

**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE STATE PROGRAM FOR WELLNESS AND
THE PREVENTION OF CHRONIC DISEASE
MINUTES
AUGUST 27, 2019
9:00 a.m.**

The Advisory Council on the State Program for Wellness and the Prevention of Chronic Disease held a public meeting on 8/27/2019, beginning at 9:06 a.m., at the following locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4150 Technology Way, Room 303
Carson City, NV 89706

Division of Health Care Financing & Policy
1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 103
Elko, NV 89801

Division of Health Care Financing and Policy
1210 Valley View, Suite 104
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Department of Health and Human Services
Aging and Disability Services Division
2667 Enterprise Road
Reno, NV 89513

Teleconference Number: (877)-848-7030 Access Code: 2541093

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom McCoy, Chair
Christina Demopoulos, DDS*
Erin Dixon
Tina Dortch*
Andrew Snyder
Christine Syverson*
Candice McDaniel (Proxy for Ihsan Azzam)
*Present via telephone

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Janae Ballingham
Chris Needham
Rebecca Scherr, MD
Ben Schmauss
Rebecca Scherr, MD
Stacy Briscoe

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF PRESENT

Kristi Robusto, PhD, MS, Section Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (CDPHP), CFCW, DPBH
Jeanne Broughton, Administrative Assistant III, CDPHP, CFCW, DPBH
Becky Follmer, Administrative Assistant II, CDPHP, CFCW, DPBH
David Olsen, MPH, Quality Improvement Manager, CDPHP, CFCW, DPBH

OTHERS PRESENT

Maria Azzarelli, Manager, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD)
Abigail Wheeler, Elko County

1. Roll Call

Roll call was taken and it was determined a quorum of the Advisory Council on the State Program for Wellness and the Prevention of Chronic Disease (CWCD) was present, per Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 439.518 § 2.

2. Approve Minutes from the April 18, 2019 Meeting

Tom McCoy asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the April 18, 2019 meeting. No corrections were requested.

CHAIR MCCOY ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES WITH NO CORRECTIONS. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY ERIN DIXON, AND ANDREW SNYDER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

3. Vacancy for board member 2(k) One representative of Higher Education from a list of persons submitted to the Administrator by the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada.

Chair McCoy stated Jackie Ewing-Taylor had resigned and there was a vacancy on the board. The vacancy is a representative of higher education selected from a list of persons submitted to the administrator by the University System Board of Regents. Chair McCoy contacted Dean Larsen at UNR, and she is reviewing a list of potential candidates.

Ms. Dixon asked if Chair McCoy was looking for suggestions through the University. She asked how to nominate candidates.

Jeanne Broughton said nominations go through the Board of Regents at UNR.

Chair McCoy replied the Dean would identify someone and go through the Board of Regents.

Chair McCoy said to contact the administrator at the Board of Regents. He stated if anyone had any questions to call him.

4. Legislative Updates

David Olsen presented the updates for the Senate Bills (SB) and Assembly Bills (AB) which affect CDPHP. [Legislative Updates](#)

Mr. Olsen stated the Nevada Cancer Coalition is working with the board of superintendents on the requirements for SB159. Other bills are in the process of being implemented as they are approved.

Ms. Dixon recommended the council follow the outcome of Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) seven (7), which focuses on cannabis impairment research and limiting exposure to second hand smoke as we begin to deal with cannabis lounges. She suggested the knowledge obtained from the tobacco control program could be applied to the cannabis industry.

Ms. Dixon said SB 263 dedicated funds to tobacco efforts, and the funds are tied up in logistics. She is hopeful the funds will eventually get out into the community.

Dr. Robusto said she would take note of ACR 7 and keep it as an item to follow.

Dr. Robusto stated the SB 263 funds are tied up in standard legislative appropriation process. Once the funds are transferred to the budget account, work with partners will begin accordingly.

Ms. Dixon asked if there was an anticipated timeline.

