

**Division of Public and Behavioral Health**  
**DIETITIAN ADVISORY GROUP**  
**SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**Date: Thursday, February 9, 2017**  
**Time: 3:30 p.m.**  
**MEETING LOCATIONS**

Videoconference to:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
727 Fairview Drive, Suite E  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
4220 South Maryland Parkway, Building D, Suite 810  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

CALL IN NUMBER: 775-887-5619    ACCESS CODE 2000    PIN NO. 0209  
NOTE: SOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY ATTEND IN LAS VEGAS  
AGENDA ITEMS MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF ORDER, COMBINED FOR CONSIDERATION, AND/OR  
REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA AT THE CHAIRPERSON'S DISCRETION

Attending Members:

Michele Cowee, Chair (Carson city)  
Laura Kruskall, RD (teleconference)  
Pam Wagner, RD, LD, CNSC, Dignity Health (teleconference)  
Anne R. Lindsay, Ph.D. (teleconference)

Excused:

Deborah Klein, RD, LD

Las Vegas attendees:

Jennifer Dunaway, HCQC

Carson City attendees:

Leticia Metherell, HCQC  
Nathan Orme, HCQC

Chair Cowee took the roll call and announced there was a quorum present at today's meeting.

Approval of meeting minutes from August 4, 2016

THERE WAS A MOTION AND A SECOND TO THE MOTION TO APPROVE  
THE MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2016. MEETING MINUTES  
WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Update on Health Care Quality and Compliance**

Jennifer Dunaway, HCQC commented that it is the dietitians time for license renewal. She explained the process is all online and that you have to log on and create a password. She said if you encounter any difficulties to contact Nikki Feister at [nfeister@health.nv.gov](mailto:nfeister@health.nv.gov) who can assist you.

### **Dietitians may be asked to participate.**

There is an annual Dietitian meeting at the end of March or the beginning of April. Michele noted that she will be attending the annual meeting in Reno.

### **Frequently asked Questions, Blog, Social media –**

Nathan Orme, Education and Public Information Officer, HCQC is working on a HCQC Facebook page to compliment the blog and the listserv web site. The Dietitian information will be part of that. For the next five months he will be busy with legislative assignments. He noted that bills that the group may want to follow include:

Chair Cowee said the only bills she noticed that related to dietitians included:

AB16 Revises provisions relating agricultural extension programs.

AB91 Revises provisions governing the administration of welfare and supportive services. AB83 Makes various changes relating to insurance.

Nathan Orme encouraged everyone to go to the legislative website at [Leg.state.nv.us](http://Leg.state.nv.us) and to sign up for NELIS so you can be notified whenever bills you are tracking are being heard. You create your own account and subscriptions for the bills then you create a list that you want to follow. Everyone is allowed to follow up to ten bills for free.

### **Update on any new information related to dietitians.**

Michelle Cowee, Chair said regarding suggestions for amending statutes or regulations. This is not something as an advisory group but as individuals for the ability of dietitians to write dietary orders, Medicare and Medicaid has changed the law. She commented that may be they need to update their regulations so that dietitians can write orders. No bills have been introduced yet.

A member commented that as a result of discussions they recommended to work around it.

Jennifer Dunaway said that now that CMS has changed the federal laws, can the state laws be stricter than federal. Leticia Metherell said that if state law prohibits it then federal law would prohibit it. There are work arounds, just be careful how a work around has been done. There has to be a physician order per patient but protocols can be developed. The doctor has to order the protocol per patient but it can't be the State's policy that all dietitians can do this. The flexibility comes in on how you develop your protocols. Nevada's law allows dietitians to take verbal orders. Her understanding is that a hospital may have a policy against that so you would have to follow the hospital policy. If you read the statutes, everything is outlined.

Michele Cowee and Jennifer Dunaway said that this may be something to pursue for dietitians to work on the wording for the 2019 Legislative Session.

### **Successes deserving recognition.**

After our annual meeting dietitians and students are recognized, Chair Cowee said she would submit some pictures and possibly submit them to Nathan to add to the web site for the dietitian section.

**Date for next meeting.** They will set another meeting after Chair Cowee attends the annual meeting. The next meeting was set for April 20, 2017.

At the request of a member, Leticia Metherell said a review of complaints in 2016 showed there were three unsubstantiated complaints.

### **Public Comment**

There was no comment under this item.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.