

Joe Lombardo  
Governor



Richard Whitley, MS  
Director

**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



Lisa Sherych  
Administrator

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Chief Medical Officer

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**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING  
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, December 1, 2022  
1:30 p.m. to Adjournment**

1. **Call to order/roll Call - Alan Feldman, Chair**

**Members Present:** Alan Feldman, Chair; Denise Quirk, Vice Chair; William Theodore Hartwell; Constance Jones; Dr. Shane Kraus; Carol O'Hare; Lesley Pittman; Richard Taylor

**Members Absent:** Carolene Layugan

**Guests:** Jennifer Gamroth, Yesenia Fuentes, Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health (DBPH); Kim Garcia, Marcelle Anderson, Bureau of Behavioral Health, Wellness & Prevention, (BBHP); Andrea Dassopoulos, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV); Ashlan Wickstrom, KPS3; Chris Murphy, New Frontier Treatment Center; Janine Ward, Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technology (CASAT), Donna Meyers, Bristlecone Family Resources; Dr. Jeff Marotta, Problem Gambling Solutions; Nann Meador, Nevada Council on Problem Gambling; Stephanie Goodman, Dr. Robert Hunter International Problem Gambling Center

2. **Public Comment: - Alan Feldman, Chair**  
There was not public comment.

5. **Informational: This item was taken out of order**  
Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Work Group Updates

a. Discussion on Legislative Work Group Updates - *Stephanie Goodman, Work Group Chair*

Chair Goodman stated, she, Ms. Pittman and Chair Feldman have been working on the Legislative Work Group's Bill Draft Request (BDR) 57. The work group is assembling data and talking points for Problem Gambling Awareness Day which takes place on May 2, 2023. The work group would like to speak with KPS3 to develop signage for their easels and a brochure or pamphlet to hand out.

Chair Feldman also suggested, when Chair Goodman, Ms. Pittman and he meet with KPS3, they should ask KPS3 for a budget. This will enable the work group to see what the cost will be and if they will have to appropriate another source. The committee will look at this at the January meeting.

Ms. Pittman stated, by knowing who will be participating at the Problem Gambling Awareness Day, it will be easier for her to schedule meetings with individual legislators and committee members who already have established relationships with those legislators. Chair Goodman and Chair Feldman are encouraging everyone who will be in attendance, to take advantage of the opportunity to meet with legislators. Email Ms. Pittman, Ms. Garcia or Chair Feldman if interested.

**b. Discussion on Treatment Provider Group Updates - Lana Robards, Work Group Chair**

Ms. Robards did not attend this meeting. No discussion took place.

**3. For Possible Action:**

Approval of Minutes September 15, 2022, meeting - *Alan Feldman Chair*

Chair Feldman requested a motion to approve the September 15, 2022, meeting minutes. Ms. Quirk made a motion to approve. Ms. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Ms. Garcia inquired of the committee to give their opinion on the format of the minutes. Chair Feldman, Ms. Quirk and Ms. Jones are very satisfied on how the minutes have been written. They stated the minutes have become concise, are informational, easy to follow, and summarized well.

**4. Informational:**

Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention (BHWP) Updates

**a. Discussion on Fiscal Report - Jennifer Gamroth, Administrator Service Officer for DPBH**

Ms. Gamroth gave an update on expenditures. To date, \$301,084 has been spent. There is approximately \$1.6 million in obligations. The remaining balance is \$138,315, of which, \$107,000 has been identified to be obligated. This leaves a balance of approximately \$22,775 unobligated.

**b. Discussion on Program Updates - Kim Garcia/BHWP/Social Services Program Specialist III**

Ms. Garcia presented an update on Problem Gambling Award Expenditures. The data presented, reflected the first quarter and balances with Ms. Gamroth's data. Ms. Garcia stated the first quarter was a little underspent at about 15% of budget. This does pick up in October. Ms. Garcia will reach out to the programs which get funded, look over their spin plans and make sure they are spending the money correctly. If they are under spending, they can look to see where it can be distributed.

Ms. Garcia stated she received notification the Downing Clinic can sign, and she is waiting on signatures from them. Ms. Garcia stated, the Downing Clinic is located on campus at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) at the Clinical Education Clinic. The clinic is available not only to students and staff but also to the general public.

Chair Feldman confirmed the International Conference on Gambling and Risk Taking will be held May 23 -25 at the ParkMGM in Las Vegas.

Ms. Garcia announced, there will be a summit on, Improving Committee Response and Individuals with Behavioral Health Challenges at the New Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, January 18 & 19, 2023.

6. **Informational:**

Presentation and Discussion on Annual Gambling Treatment Evaluation Report for SFY 22 - *Andrea Dassopoulos, UNLV International Gaming Institute (IGI)*

Ms. Dassopoulos gave a synopsis on UNLV's International Gaming Institute's Nevada Problem Gambling Study Annual Report Brief, Fiscal Year 2022. The report includes the following types of data; demographics, treatment, treatment success, enrollments, financial loss to name a few. A copy of the report can be found at Problem Gambling Services (PGS) (nv.gov). When the final draft of the full report is finalized, it will also be available for review.

Mr. Harwell inquired about the Medical and Behavioral Professional category and the percentages of referrals between medical professionals and behavioral health professionals.

Ms. Dassopoulos stated this is not in the report but can easily be included in next year's.

Dr. Kraus suggested IGI execute a study on the function of severity of problem gambling which could be included in this report.

