

DIAPERING RESOURCE
COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 22, 2025
11:00 AM

The Diapering Resource Committee held a public meeting on January 22, 2025, beginning at 11:00 A.M. at the following location:

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87421294591>

Call In Audio: US +17193594580 or +12532050468

Meeting ID: 874 2129 4591

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

- Kelly Maxwell – Executive Director, Baby’s Bounty
- Blanca Ayala – Clinic Operations Coordinator, Division of Public and Behavioral health (DPBH) Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Ann McIntyre – Chief Executive Officer, Partnerships for America
- Lacey Gero – Policy and Coalition Coordinator, National Diaper Bank Network
- Jessica Roew – Health Program Manager 2, Nevada Early Intervention Services

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Carissa Pearce – Health Policy Manager, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Sam Johnson – Baby’s Bounty
- Maria Teresa Johnson, RN – Nursing Supervisory/Manager, Southern Nevada Health District, Nurse-family Partnership

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH) STAFF PRESENT

- Tami Conn, MPH – Deputy Bureau Chief Child, Family, and Community Wellness (CFCW), DPBH
- Rachel Marchetti - Home Visiting Manager, DPBH
- Helina Ashagrie – Program Coordinator, Nevada Home Visiting, DPBH
- Desiree Wenzel – Administrative Assistant, Bureau Office Manager, MCAH, CFCW, DPBH

1. Call to order and roll call – Kelly Maxwell, Committee Chair

Kelly Maxwell called the January 22nd meeting to order at 11:04 AM.

Kelly Marschall, SEI, let the committee know that Colette Moore communicated in an email that she does not consider herself part of the Committee any longer. Notice was not provided to SEI or the State prior to the email. Roll call was taken. It was noted that a quorum of the Diaper Resource Committee (DRC) was present.

2. Public Comment.

Kelly Marschall read the public comment notice. No further comments were made.

3. INFORMATIONAL: Open Meeting Law review, including public comment and motions - Kelly Maxwell, Chair

Chair, Kelly Maxwell reviewed the document, *Steps for Making a Motion in a Public Meeting*. This document will be posted on the DRC website with the other meeting materials. After reviewing the document, Chair, Kelly Maxwell opened it for member questions or discussion. No discussion and or questions occurred.

4. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of draft minutes from the Diapering Resources Committee (DRC) meeting on June 13, 2024 - Kelly Maxwell, Chair

Kelly Maxwell motioned to approve the draft minutes from the meeting on June 13, 2024. Blanca Ayala seconded the motion. Jessica abstained from voting. There were no delays regarding the motion and the motion passed. With a 4 out 5 agreeable vote the motion to approve minutes carried.

5. INFORMATIONAL: Update on 2024 Statewide Ballot Question 5 which proposed the exemption of child and adult diapers from certain taxes and next steps- Kelly Maxwell, Chair

Kelly Maxwell stated that Ballot Question 5 was passed by a significant margin. As of January 1, 2025, sales tax is abated for 25 years for child and adult diapers. This is a huge win for families struggling to afford diapers.

Kelly Maxwell asked if Lacey Gero had purchased diapers to test if the taxes

had been removed. Tami Conn shared that she had tested this by placing diapers in a digital Walmart cart in Reno and Carson and the sales tax was listed as \$0.00 but did not go through the checkout process. Lacey Gero informed the group that typically the Retailers Association tracks new policy changes and ensures that they are making any necessary changes. Chair, Kelly Maxwell opened it for member questions or discussion. No discussion and or questions occurred.

6. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates and possible recommendations regarding expanding the committee - Kelly Maxwell, Chair

Kelly Maxwell stated that this committee needs to be expanded, possibly to state or local representatives, such as a legislator. Kelly Maxwell expressed that national representative would not typically be a part of these committees but is unsure about State legislation on the ability of City Council or County Commissioners being a part of the committee.

Kelly Marschall, replying to a question about limitations on elected officials on public committees, said there should be no preclusion of elected officials joining this Committee.

Tami clarified that the Director of DHHS approves and appoints members. An open Request for Applications (RFA) can be posted. SEI could draft this, Tami could provide examples from previous requests for applications, then this could be shared widely through Committee contacts, State contacts, and posted on the DRC website. It will need to be posted on the DRC website and share widely.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell would like to proceed with opening a RFA to fill the vacant spots and expand membership. She is going to pass that information along to Senator Edgar Flores, who sponsored a diapering bill.

