



**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**May 19, 2022
10:00 A.M. to Adjournment**

The meeting was held using remote technology in compliance with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 241.023.

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; Carolene Layugan; Carol O'Hare; Lesley Pitman; and Richard Taylor

Members Absent:

No members were absent.

Guests/Members:

John Borrowman and Florence Omollo Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH); Kim Garcia and Jerri Manning, Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention (BBHWP); Andrea Dassopoulos, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) IGI; Dr. Jeffery Marotta, Problem Gambling Solutions, Inc.; Chris Murphey and Lana Robards New Frontier Treatment Center; Agata Gawronski, Executive Director, Board of Examiners, Drug, Alcohol and Gambling Counselors; Ashlan Wickstrom and Sarah Polito, KPS3; Donna Meyers, Peter Ott and TinaMarie Bisiaux Bristlecone Family Resources; Jeanyne Ward, University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) CASAT; Nann Meador, Nevada Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG); Danika Navar, 8th Judicial District Court, Gambling Treatment Diversion Court; Trey Delap, Group 6 Partners; Sarah Adler, Belz & Case Government Affairs

2.) Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

3.) Announcements: Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman welcomed and introduced the two newest members to the Board, Ms. Lesley Pitman and Mr. Richard Taylor.

Ms. Lesley Pitman has an extensive background in lobbying and communications in Issued Advocacy. Ms. Pitman worked for R & R, Station Casinos as Vice-President of Government Corporate Relations and opened Sierra Strategies.

Mr. Richard Taylor served in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Taylor earned a degree in Public Administration at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) then joined the Government Relation Team at MGM Resorts. Mr. Taylor became the Director of Responsible Gaming, eventually being promoted to Executive Director of Responsible Gaming and Military Affairs.

4.) For Possible Action:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2022 - Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

Vice-Chair Quirk stated she would like to discuss the minutes before they were approved. Vice-Chair Quirk brought to the attention of the Board there are 33 typing errors in the draft meeting minutes and would like them corrected. Ms. Kim Garcia stated they will be corrected.

Vice-Chair Quirk made the motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Constance Jones second the motion with the amendments of correcting the 33 typing errors. The Board voted to pass the motion.

5.) Informational: Department of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and Bureau of Behavioral Health, Wellness, and Prevention (BBHWP) updates. Update on Fiscal Report, John Borrowman, DPBH Fiscal Manager; update on Programs, Kim Garcia, Social Services Program Specialist III (BBHWP); update on Treatment Providers, Andrea Dassopoulos, Project Manager.

Mr. John Borrowman stated he is very satisfied with the fiscal expenditures the committee made in 2021. Both the fiscal account and program monies do reconcile. The current budget is \$2,019,359.00 in category 19 and dedicated to Problem Gambling Grants. Recurring payments are projected to be \$2,017,427.00 leaving \$1,932.00 unobligated. This demonstrates what is available to be obligated and what is obligated. There is just under \$2,000.00 unobligated for the closing of budget.

Mr. Borrowman continued by discussing the 2024/2025 budget. Mr. Borrowman stated the budget is being built right now. Ms. Kim Garcia has instructed the fiscal division to request the same amount of funding which was provided in the fiscal year 2022/2023. Mr. Borrowman stated the Fiscal Division is pursuing the same funding for the 2024/2025 budget. Mr. Borrowman reminded the committee, should they spend everything intended in the fiscal year 2022, it will become the base budget amount and this base would be representing what will similarly be spent for the fiscal years 2024/2025. If changes are made, the basic expenditures, and if there is money left over, the extra money is not automatically lost. The committee will have to justify why they still need to continue to provide more money than what is being spent.

Mr. Borrowman recommended two things to the committee. First, spend all the money. The state does not like to give money to people who cannot spend it. Second, if all the money is not spent; be sure the committee is looking at how expenditure projections can be adjusted.

Ms. Garcia updated the committee on the programs fiscal report. Ms. Garcia stated there is some underspending but for the most part, the programs are on target for their spending and some money was moved to treatment. There is \$1,931.00 unobligated however, \$721,000.00 dollars still needs to be spent in the next six weeks. Ms. Garcia is confident the money will be spent.

Ms. Andrea Dassopoulos, gave the committee her quarterly fiscal report and goals on Nevada Problem Gambling Treatment. Ms. Dassopoulos showed on page one, line one, treatment goal (number of gambling clients), stating by the end of the fiscal year, the goal was to treat 370 clients or 75%. As of this date, 65 percent had been treated system wide. On line four, treatment goal (number of concerned other clients), was 50 clients. They treated 36 which is about 72%. On line nine (treatment goal for continuing care), the system wide aftercare was 19%. Ms. Dassopoulos stated people are not pursuing aftercare. Line 11 shows the number of discharges of problem gamblers and family members. They have discharged 252 people however, there is no set goal in this area. The second page showed fiscal amounts. On line 15, the percentage of overall treatment budget spent, shows 64% of monies were spent. They should be at 75%. Lines 16 and 17 measure how many people are going over established cap amounts. Everyone is under 5% and are meeting goals.