Ms. Dassopoulos stated she is aware the clinics are only promoting abstinence with the ultimate goal of getting clients stopping all together. She welcomes Dr. Kraus to assist her in developing a new component of the study. At the conference in March, IGI will be presenting the data from their full report on the long-term recovery project.

7. **For Possible Action:**

Discussion and Make Recommendations for Updates to the DHHS Problem Gambling Services Strategic Plan - *Jeff Marotta, PhD, Problem Gambling Solutions*

Dr. Marotta state, the strategic planning process is moving forward. They have met with all the different entities along with the ACPG members, to go through a structured interview. The next step is to survey the field. This information will be used to focus on the different areas in need of further development. There will be a workshop to address those gaps and needs, then by May, the plan should be ready.

Ms. O'Hare stated, the Strategic Planning Workshop will be held on Wednesday, March 22 in the late afternoon or evening before the conference at the Suncoast Hotel.

8. **Informational:**

Advisory committee on Problem Gambling Governance

- a. Committee Membership - *Alan Feldman, Chair*
- b. Discussion on Advisory Committee Roles and Responsibilities - *Alan Feldman, Chair*
- c. Discussion on Position Statement or Show of Support Letter - *Alan Feldman, Chair*

Chair Feldman stated this item is on every agenda and there is nothing to discuss.

Chair Feldman added for the record, per Nevada law, no members of the ACPG can officially represent the ACPG. The only person authorized to do so, is Ms. Pittman as she is the head of the legislative committee. If anyone needs clarification, please reach out to either Chair Feldman or Ms. Garcia.

9. **For Possible Action:**

Discussion and Possible Approval Updated Bylaws - *Alan Feldman, Chair*

Chair Feldman stated, the bylaws require the members of the board, who sit as chair and vice chair, are representative of one from the South and the other from the North. The challenge becomes whether or not this is practical. Chair Feldman would like the committee to consider updating the language of the bylaws to reflect more flexibility in this matter.

Ms. O'Hare suggested the requirement for geographic designation in regard to the chair and vice-chair be entirely removed.

Chair Feldman requested a motion to have Ms. Garcia consult the BBHWP in regard to established procedures for modifying the bylaw language reflecting the removal of required geographic designation for the chair and vice-chair seats but rather include a broader representation of the state.

Ms. O'Hare made the motion to have Ms. Garcia seek consultation in modifying the bylaws. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

10. **For Possible Action:**

Nominations and Elections of Advisory Committee Members - *Alan Feldman, Chair*

Chair Feldman stated the nominations for chair and vice-chair are approaching. Chair Feldman does not want to nominate himself nor commit Vice-Chair Quirk to remain vice-chair if she does not want to.

Ms. O'Hare stated there is no mandate in the bylaws stating the elections have to be held in January or February, only annually.

Ms. Garcia stated the annual election for officers is in March.

Ms. O'Hare requested, the minutes reflect she is asking, until the committee receives clarification as to the procedures of changing the language of the bylaws, this item be tabled in lieu of the previous conversation.

Ms. Jones stated several members of the committee are up for reappointment and inquired if the election must take place before the reappointments are approved.

Chair Feldman stated, the decision to who the officers should be, is made by the committee. If the chair or vice-chair are not renominated or reappointed, then the committee will have to choose a new one.

Chair Feldman requested a motion to table item #10.

Ms. O'Hare made a motion to table item #10 until the next meeting when they will know what their options are regarding item #9. Ms. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

11. **Informational:**

Discussion on Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items - *Alan Feldman, Chair*

Chair Feldman stated, he, Vice-Chair Quirk and Ms. Garcia discussed tentative dates for future meetings. They are January 11, March 15 (which may have two meetings as this is a legislative year), May 7, July 19, September 20, and November 15. The preferred time is 10:00 a.m. The meeting time for March is 1:00 p.m.

Ms. O'Hare stated these dates are all on Wednesday's and falls into conflict with the Gambling Treatment Court of which she is a part of. Ms. O'Hare also stated as there is a new judge sitting on the bench, the day and time of the court may change.

Chair Feldman said as for now, the dates for the committee meeting will stay the same but they will keep an eye on this.

Ms. Garcia inquired if there were any items the committee would like placed on January's meeting. Ms. Garcia stated the Reallocation Plan will be on the agenda.

Chair Feldman stated the bylaws and elections need to be included.

Vice-Chair Quirk stated she would like the 988 Crisis representative to give an update at the meeting.

12. **Announcements:**

Mr. Hartwell announced, he will be giving two, 2-hour workshops at the Inner Tribal Council of Nevada. This is their 50<sup>th</sup> year of holding this conference and will take place for four days from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup>. One workshop will be about problem gambling. This will include data collected from 11 different tribes over several years. The other workshop will be on video game disorders. This overlaps with problem gambling. During his visit to Reno, he will also be speaking to 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Dilworth Middle School. This request came from a teacher at Dilworth who teaches an elective called, Real World Problem Solving. She reached out to the Council because she wanted to spend some time with her students talking about problem gambling.

13. **Public Comment:** *Alan Feldman - Chair*

Vice-Chair Quirk stated she will not be seeing any member of the committee in December and wished everyone Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and a blessed New Year.

Ms. Jeanyne Ward wanted to add, Mr. Hartwell is also presenting a Sports Wagering and Gambling in Online World, A Recipe for Disaster webinar for CASAT learning, February 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Registration is not yet open, but it will be sent out as soon as it is.

14. **Adjournment:** *Alan Feldman- Chair*

Chair Feldman made a request for adjournment.

Mr. Hartwell made a motion to adjourn. Vice-Chair Quirk seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.