

Steve Sisolak
Governor



Richard Whitley, MS
Director

**DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
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Lisa Sherych
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SB 284 – ADVISORY TASK FORCE ON HIV EXPOSURE MODERNIZATION

May 19, 2021

5 PM

WebEx Teleconference

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT:

André Wade, Chair
Senator David Parks
Stephan Page
Ruben Murillo
Vince Collins
Quentin Savvoir
Cheryl Radeloff
Jen Howell
Steve Amend
Connie Schearer
Catherine Elliot

TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Dallas Harris, Co-Chair (Excused)
Antiocho Carrillo (Excused)
Cynthia Watson Catha

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF PRESENT:

Tory Johnson, Mmgt, Section Manager, Office of HIV
Michael Thomas Blissett, Health Program Specialist I, Office of HIV
Octavio Posada, Health Program Specialist I (Contractor), Office of HIV

GUESTS PRESENT:

Linda Anderson

The Board reserves the right to take items in a different order or to combine two or more agenda items for consideration to accomplish business in the most efficient manner. The Board may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call – *Office of HIV Staff*

Chair Andre' Wade called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m., asking Octavio Posada, Health Program Specialist I (Contractor), to take a roll call. Eleven (11) of the fourteen (14) members were present; a quorum was met.

2. Public Comment - Chair, André Wade

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Chair Wade asked if there was any public comment to be made, and for those making comments, to say their name and limit response to three minutes; there were no public comments.

3. Review and Approval of the April 14, 2020, draft minutes – Chair, Wade

Chair Wade asked members if there were any corrections or revisions to the minutes as submitted. **Office of HIV Staff Octavio Posada mentioned that Cynthia Watson Catha would need to be marked as present, as she was joined the meetings after the roll call was done.** Chair Wade moved to approve the minutes as amended; Stephan Page seconded the motion. Chair Wade called for a discussion and then for a vote, asking for all those in favor to say 'Aye,' and any opposed to say 'Nay.' None opposed; the motion carried to approve minutes as amended.

4. Presentation on the Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights

Chair Wade mentioned that the person doing the presentation on the Sexual Assault Survivors Bill of Rights was not present during the meeting.

5. Update on status of BDR 40-220/SB 275 (2021) revising provisions relating to the human immunodeficiency virus and update on the 2021 81st Legislative Session – Co-Chair, Harris

Chair Wade shared that although Co-Chair Harris was not present, SB 275 was heard by the Assembly Health and Human Services Committee a couple of weeks ago, receiving significant party-line support and that the bill now awaits the scheduling of a floor vote. Chair Wade also mentioned that there are still some concerns from a few legislators regarding worst-case scenarios and that there are individuals emailing assembly members expressing their support for the bill's passage.

In response to Chair Wade's invitation for members to share or ask questions regarding this agenda item, Stephan Page asked if votes for this bill were not done due to unresolved issues, to which Chair Wade said that he was not aware of any issues impeding the casting of votes for this

bill and that the bill should go up for votes in a matter of days. The Task Force members shared no more thoughts or questions.

6. Discussion regarding BDR 40-220/SB 275 (2021) Section 22 Subsections 9 & 10 which reinstates the Task Force and possible recommendations for consideration by Senator Dallas Harris – Co-Chair: Senator Dallas Harris

Chair Wade shared that Section 22 of SB 275 reflects recommendations of the needs of the Task Force in terms of the areas of interest and focus of new Task Force members, particularly around recommendations by the Williams Institute around arrest rates, convictions, related disparities, and regulations not included in the current bill.

Cheryl Radeloff asked if there would be requirements regarding HIV knowledge for individuals interested in being part of the Task Force. In response, Chair Wade said that that would be something that the Task Force would need to determine. The Task Force members shared no more thoughts or questions.

7. Discussion of application process for new or current members of the Task Force, if the Task Force is reinstated through the passage of SB 275 – Chair, Wade

To determine the overall interest of current Task Force members to serve again, Chair Wade asked the members to express their interest. A few of the members showed interest in serving. Cathy Elliot shared that she would defer her seat towards a woman of color for the next round.

Office of HIV Staff Tory Johnson shared that any interested individuals wanting to join the Task Force, including current members, would need to apply through the Governor's Office. Additionally, Tory Johnson stated that interested individuals should apply now but that there would not be any review of applications until SB 275 is passed.