Dr. Robusto stated the time frame could be up to three (3) months, and she would continue to follow-up with administration.

Ms. Dixon asked if there would be an opportunity to discuss where these funds will be allocated to prevent duplication.

Dr. Robusto stated the scope of work is used as a guide when collaborating with partners to ensure needs of the funding source and community are met. The funding will meet the intent of the legislation as outlined per Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS).

Chair McCoy thanked Dr. Robusto and Ms. Dixon for their comments and asked if there were any more questions regarding SB 263 and the youth epidemic in the state.

There were none.

5. Present Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (CDPHP) Section Updates and Program Reports

Dr. Robusto presented the CDPHP Section Update. ([CDPHP Report](#))

Chair McCoy asked if there were any questions.

Chair McCoy asked if we could get the figures illustrating how funding was used and the benefits received from the Women's Health Connection cancer screening program.

Dr. Robusto said staff are in the process of generating a full report of appropriated funding.

Mr. Snyder asked if the curriculum the obesity program used is aligned with the health standards of Nevada.

Dr. Robusto stated Anne Lindsay, Professor at University of Nevada, Reno Cooperative Extension, has done adequate research to ensure all standards adhered to. Dr. Lindsay has gone through various standards to confirm the validity of any curriculum posted.

Chair McCoy asked if there were any questions or comments.

There were none.

6. Present Local Health Authority (LHA) Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Updates and Program Reports

Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD)

Maria Azzarelli presented the report. ([SNHD Report](#))

Chair McCoy asked if barber shop programs were designed specifically for blood pressure, and if the model could be expanded and used for other activities.

Ms. Azzarelli replied the model they used was designed specifically for blood pressure, and the funding they are using is dedicated to heart disease and stroke prevention funding. However, they have integrated brief tobacco use intervention as part of the screening process.

Chair McCoy asked if the program could be expanded to colorectal cancer screening preventive activities given the needs of the African American community in Nevada.

Ms. Azzarelli replied when the project was launched, there were many ideas, but they had to stay true to the original model. She said it is a big deal for the barber shops to let SNHD in and build trust [with the African American community]. She stated expansion might be possible, but it has taken quite a while to build trust with the local [African American] community, and expansion would have to remain in line with cardiovascular health.

Washoe County Health District (WCHD) Chronic Disease Prevention Program

Ms. Dixon presented the report. ([WCHD Report](#))

Chair McCoy stated he was intrigued by the secondhand marijuana smoke education campaign. He asked if this issue was something people did not expect or understand.

Ms. Dixon replied cannabis is a newer product and consumers are unaware of where it can and cannot be smoked. She continued there is a misconception about secondhand marijuana smoke not being harmful, and they are educating consumers that marijuana smoke is still smoke.

Chair McCoy said smoke in the lungs is smoke in the lungs.

Tina Dortch stated the approach Ms. Azzarelli is taking by compartmentalizing outreach efforts has shown to have the most impact from a longevity perspective and has helped develop social trust. Ms. Dortch offered to have her office provide information on developing social trust.

Ms. Dortch stated the use of cannabis and where it is allowable is confusing to residents and visitors. She suggested providing guidelines in marketing materials to explain where marijuana use is allowable, and possibly partnering with the resort community.

Ms. Dixon stated WCHD partnered with the Sherriff's Office and Fire Department and placed educational cards in every dispensary. Ms. Dixon agreed it is necessary to find better ways to disseminate information to visitors.

Ms. Dortch thanked Ms. Dixon.

Chair McCoy asked if there was anything going on in SNHD regarding Ms. Dortch's concerns.

Ms. Azzarelli replied SNHD recognizes they have issues regarding second-hand marijuana smoke exposure, primarily in multi-unit housing. SNHD explained the laws to multi-unit housing management then developed a multi-unit housing toolkit explaining the second-hand marijuana smoke situation. SNHD also aided with interpreting the laws for the public. SNHD is initiating a marijuana prevention program modeled after the tobacco prevention and control model. Ms. Azzarelli agreed there is a lot of confusion. SNHD completed an assessment project with UNR using funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant they received.

