

Steve Sisolak  
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

Ihsan Azzam,  
Ph.D., M.D.  
Chief Medical Officer

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**2019 Senate Bill 284 – ADVISORY TASK FORCE ON HIV EXPOSURE MODERNIZATION**

February 17, 2021

5 pm

**Draft Minutes – 02.17.2021**

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

André Wade, Chair  
Stephan Page  
Steve Amend  
Vince Collins Jen  
Howell  
Cheryl Radeloff  
Connie Schearer  
Quentin Savvoir  
Cynthia Watson Catha  
Ruben Murillo  
Catherine Elliot

**TASK FOR MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Dallas Harris, Co-Chair (Excused)

(Excused)

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF PRESENT:**

Tory Johnson, Mgmt, 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  
Olivia Lavin  
Sean Golonka  
Alyssa Cortes  
Luis Aceves

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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 5:07 pm, 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

*(No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been included specifically on an agenda as an item upon which action will be taken.)*

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 February 3, 2021 draft minutes – Chair, André Wade

In response to Chair Wade's request for revisions to the February 3, 2021 draft minutes, Cathy Elliot mentioned that she had made a notification of her absence from the February 3 Task Force meeting.

Stephan Page asked for the February 3, 2021 minutes to reflect the meeting date of February 17, 2021, instead of March 17, 2021. Chair Wade asked the Office of HIV staff to reflect the February 17th date as the next Task Force meeting date.

Chair Wade asked members if there were any other corrections or revisions to the minutes as submitted. There were none. Chair Wade moved to approve the minutes with the recommended revisions; Ruben Murrillo 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 submitted.

4. Discussion of advocacy collateral material developed by Silver State Equality and the Nevada HIV Modernization Coalition – Chair: André Wade

Chair Wade stated that as listed on the endHIVnevada.org website, there are a couple of attachments. The first one is a one-pager about HIV modernization, and another one is a graphic showing the disparities in HIV statutes and the law regarding HIV. In response to Chair Wade's request regarding feedback on the documents, Cynthia Watson Catha stated that she thought the documents were wonderful and that she will share them.

5. Update on status of BDR 40-220 (2021) and 2021 81st Legislative Session – Co-Chair: Senator Dallas Harris

Chair Wade stated that Co-Chair Harris had spoken with him before the Task Force meeting and said that she did not have any information on when the bill will be heard but that she would keep the Task Force informed.

In response to Quentin Savvoir's question, Chair Wade confirmed that March 15 was the deadline for all language to be added and that the Task Force was well in advance of that.

6. Discussion of BDR 40-220 (2021) if the language has been released – Chair: André Wade

Chair Wade reported that the language has yet to be released. The Task Force shared no questions or comments regarding this agenda item.

7. Discussion of NRS 441A.180 recommended language – Member: Jennifer Howell

Jennifer Howell mentioned that she has been in communication with Marguerite Schauer from The Center for HIV Law & Policy regarding this bill and that Marguerite’s suggested language change of “likely to expose others” to “high probability to disease transmission” and that these changes should comply with ADA and the NRS. Jennifer Howell also added that the proposed language also included, “the high probability that the disease will be transmitted to others means a high likelihood of transmission as proven by current medical or epidemiological evidence recognized by the department.” Jennifer Howell mentioned that she supported the changes and that she would forward the recommendations to the Task Force, the Southern Nevada Health District, and the HIV Modernization Coalition for discussion and consideration. Chair Wade stated that The Task Force has and will continue to communicate with the HIV modernization Coalition and the Southern Nevada Health District to discuss the proposed language and any other tasks as needed making recommendations as needed.

Cheryl Radeloff shared that she would like to receive the information via email as proposed by Jennifer Howell. Cheryl Radeloff also expressed concern with information not being shared with all of the Task Force members, particularly when time is needed to review any new proposed language. Chair Wade mentioned that when discussions take place during meetings of the HIV Modernization Coalition, usually that information is presented to the Task Force for discussion as well. Cheryl Radeloff added that the state should also be involved in these conversations as they represent rural areas. There were no other questions or comments shared by the Task Force regarding this agenda item.

8. Discussion and possible action to revise or supplement information in the Task Force’s report to the Legislature – Chair: André Wade

Chair Wade shared that although the Williams Institute was successful with having access to the discussed data, it may be a month or so before the data or report is forwarded to the Task Force. Chair Wade then asked the Task Force members for any comments or suggestions regarding assessing any additional information to be added to the Task Force’s report. In response, Stephan Page mentioned that adding findings from NRS 40.770. Jenn Howell stated that the suggested bill changes should also be part of the report as well as recommendations for NSC removing the word “AIDS”. Cheryl Radeloff suggested the new make-up of the Task Force to added to the report. Chair Wade then made a motion to adopt the discussed recommendations as part of non-statutory recommendations. Jen Howell seconded the motion. Chair Wade called for a discussion then vote; all those in favor say ‘Aye,’ any opposed say, ‘Nay.’ None opposed; motion carried to approve the adoption of the discussed additions to the report.