In response to Chair Wade's request to provide more information on applying to become a Task Force member, Tory Johnson mentioned that he would send out an email to all current members.

Cheryl Radeloff shared that given the difficulties experienced last year by all individuals who apply to service in the Task Force, there should be some acknowledgment of the application having been received. In response, Tory Johnson encouraged Task Force members to notify him of any difficulties, including inquiring about the status of submitted applications.

Stephan Page asked about the background check required for individuals interested in serving in the Task Force and how this requirement may deter some individuals from applying who should be part of the Task Force, given how these laws [HIV] affect them directly. Tory Johnson, responding to Chair Wade's request to address Stephan Page's question, asked for the Task Force members to provide in writing this and other issues around appointment to the Task Force so that he could follow up with the Governor's Office.

Senator Parks stated that background checks are necessary to assess any lengthy criminal record and that these checks are general.

Connie Schearer shared that the background checks would impact people with lived experience would be excluded. Stephan Page added that the sex worker community would be a great example

of individuals who would not be considered to serve on the Task Force. Chair Wade stated that he would reach out directly to the Governor's Office to follow up with the expressed concerns.

Cheryl Radeloff shared that it would be important to seek the representation of individuals from various public health fields, if not in a voting capacity, to be part of the meetings on an ongoing basis. In response, Chair Wade suggested that the Task Force members reach out to anyone who should become a Task Force member. The Task Force members shared no more thoughts or questions.

8. Update on status of Williams Institute's research on the implementation and impact of statutes and regulations through analysis of records information and data relevant to Nevada. – Chair, Wade

Chair Wade shared that a report was received from the Williams Institute, now available at the endHIVnevada.org portal, submitted to the Health and Human Services Committee for review and consideration. There were no thoughts or questions shared by the Task Force members.

9. Make recommendations for the next meeting's agenda, including having a physical location to meet after expiration of Governor's Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006 – Chair, Wade

In response to Chair Wade's request for the next meeting, Vince Collins shared that once the bill passes, the Task Force must meet and acknowledge the work that the Task Force has done. Also, for any individuals interesting in serving, to attend the next meeting to learn more about the Task Force, and the expectations and issues addressed around serving.

Chair Wade then proposed for the next meeting to take place on June 9th, 2021

Tory Johnson made the Task Force members aware that the Governor's emergency declaration regarding in person-meetings will end on May 31st, 2021, and for the Task Force to begin assessing a potential meeting space, although attending in person is not a requirement yet. Responding to Stephan Page regarding knowledge of a physical space for the Task Force to meet, Tory Johnson mentioned that the Task Force could meet at the Office of HIV located at 1840 E. Sahara Avenue in Las Vegas.

Chair Wade suggested, as a backup, for the next meeting to be held at The Center, to which Vince responded that he could work with reserving space once the date for the next Task Force meeting is established. Chair Wade thanked Vince Collins for the effort with securing the meeting space, but that he expects most Task Force members to join the meeting by phone and that it may be possible to submit a request to the Governor's office to do a ceremonial signing, where the Task Force members can get together to be part of the signing.

Jen Howell suggested that the Task Force be mindful of the date when the Governor signs the bill to finalize the next meeting date. Stephan Page and Senator Parks mentioned that the Governor needs to sign a bill within five days after the bill is passed.

Chair Wade then decided to have the next Task Force meeting on June 6, 2021, at 5 pm.

Office of HIV Staff Michael Thomas Blissett suggested that the Task Force review its By-laws to examine adding language that would include the types of groups or persons that should be part of the Task Force. This suggestion was welcomed by Cheryl Radeloff, who further commented that other voices, such as Fire Fighters, Police, the Prosecutor's Office, and other individuals affected by policies included in the bill who were impacted but were not part of the Task Force.

Responding to Vince Collin's questions about the time and setting of the June 9 meeting, Chair Wade stated that the meeting would take place at 5 pm, taking place at a conference meeting and that he would loop in Tory Johnson for any assistance with the meeting logistics. The Task Force members shared no more thoughts or questions.

10. Public comment – Chair, Wade

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11. Adjournment

Chair Wade motioned for adjournment of the meeting. Catherine Elliot seconded the motion. Chair Wade called for a vote, all in favor say, 'Aye,' any opposed say 'Nay.' None opposed; there was no discussion; the meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.