She reiterated they are getting second hand smoke complaints from people smoking in their homes, where it is legal to do so, and she reiterated that smoke is smoke. She stated SNHD needed to remain focused where they have a dedicated funding stream.

Ms. Dortch suggested a tracking system for ideas that need to be brought to the attention of legislators.

Chair McCoy asked if there are alternative places where consumption of marijuana is legal.

Ms. Dortch stated she was referring to the home and the increase in youth gaining access to cannabis.

Chair McCoy said the discussion is valid, but people can take it upon themselves based on information they receive.

Chair McCoy asked Ms. Dortch about her comment that the resort community has taken measures to allow cannabis on their premises.

Ms. Dortch said the resort community has taken it upon themselves to begin the process of moving the legal allowance of cannabis on their premises.

Mr. Olsen stated dispensaries were not defined as public places which could allow for cannabis lounges.

Chair McCoy said this is an ongoing process. In the 2019 legislative session there was a large piece of cannabis legislation which encompasses everything. The bill delayed consumption lounges until next year. This will continue to be a work in process, and members should consider acting outside of the council.

Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS)

Ms. Dixon presented on behalf of Nicki Aaker. ([CCHHS Report](#))

Chair McCoy asked if there were questions or comments. There were none.

Elko County

Ms. Wheeler presented on behalf of Elko. ([Elko County Report](#))

Chair McCoy asked if Ms. Wheeler was surprised by the level of support.

Ms. Wheeler stated she was surprised, and there was tremendous attendance and support at the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services meeting. In the rural areas, there is geographic isolation, and becoming a networked community is necessary to accomplish goals. She stated it was a good networking opportunity for citizens and the medical community.

Chair McCoy thanked Ms. Wheeler and asked if there were any more questions. There were none.

7. Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant Update

Mr. Olsen presented the update. ([PHHS Report](#))

Ms. Dixon referenced the letter presented at the June 13, 2019 PHHS Public Hearing stating the three health authorities would like to be more involved in the selection of priorities. ([Letter to PHHS 06.13.19](#))

Dr. Robusto provided an overview of her response to the letter from the LHAs, specifically referencing that all Nevada's workplan activities fall within the top 10 funded health program areas for the 2018-2019 grant year (FY2018) at the national level. This demonstrates Nevada is working similarly to address public health prevention needs that have become pervasive nationwide. As noted in public comment, public health infrastructure comprises 29.7% of the total PHHS national health topic area funding. This effort is also included in Nevada's workplan with Carson City Health and Human Services and Elko County Board of Health currently being funded through PHHS to work on Public Health Accreditation Strategies. We welcomed the feedback that this area is still a need, as these efforts were included in the upcoming PHHS Workplan. In the 2016-2017 grant year, Washoe County Health District (WCHD) was funded to work on the Health District's Workforce Development Plan; however, after completion WCHD requested future funding be directed toward physical activity efforts in the county and Block Grant staff have worked with WCHD to fulfill this request.

Chair McCoy asked if there was any follow up to Dr. Robusto's letter.

Ms. Dixon stated the request from LHAs was asking for more collaboration on selection of topics, and they would continue their efforts outside of the CWCD Meeting.

Chair McCoy asked if there were any more questions. There were none.

8. Public Comment

Chair McCoy asked if there was any public comment.

Ms. Dortch stated her office is implementing an allied training forum, where caregivers receive training by the Office of Minority Health and Equity in efforts to bring providers together. She asked if there were any support groups or allied training organizations addressing disease specific cases to ensure all filters are being addressed. She is working on identifying who is conducting allied training.

Chair McCoy thanked Ms. Dortch for her public comment and asked if there was any other public comment. There was none.

9. Adjournment

CHAIR MCCOY ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MS. DIXON. MR. SNYDER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:05 A.M.