

# BRIDGING THE GAP SUB-COMMITTEE

301 N. Main St, Adrian, MI 49221  
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## MEMBERS

Judge T. Morgan, Monica Hunt, Sarah Palmani,  
Garry Clift, Bronna Kahle, Terry Collins,  
Sheriff Troy Bevier, Kevon Martis, Tim Kelly

## MEETING LOCATION

Commission Chambers  
301 N. Main St,  
Adrian, MI 49221

**Minutes:** Tuesday, November 4, 2025

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### I. Call to Order

**Present:** Kevon Martis, James Van Doren

**Also Present:** Sheriff Troy Bevier, District Court Judge Todd Morgan, Community Development Coordinator Francine Zysk, Community Impact/Advocate Bronna Kahle, Medical Examiner Office Manager Sarah Palmani, Health Officer Monica Hunt, Citizen Garry Clift, Communications Coordinator Jen Ambrose, Admin. Coordinator Carissa Zubke, Captain Randy Casey, Community Engagement Quinn Wilt, Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott, Administrator Kim Murphy

**Absent:** Tim Kelly

*The meeting was called to order by Comm. Martis at 2:00pm.*

### II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes:

October 14, 2025

October 15, 2025

***Motion by Collins, to approve the minutes of October 14, 2025 and October 15, 2025, seconded by Bevier. Motion carried.***

*Sheriff Bevier requested to recuse himself from voting on the proposal from the Lenawee County Sheriff's Office.*

***Motion by Collins, seconded by Clift to recuse Sheriff Troy Bevier from voting on the proposal from the Sheriff's Office. Motion carried.***

### III. Old Business

*No discussion.*

### IV. New Business

#### A. Medically Assisted Treatment - Lenawee County Sheriff's Office

*Captain Randy Casey presented on the Lenawee County Sheriff's Office Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) proposal.*

*Casey, the Captain at the Lenawee County Jail, noted that the average daily population in 2024 was 119 inmates. He emphasized that their primary focus is safety and care, and acknowledged that the level of healthcare within the facility has room for improvement. He also shared that many reentry challenges are related to drug and/or alcohol use.*

*MAT is the use of FDA-approved medications to reduce cravings and withdrawal symptoms. When coupled with behavioral health therapy—such as counseling and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment programs—success rates increase.*

*The proposal funding would cover medication costs, staff education, classroom-based education for inmates, and peer support for individuals returning to the community.*

*Casey shared information about the importance of a MAT program, including reduced overdose risk post-release, reduced liability, cost-effectiveness, and fewer emergency room visits. As of September 2023, 16 states have enacted statewide laws requiring access to MAT services due to an increasing number of related lawsuits.*

*From 2021 to 2023, there were nearly 3,000 overdose deaths statewide, including 31 in Lenawee County. Between 2022 and 2023, there were more than 57,000 emergency room visits statewide and 468 in Lenawee County.*

*The Sheriff's Office would partner with VitalCore to provide medications. Wayne State University would assist with intake screenings to identify individual needs, work with local SUD providers, and help reduce inmate length of stay. CMH and the Family Medical Center would support post-release care.*

*The MAT proposal includes a funding request of up to \$150,000 annually. Casey explained that costs vary due to multiple factors and noted that unused year-end funds could be returned to the source.*

*Bronna Kahle inquired whether data is available on recidivism rates in jails that provide required access to MAT services. Casey shared some success stories but did not have specific data.*

*Currently, VitalCore provides some assistance for alcohol withdrawal but not for SUD-related treatment.*

*Post-release collaboration would include referrals to local organizations, and funding would also support contracted counseling services within the Jail.*

*There was additional discussion regarding the current screening process and the proposed assessment tools intended to identify individual needs better.*

*Individuals cannot be forced to participate in treatment unless it is court-mandated. Otherwise, participation is voluntary. However, if an individual is in medical distress, staff may intervene, though such individuals are generally transferred to the hospital.*

## **B. Medically Assisted Treatment & Mental Health Care post-release - Family Medical Center of MI**

*Travis Swieringa was present from the Family Medical Center (FMC) to discuss the MAT proposal.*

*Ed Larkens, CEO of Family Medical Center, was also in attendance. FMC currently serves Lenawee, Monroe, and Wayne counties across 59 locations, providing behavioral health services in 12 Lenawee County schools.*

