



CITY OF DELRAY BEACH
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
DRAFT

100 NW 1st Avenue
Delray Beach, FL 33444

Monday, March 2, 2026

11:00 a.m.

City Hall, 1st Floor Conference Room

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Joseph Mazzeo at 11:03 am.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present:

Ariana Ciancio, Police Department
Jeffrey Lefton
Joseph Mazzeo, Fire Department, Chair
Kenya Madison

Absent:

Adelle Azam
Lisa McWhorter
Charles Ridley, Vice Chair

Staff present:

Jeff Oris, Assistant City Manager / Board Liaison
Lawonda Warren, Legal Advisor
Ronald Martin, Fire Rescue Chief
Jeane St. Luce, Executive Assistant

Roll was called and quorum was present.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A Motion was made by Jeffrey Lefton to approve the agenda, seconded by Ariana Ciancio. All in favor, no opposed. Motion **PASSED** unanimously (4-0).

4. **MINUTES**

A Motion was made by Ariana Ciancio to approve February 2, 2026 minutes, seconded by Kenya Madison. All in favor, no opposed. Motion **PASSED** unanimously (4-0).

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Update From February 3, 2026 City Commission Meeting

Assistant City Manager Oris acknowledged the Commission's position from the February 3, 2026 meeting regarding the Committee's priority recommendations.

Chair Mazzeo stated Vice Chair Ridley and Committee Member Lefton did an excellent job.

Assistant City Manager Oris stated the Commission was onboard with the Paramedicine Program. The city will investigate the possibility of using some of the Caron settlement funds to assist with funding the program.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discussion Regarding Formulation Of Further Recommendation For Paramedicine Program With Fire Rescue Chief Ron Martin

Chair Mazzeo stated with the direction by the Commission, will the Committee need to prepare an official recommendation with the financial costs for the program. Assistant City Manager Oris stated yes an official recommendation along with the financial cost.

Assistant City Manager Oris stated he invited Fire Rescue Chief Martin to provide information on his vision and recommendations moving forward.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin provided some background information and discussed the benefits of the program to the community. He elaborated on his vision of the Paramedicine Program.

Assistant City Manager Oris advised Fire Rescue Chief Martin is here to discuss the program and answer any questions.

Chair Mazzeo inquired about an ideal version of a Paramedicine Program assuming an unlimited budget were available.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin stated his ideal vision plan for a Paramedicine Program would cost approximately \$750,000 which consists of a Nurse Practitioner, a Behavior Health Professional and a Community Health Paramedic along with all necessary equipment.

Chair Mazzeo asked about the minimum requirements to launch the program.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin explained that the program could launch with a minimum cost of \$160,000 which consists of a Community Health Paramedic utilizing existing vehicles and equipment. The candidate would require specialized training and background. This would be a multi-department approach.

Chair Mazzeo asked if it would be a transfer of a current paramedic.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin stated the candidate would be a single service paramedic with a community health background.

Discussion ensued on definition and clarification of Community Health Paramedic.

Chair Mazzeo inquired what percentage of the candidate's time/workload would be dedicated to opioid/substance abuse related calls based on the current volume.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin stated it would depend on the grant funding secured to address those issues. Current data suggests approximately 30-40% of the workload is related to this area, and the candidate will be responsible for tracking and documenting the time spent on grant-funded versus non-grant-funded activities.

Chair Mazzeo inquired whether the candidate would be stationed within the Fire Rescue Department under the EMS division.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin confirmed that the EMS division is the most appropriate placement for the role which would be alongside the Medical Director and Chief of EMS.

Chair Mazzeo stated the next steps would be to gather job descriptions and costs then work on a proposal.

Assistant City Manager Oris reaffirmed that he will investigate if the Caron funds can be utilized to offset the cost of the program. The federal lobbyist will explore potential funding opportunities for an integrated mobile health program.

Discussion ensued on the Caron funds.

Assistant City Manager Oris inquired what additional data or information is required by the Committee.

Committee Member Lefton asked the Fire Rescue Chief Martin if the \$160,000 budget was documented in a written proposal.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin stated that due to the rapid pace, the figure is based on preliminary research and represents approximate estimates.

Fire Rescue Chief Martin elaborated about a company that works on behalf of municipalities.

Discussion ensued on the benefits of the Paramedicine program.

Assistant City Manager Oris noted that the policy requires a recommendation to the Commission by late May, which may necessitate extra meetings. He requested a list of questions/information needed to begin this process.

Chair Mazzeo inquired regarding protocol. Assistant City Manager Oris advised that all information requests should be emailed to him to ensure they are documented and handled through the proper channels.

Chair Mazzeo requested a detailed cost breakdown for the Community Health Paramedic position, including pay codes and an analysis of what costs the Fire Department can absorb. He also wanted confirmation of the Medical Director’s support.

Committee Member Lefton pointed out that with only one scheduled meeting remaining, the committee should consider extending the meetings or adding new dates. Assistant City Manager Oris suggested the committee could meet twice monthly and the time could be adjusted if needed.

Chair Mazzeo suggested meeting on March 23. Discussion ensued on the start time.

There was a consensus by the committee to hold an additional meeting on March 23, 2026, starting at 10:30 am.

Committee Member Madison spoke about utilizing some of the time to discuss strategies for making the program more robust and improving community access.

Chair Mazzeo added that the upcoming meeting must also address the allocation of funds for the other recommended initiatives.

Discussion ensued regarding different funding sources.

8. **COMMENTS:**

A. Staff

Assistant City Manager Oris thanked everyone for the great job at the Commission meeting.

B. Committee Members

Chair Mazzeo announced the successful installation of twelve Narcan boxes throughout the City. Lisa Keeler, South Florida Opioid Alliance, coordinated the installation and education of the Narcan boxes.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am.

Board Liaison

Date

Board Chair

Date