Mr. Ted Hartwell inquired if numbers are being captured for the relapse prevention program within the aftercare category. Ms. Dassopoulos stated they are being tracked but they are not considered aftercare because these are enrolled clients. Aftercare is someone who is discharged and continues to engage for up to three years.

Chair Feldman inquired about the total number of citizens receiving services and those who have been discharged and have come back and are they being tracked.

Ms. Dassopoulos stated people who come back for relapse prevention are not included in these numbers. Ms. Dassopoulos stated further, the purpose of this report is to measure the clinics stated goals and how far along they are in reaching those goals. The relapse program is not in this report because they have no goals but will be included in the annual report.

Chair Feldman closed this item.

- 6.) For Possible Action:** Discussion and possible approval of department reallocation recommendations. Kim Garcia, BHWP Social Services Program Specialist III, Problem Gambling.
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Ms. Garcia presented a report on allocation recommendation. Ms. Garcia stated the numbers have been discussed with agencies and what their current spending.

The International Problem Gambling Center requested their budget be reduced by \$76,000.00. These were funds they received in addition to what they had. The remaining amount is from the Reno Problem Gambling Center after they closed their doors. The \$76,000.00 will be moved to KPS3 to help enable them to increase their treatment numbers with awareness.

With the Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technology (CASAT), \$4,000.00 is being removed as they were given additional dollars at the last allocation. Ms. Garcia stated she would like some of the money to go towards getting more interns into the workforce.

Ms. Garcia spoke about the integration project. Ms. Garcia stated it was originally set for \$25,000.00. She did not include their indirect money, which is \$2,000.00. This is now going through the council.

Ms. Garcia stated the bottom line is, we have \$1,931.00, a remaining balance of \$76,000.00. These balances combined is an estimated \$78,000.00 which will go to KPS3.

Chair Feldman stated the entire public awareness program is underfunded and though \$78,000.00 is not enough money for this, it will help. Chair Feldman also stated this money needs to be spent by the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. Garcia stated some of the money will also go to outreach. Ms. Carol O'Hare stated she is totally comfortable with everything proposed for allocating the funds.

Vice-Chair Quirk requested more information regarding the incentives for attaining interns. Ms. Garcia referred to Ms. Jeanyne Ward with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), CASAT. Ms. Ward stated some funds were allocated for a scholarship program to incentivize people thinking of becoming Problem Gambling interns. Other incentives they came up with is shortening the application process, paying for their course work, giving them a stipend to cover additional costs and getting them a supervisor.

Dr. Kraus inquired about KPS3, if the ads or outreach are proportional and based on population.

Ms. Sarah Polito, from KPS3, stated the funds going to advertising are proportional with the population and the majority of the funds will go to Las Vegas.

Chair Feldman moved for a motion to approve the recommended reallocation of funds from this report.

Vice-Chair Quirk made a motion for reallocation of funds as outlined.

Mr. Hartwell second the motion. Ms. Garcia state she would like to add into the motion, the departments can make changes Chair Feldman inquired of Vic-Chair Quirk if she is ok with making the change. Vice-Chair Quirk stated yes, she agrees with allowing the departments to make changes as needed between now and the end of June. Mr. Hartwell second the motion.

The Board voted to pass the motion. Chair Feldman declared the motion passed.

- 7.) **For Possible Action:** Discussion and possible approval of the 2023 Provider Manual Version 1.0. Presented by Dr. Jeffery Marotta, Problem Gambling Solutions.

Dr. Marotta stated the reason for this consideration is because it is currently incorporated in the Strategic Plan and as it is considered a living document. It would be easier to make revisions if it were a stand-alone document. The key changes that were discussed were formalizing booster sessions, eligibility of clinicians, care levels, residential gambling treatment program. The board discussed the language and definitions of these topics and the way the board wanted the changes to be worded.

Chair Feldman made a motion to approve the manual changes with the addition of NRS641 into the definition of eligible clinicians on page five and the language on page 15. Vice-Chair made the motion to approve the changes. Mr. Hartwell second the motion. The Board voted to pass the motion. Chair Feldman declared the motion passed.

- 8.) **Informational:** Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Governance on committee membership and discussion on position statement or show of support letter. Presented by Chair Alan Feldman.

Chair Feldman stated the Board members received a Committee Membership packet. In it lists the members, their designations and expiration dates of their membership. Currently there are six or seven members whose terms expire at the end of June 2023. The applications come out next year. As to the discussion of the position statement, no member is allowed to self-represent as the Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling but can share their affiliation with the committee.