Ann McIntyre asked if the term for Committee members is two years. According to NRS, Tami Conn does not see term limits defined. There is no mention of a maximum term served found in the by-laws for the DRC and therefore Committee members are able to serve until they no longer wish to participate.

Tami Conn brought it to the attention of the group that there are by-laws

currently posted on the DRC website. Updates to the DRC website can be made through Tami, Rachel, and Helina.

Kelly Maxwell asked that there be a meeting scheduled with SEI to review and make suggestions for the DRC website.

Jessica Roew asked if this Committee could be up for elimination from the Governor.

Tami Conn confirmed that beyond a survey months ago regarding the purpose and activities of the various committees she has not been made aware of any additional requests or information regarding the elimination of the committee.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell will reach out to the outreach director for the Governor's office to seek additional information regarding this concern. She will report back on any information she is able to obtain.

Kelly Maxwell motioned that SEI, and the State draft a Request for Application in order to recruit additional members for the Committee. Motion pass unanimously.

7. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates and possible recommendations to improve current diapering activities - Kelly Maxwell, Chair

Chair, Kelly Maxwell opened the floor to hearing updates from any members or recommendations to improve diapering actives.

No updates from anyone on the Committee.

8. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates and possible recommendation to explore funding allocation possibilities from the State of Nevada and other funding types - Kelly Maxwell, Chair, and Lacey Gero, Member

Chair, Kelly Maxwell requested Lacey Gero talk about what are the next steps states take after abolishing the diaper tax.

Lacey Gero stated that once the diaper tax has been removed, there has been legislation in other states to provide a stipend for diapers to those enrolled in TANF. The other option is direct investment in diaper banks;

several states receive funding from their state government. There is an opportunity in Nevada to look at the capacity and determine what could be done with certain amounts of funding.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell asked if there was newer data than what is in the main Connecticut study.

Lacey Gero said that report can still be used but there is updated information and studies from the National Diaper Bank Network that can be used as well. She went on to express that there should be a state specific fact sheet on the results of the economic impact study that was completed. Nationally the results of that study should be published soon but the timeline is delayed as they are currently waiting on journals to publish the study before it can be published elsewhere.

Tami Conn would like to see these reports for DRC reporting.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell could use information from these studies to draft a bill request to seek state diaper funds.

Lacey Gero asked if there are earmarked funds from the State that are allocated for temporary use versus requiring a line item in the state budget as that could potentially be easier to obtain and utilized for diapers.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell confirmed knowledge of funding for specific projects due to Baby's Bounty being involved in specific projects in the past but is unsure of any specific earmarked funds for Diapering.

Tami Conn stated she is not aware of specific funds allocated to diapers but mentioned that there are budget hearings going on, where some of the governor's priority bills were discussed. She also stated you can search the online legislative tracking system for key terms and that she would also check.

Lacey Gero mentioned that Senators have earmarked Community Project funding at the federal level in the past. This is called Community Project Funding and could be a potential opportunity for additional funds.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell expressed that she has attempted to connect with both of Nevada's senators before the end of 2024 but was not successful.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell confirmed with Lacey Gero that the typical time frame for seeking out these funds is between February and March each year with it occasionally going into April if the Federal Government has not yet passed the previous year's budget. It is possible to subscribe to the newsletters for both Senators which will help to keep needed individuals informed of when funding becomes available. The newsletters can be subscribed to on each of the Senator's websites. She will conduct research and report back to the committee after the research is conducted.

Kelly Marschall asked Chair, Kelly Maxwell if this should be an agenda item for the future.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell agreed.

9. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Make recommendations for the DRC meeting dates for 2025 - Kelly Maxwell, Chair

It was determined the third Wednesday at 11:00 AM works for the members.

Chair, Kelly Maxwell motioned to schedule these meetings quarterly for the third Wednesday at 11:00 AM PT. Jessica seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT: No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item unless the matter is included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. The Chair of the DRC will place a five (5) minute time limit on the time individuals addressing the DRC.

Kelly Marschall read the public comment notice. No further comments were made.

11. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:49 AM.