the full \$80,000 is now needed to support ECHO, and the Academy is seeking other funding sources for the Teen Center's \$20,000 request.

Chair Tom VanKirk asked what portion of the Teen Center budget is represented by the ECHO program. Dr. Podgurski clarified that ECHO operates separately from the Teen Center budget and only with this award did they launch ECHO at the Teen Center. She explained that the Academy originally began the ECHO program in 1999 and has partnered with Children and Youth Services ("CYS") for more than twenty years, serving youth referred after they have already become involved with the child welfare system. The Academy also works with Juvenile Probation ("JPO"), serving another group of referred youth.

Dr. Podgurski explained that the new ECHO initiative allows the Academy to identify and support at-risk youth before they become involved with JPO or other systems. She emphasized that early intervention is the program's primary goal. Drawing on research, she noted that risk factors such as generational trauma, poverty, low self-worth, and feelings of abandonment often contribute to substance abuse, early pregnancy, and other unhealthy outcomes. She added that the Academy operates 9 outreach programs designed to address these issues. By identifying at-risk youth early and providing educational opportunities and supportive services, the Academy aims to prevent them from entering more intensive systems of intervention. She noted that focusing on drug and alcohol prevention has been particularly important because many of the youth served come from families affected by substance abuse.

Chair Tom VanKirk commented that Washington County was doing itself a disservice by

combining information about the ECHO program with the broader Teen Center. He stated that the case for the ECHO program would be stronger if it were presented separately from the Teen Center information.

The Trustees of the DRC had no further questions regarding Program No. 59, thus concluding Washington County's presentation.

Chair Tom VanKirk indicated that each Washington County program would be voted on individually, and then presented the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that, the Dispute Resolution Committee of the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust hereby affirms the decision of the Board of Trustees that Washington County Program No. 37 (Direct Consulting Solutions - The Childcare Group Solutions Center) is not compliant with Exhibit E. A "yes" vote would maintain the current denial by the Trust, whereas a "no" vote would reverse the decision by the Trust that the program is not compliant with Exhibit E.

Commissioner Kevin Boozel made the motion as presented. Stuart Fisk seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the Trustees of the DRC then voted as follows:

Yeses (2)

- Stuart Fisk
- Shea Madden

Nos (3)

- Tumar Alexander
- Commissioner Kevin Boozel
- Commissioner Robert Postal

The outcome of the vote was thus to reverse the current denial by the Trust, thus approving this program.

Chair Tom VanKirk then presented the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that, the Dispute Resolution Committee of the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust hereby affirms the decision of the Board of Trustees that Washington County Program No. 52 (Shawn Patrick House) is not compliant with Exhibit E. A "yes" vote would maintain the current denial by the Trust, whereas a "no" vote would reverse the decision by the Trust that the program is not compliant with Exhibit E.

Tumar Alexander made the motion as presented. Shea Madden seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the Trustees of the DRC then voted as follows:

Nos (5)

- Tumar Alexander
- Commissioner Kevin Boozel
- Stuart Fisk
- Shea Madden
- Commissioner Robert Postal

The outcome of the vote was thus to reverse the current denial by the Trust, thus approving this program.

Chair Tom VanKirk then presented the following resolution making sure to note that the vote was only on the ECHO program and nothing else in connection with the Teen Center:

RESOLVED, that, the Dispute Resolution Committee of the Pennsylvania Opioid Misuse and Addiction Abatement Trust hereby affirms the decision of the Board of Trustees that Washington County Program No. 59 (WHS Teen Outreach - Common Ground Teen Center) is not compliant with Exhibit E. A “yes” vote would maintain the current denial by the Trust, whereas a “no” vote would reverse the decision by the Trust that the program is not compliant with Exhibit E.

Commissioner Robert Postal made the motion as presented. Shea Madden seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the Trustees of the DRC then voted as follows:

Nos (5)

- Tumar Alexander
- Commissioner Kevin Boozel
- Stuart Fisk
- Shea Madden
- Commissioner Robert Postal

The outcome of the vote was thus to reverse the current denial by the Trust, thus approving this program.

Chair Tom VanKirk thanked the Washington County representatives for their presentation and encouraged the County to incorporate the DRC’s feedback when preparing future reports and submissions to the Trust.

Dr. Tamiggi thanked the DRC for its time and stated that Washington County will work to ensure

future submissions provide the appropriate level of detail and information necessary to support understanding of their programs and the impact they are having throughout the County.

With no new business to address, the meeting was adjourned at 3:26 PM.