*FMC offers an on-site pharmacy, which is essential for providing MAT services. MAT/SUD treatment began at the Temperance location and is currently offered at the Lenawee site 1–2 times per week.*

*Dr. Chu was present to discuss the benefits of MAT, which combines FDA-approved medications and has been proven to reduce overdose risk. Buprenorphine can assist individuals by providing controlled doses that allow them to return to a normal lifestyle without euphoric effects, helping to reduce cravings throughout recovery.*

*Dr. Chu explained that FMC not only provides MAT care but also offers comprehensive health services as the patients' primary care provider. They additionally provide behavioral health and counseling services. FMC's community health workers help connect individuals to local resources as they reintegrate into the community, and Peer Recovery Coaches also provide support.*

*The overall goal is to increase MAT treatment capacity and serve 50 Lenawee County residents annually, expanding beyond their current services, which are very limited due to cost constraints.*

*Swieringa emphasized the importance of funding MAT services within the Jail, noting that FMC would continue providing prescriptions and care after individuals are released. FMC is requesting \$200,000 in grant funding, and FMC will cover the remaining cost to treat 50 individuals, for a total of \$395,975. This includes lab testing for conditions relevant to the treatment plan.*

*A question was raised about FMC's prevention efforts. They reported that they work in numerous schools to provide education on substance use disorder (SUD) and related topics. The proposed funding would support individuals who are uninsured or underinsured, and would expand upon FMC's current services. The CEO noted that their existing budget only allows for a limited number of SUD treatment slots and does not support expanding care without additional funding.*

*The proposal includes lab work for new MAT patients, which is costly but necessary for comprehensive assessment and overall patient well-being.*

*The Sheriff noted that MAT cannot begin without follow-up care. When asked if FMC has enough providers to support MAT, the CEO reported that they have two full-time physicians credentialed to offer MAT services locally in Adrian and that staffing is now sufficient to implement the program.*

*The goal is to connect individuals immediately post-release with master's-level therapy, peer coaching support, and community services during their initial visit.*

*A question was raised about sustainability. The CEO explained that many patients become Medicaid-eligible, and they have found that once patients begin receiving care at FMC, they typically continue with FMC long-term.*

*A question was also asked about the use of telehealth. Dr. Chu noted that MAT requires close monitoring of blood levels, which limits telehealth use. However, they currently have one telehealth provider available for exceptional circumstances.*

### **C. Lenawee Recovery Ecosystem - Goldie Health**

*Chris Martin, CEO of Goldie Health, was present to discuss their proposal. He reviewed statistics regarding substance use disorder (SUD), noting that only 0.4% of overdose survivors are connected to MAT within 30 days. Goldie is a platform used by many counties to identify high-risk individuals through EMS, hospitals, and community health systems, and to route them into care before they fall through the cracks. The goal of the system is to connect individuals to appropriate and timely care. A question was asked about potential collaboration with the Jail; Martin stated that integration would be easy to implement. Martin described the typical cycle following an overdose: an individual may arrive by ambulance and be instructed to follow up with a physician. In many cases, the individual does not make that call. Goldie Health would step in to connect them to local providers. Goldie then immediately reaches out to the person's primary care provider and coordinates follow-up with the individual, including support with transportation, insurance, and community care coordination. Essentially, Goldie operates behind the scenes, conducting and coordinating the necessary care for each individual—such as ensuring they follow up with their MAT provider. Their software follows "the life of the patient," functioning as a technology-based case manager. Goldie Health would be new to Michigan. The proposal cost is approximately \$65,000. Martin also discussed the benefits of virtual MAT care. Goldie would provide data access and licenses for countywide use to improve overall care. Goldie would integrate with the users' EMR (electronic medical record) system and provide access to a phone app for SUD care coordination. Depending on the end user, the structure of the data and licensing may vary. Once information is entered into the EMR, Goldie Health will automatically retrieve the patient's file and make the necessary referrals.*

#### **D. Empowerment Through Recovery - Yoga medics**

*Did not attend; no presentation.*

#### **V. Public Comment**

*No comment*

#### **VI. Adjournment**

***Motion by Collins, seconded by Morgan to adjourn at 3:30pm. Motion carried.***