9. Discussion of draft written and video testimonial videos submitted by Task Force members – Member: Connie Shearer

Chair Wade asked the Task Force if they had reviewed the videos. Cynthia Watson said that she thought the videos were great; Stephan Page then said that any feedback regarding the

testimonial videos would be greatly appreciated. Cynthia Watson suggested for Gary Costa from the Golden Rainbow to be contacted for testimonials. In response to Cathy Elliot's question regarding obtaining consent to post videos on social media platforms, Stephan Page shared that consent is always obtained first before any postings.

Office of HIV staff Tory Johnson mentioned that any and all videos or information posted on the EndHIVnevada.org become public.

Ruben Murrillo asked if the videos that would be used for testimony would represent individual views, or if these were to represent the Task Force. Chair Wade mentioned that the videos would be on behalf of the Task Force. There were no other questions or comments shared by the Task Force regarding this agenda item.

10. Discussion and possible action to determine frequency of Task Force meetings moving forward. – Chair: André Wade

Chair Wade asked the Task Force how often the Task Force should meet. Stephan Page and Cynthia Watson supported having the meeting every two weeks. Chair Wade then made a motion for The Task Force meetings to take place every two weeks moving forward. Cynthia Watson seconded the motion. Chair Wade called for a discussion then vote; all those in favor say 'Aye,' any opposed say, 'Nay.' None opposed; motion carried to approve the adoption of the discussed additions to the report. Chair Wade then asked the Office of HIV staff if the staff would be available to meet every two weeks. Office of HIV staff Tory Johnson said that while the staff would be available to meet, the turn-around time for documents to be forwarded and approved by the District Attorney General would be very tight.

Vince Collins stated that the attendance policy should be considered given the possibility of members not being able to meet as often. Ruben Murrillo shared that everyone would be okay with any absences. Steven Amend mentioned that since the deadline for the BDR would be March 15th, and that the Task Force could then meet in the scheduled meeting of March 17th given that there should not be a lot of action before then.

Chair Wade then asked Task Force members individually what their meeting frequency preference would be. Stephan Page and Cheryl Radeloff expressed their preference for meeting every two weeks. Steve Amend and Cynthia Watson preferred meeting monthly. In response to Quentin Savvoir question about any foreseeable opposition to the bill the Task Force has submitted, Chair Wade answered that there could be oppositions regarding the language of the bill as there may be some institutions that may be in opposition of the language of the bill, or people who may misunderstand the bill. Quentin Savvoir then voted to meet every two weeks.

Office of HIV staff Blissett shared that the Task Force bylaws state that a special meeting could be called by Chair Wade at any time. And that since there is a meeting already scheduled for March 17th, 2021, the Task Force did not have to vote on when the next meeting would take place. Chair Wade then mentioned that if the bill drops, he will call a special meeting. Steve Amend seconded the motion. Chair Wade called for a discussion then vote; all those in favor say 'Aye,' any opposed say, 'Nay.' None opposed; motion carried to approve to meet on March 17 and call a special session if needed.

Chair Wade retracted the previous motion and made a motion for the Task Force to meet on March 17th, 2021, and call a special meeting as needed.

11. Review and possible action to revise the Task Force bylaws regarding attendance – Chair: André Wade

Chair Wade reviewed attendance as reflected within the Task Force bylaws. As a request by Chair Wade, HIV staff Tory Johnson recommended for the Task Force to enforce the bylaws requirements in regard to the number of allowed excused and unexcused absences starting January 1st, 2021.

Steve Amend made a motion to re-start the meetings attendance policy starting January 1st, 2021, and to note whether the absences are excused or unexcused. Ruben Murrillo seconded the motion. Chair Wade called for a discussion then vote; all those in favor say ‘Aye,’ any opposed say, ‘Nay.’ None opposed; motion carried to approve re-start the meetings attendance policy starting January 1st, 2021, and to note whether the absences are excused or unexcused.

12. Make recommendations for next meeting’s agenda– Chair: André Wade

Chair Wade recommended adding a discussion for bill language and a possible action to revise or supplement information in the Task Force’s report to the Legislature.

Cheryl Radeloff recommended naming documents posted at the EndHIVnevada.org portal for ease of use. Chair Wade acknowledged Cheryl Radeloff’s recommendation.

There were no other agenda items suggested by the Task Force to be added to the next meeting’s agenda.

13. Public Comment – Chair 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.

Stephan Page shared that the HIV Modernization Coalition and the Silver State Equality and Planned Parenthood are hosting an event on what is HIV modernization next Wednesday at 5:30 pm. Anyone interested in attending can go to the Silver State Equality, the Nevada HIV Modernization Coalition, or Planned Parenthood webpages to register. There were no other public comments.

14. Adjournment - Chair Wade

Chair Wade motioned for adjournment of the meeting. Steve Amend seconded the motion. Chair Wade called for a vote, all in favor say, 'Aye,' any opposed say 'Nay.' None opposed, the meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm.