



Meeting Summary

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC) Division
Broward County Substance Abuse Advisory Board
April 29, 2026

Members Present

Bruchwalski, Allison
Checke, Christopher
Coberly, Stephanie
Diego, Elias
Roy, Brittney
Hatfield, Matthew
Hurt, Kathy
Karney, Donald
Rapaglia, Ray
Smyth, Garry
Sobelman, Jonathan

Members Absent

Nelson-Wernick, Eleanor
Resnick, Charles
Speiser, Judge Mark
Wesley Pile, Tonya

Also Present

John, Gerard - Director, Broward Addiction Recovery Division
Tara Williams, Director, Human Services Department
Dale, Kacee - Recording Secretary
Bailey, Patricia - Asst. Recording Secretary

Location

Broward Addiction Recovery Center (BARC)
325 SW 28th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315
Rocky Rodriguez Community Room 1001

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Stephanie Coberly **at 8:38 am.**

Quorum

It was determined a quorum was present



Minutes

Draft minutes from January 28th, 2026, meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Garry Smyth moved to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Ray Rapaglia seconded, and motion unanimously carried by all members present.

Stephanie Coberly Appreciation

Ms. Coberly previously advised that she would be resigning from the Board and this would be her last meeting. Ms. Christopher Checke recognized her ten years of service to the Advisory Board and the Community. She was presented with a plaque and Letter of Appreciation.

Elections in April 2026

Ms. Stephanie Coberly explained the election process and began by asking for nominations for President. She reminded everyone that she would be stepping down this year and nominated Ms. Kathy Hurt. With no other nominations, Ms. Hurt was elected President.

Nominations for vice-president were Mr. Christopher Checke and Mr. Garry Smyth. Since there were two candidates nominated, ballots were provided for everyone to vote anonymously. Ms. Kacee Dale collected and counted the votes with Mr. Smyth receiving the majority votes.

Ms. Eleanor Nelson-Wernick was nominated to continue as Secretary. With no other nominations, Ms. Nelson-Wernick was elected Secretary.

Ms Allison Bruchwalski accepted the nomination to act as Treasurer. With no other nominations, Ms. Bruchwalski was elected Treasurer.

At this time elections were closed. These Officers will begin serving during the next scheduled meeting.

New Member

Ms. Brittney Roy introduced herself. She was appointed by Commissioner Alexandra Davis, District 7.



Department Report

Ms. Tara Williams, Human Services Department Director, was present to provide information regarding the Opioid Settlement Funds. Ms. Williams discussed various aspects of these funds, including the history of these funds, the current status, and future expenditures.

Ms. Williams has met with various groups and organizations asking for input on the utilization of these monies. She explained that it is essential to obtain community feedback, suggestions, and support for the programs that may be funded.

Ms. Williams is also working with County staff to develop the best processes to distribute the monies which may include grant programs, sole source distribution, and Requests for Proposal (RFP).

Ms. Williams distributed her business card and requested the members share their ideas for programs to fund, methods to distribute funds, as well as other groups that she can visit to share and gather information.

A copy of her PowerPoint presentation is attached to the end of these minutes.

Division Report

Mr. Gerard John highlighted three items:

1. The agency recently added an additional drug to treat opioid use disorder – Brixadi. Brixadi (buprenorphine) is an FDA-approved, extended-release subcutaneous injection used to treat moderate-to-severe opioid use disorder. It offers both weekly and monthly dosing options, allowing for increased flexibility in treatment.
2. The Division is working on bringing in a Therapeutic Dog. Therapeutic animals increase dopamine and serotonin levels in humans, acting as natural antidepressants that reduce stress, improve mood, and lower anxiety. Interacting with, petting, or even looking into a dog's eyes triggers a "feel good" chemical release, providing comfort, lowering blood pressure, and increasing feelings of safety and happiness.
3. The BARC Outreach Team will be working in Pompano Beach on Friday, May 15th, 2026. Board members were invited to join the Outreach Team and could reach out to Mr. John for specific details if they were interested.



Open Forum

During the Open Forum, Ms. Kathy Hurt asked if the Board would like to begin meeting monthly. She explained that she believes the Board would be able to provide additional support to BARC and the community if they met more frequently.

Mr. Garry Smyth presented a Motion, concurring with Ms. Hurt that meeting more frequently would be beneficial to BARC and the community.

However, by the time he finalized the Motion, there was no longer a quorum. This item will be added to the Agenda for the next meeting for further discussion.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Christopher Checke, seconded by Ms. Allison Bruchwalski, and carried unanimously by all members present. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 am.

Next quarterly meeting to be held on June 24th, 2026, beginning at 8:30am, Rocky Rodriguez Community Room – BARC Central.

Future 2026 Meetings – September 30, 2026




Opioid Settlement Fund

Tara Williams, Director
 Human Services Department



BROWARD COUNTY AS "QUALIFIED COUNTY"



Coconut Creek	Coral Springs	Dania Beach	Davie
Deerfield Beach	Fort Lauderdale	Hollywood	Lauderdale Lakes
Lauderhill	Margate	Miramar	North Lauderdale
Parkland	Pembroke Pines	Pompano Beach	Sunrise
Tamarac	Weston	West Park	


"administering the County Regional Funds pursuant to the Florida Plan. County staff shall provide all support services including but not limited to legal services, as well as contract management, program monitoring, and reporting required by the Florida Plan. County is entitled to and shall receive no more than 5% from the County Regional Funds for administrative fees as provided under the Florida Plan and will deduct such administrative fees on an annual basis. After such deduction, County shall spend all of the remaining County Regional Funds on efforts to abate the deleterious effects of the Opioid Epidemic by utilizing funds for the Approved Purposes (as defined in the Florida Plan)... County shall spend the County Regional Funds on programs and in geographic areas based on demonstrated need throughout Broward County without choosing or favoring any particular municipality, geographic area, or socioeconomic group."

BARC OPERATIONS



Opioid Abatement

-  **2024: Expansion and Support of MAT Program/In-House Pharmacy**
-  **2025: Outreach Team**
-  **2026: Admissions and Outpatient Services**



NEXT STEPS