Chair Feldman closed this item.

- 9.) **For Possible Action:** Discussion and possible approval work group memberships. Presented by Chair, Alan Feldman.

Chair Feldman inquired of Ms. Leslie Pitman to work on the legislative workgroup. Ms. Pitman agreed to do so. Ms. Garcia stated all members should be involved with one of the workgroups. Ms. Garcia inquired of Dr. Shane Kraus if he'd like to be part of the provider workgroup.

Vice-Chair Quirk stated she would like to nominate Lana Henderson-Robards to be the Chair for the Treatment Providers workgroup. This would be only a leadership change. Chair Feldman stated this will be noted and included in the motion.

Chair Feldman addressed Ms. Garcia stating the Board should have a Public Relations (PR) Marketing workgroup. Ms. Garcia requested confirmation on creating a new work group. Chair Feldman confirmed this, and stated Mr. Richard Taylor would be a good fit for this new workgroup. Mr. Taylor stated he would be happy to do so. Ms. Garcia stated a Chair needs to be nominated for this new workgroup and this is not an agenda item. Chair Feldman stated at the next meeting, the creation of the new workgroup will be discussed and if anyone is interested in participating, to let Ms. Garcia or himself know.

Ms. Carolene Layugan requested a list of the formalized workgroups to review and see how she can participate.

Ms. Garcia will get the list to Ms. Layugan.

Dr. Marotta suggested the language for the provider workgroup be changed to a treatment system workgroup or treatment workgroup as Ms. Henderson-Robards as she is a treatment provider.

Chair Feldman put forth the motions Ms. Henderson-Robards be named the new Chair for the Treatment Provider workgroup which will be renamed the Treatment System workgroup and Dr. Kraus be added to the group. Ms. Pitman will join the Legislative workgroup. Vice-Chair Quirk made the motion to approve. Ms. Pitman second the motion.

The Board voted to pass the motion. Chair Feldman declared these motions passed.

10.) Informational: Discussion on future agenda items. Presented by Chair Alan Feldman.

Chair Feldman stated there will be a workgroup and discussion on the next agenda.

There were no other items brought up by the Board.

Chair Feldman closed this item.

11.) Public Comment:

Mr. Ted Hartwell Yes, thank you. I wasn't sure where to put this, so I thought I'd put it at the end, but I wanted to adjust some kudos out to quite a few people. I think this is an important and a good place to do it. But first of all, a KPS3 over the last few months has really done Yeomans work outside of the project worth website and the wonderful tweets and everything in terms of connecting a number of us with interview resources, both locally at the state level and at the national level, which may seem a little bit outside of their purview, but in fact I think it really helps to get some Nevada information into the

some of those national conversations because it helps highlight some of the areas where we're falling behind other states. I think in, in funding levels and resources and hopefully can help focuses in on some of those. Also, to CASAT for allowing me to do an online presentation on that was spoke used on rural behavioral health clinics and Native American cultural competency. But since that took place in March, I took the opportunity to use a little case study of some of my work and problem gambling in the tribal communities to highlight that topic and issue invitations to any organizations that might be listening. And in fact, there were a couple different that reached out. I'll be giving a presentation specifically for behavioral health clinics in rural communities on the issue of both problem gambling and gaming in June. So that was pretty exciting. And another connection that arose out of that was the Southern Nevada HR professional's community has reached out and that is a very broad organization I think across Southern, Southern Nevada specifically that I'll be giving a presentation Later this summer so it wanted to thank them for a facilitating those contacts and then finally to the Nevada Council with regards to the State conference earlier this month, Naan and Aaron and Liz did incredible work under very difficult circumstances and under difficult circumstances for Carol at the time and putting together that conference and putting together a wonderful conference. And one of the highlights was the. The student presentation and all of the research projects, which were pretty high quality across the board on those small grants, really turned out a lot of fantastic products in future interest among those students. I hope that's something that the CPG will keep on its radar going forward. I think we get a lot of bang for the buck in the in the small amount of allocation that's done those areas. Thank you to all of you.

Chair Feldman

Thanks, Ted. I also want to echo that about the conference this year was outstanding and. in expressing my appreciation personally to Carol. She had knowledge that it was Nan in the team. They're really, you know, did the line show or the work this year. And I think the greatest compliment I can give to them is that. From the outside, you wouldn't have known it looked like you know another conference that that Carol had led and had directed and managed. It was beautifully done and had, to your point, couldn't agree more on the on the both the quality of the projects that that were done on the small grants program. But oh, my goodness, we're those students. Impressive. If that didn't give you a jump just to think about. How you know how secure the future might be? If we can keep that talent here in Nevada? And that's obviously a very big part of the discussion as we talked through workforce and budgets and things of that nature. But congratulations to all of them. And Shane, I know that there were several of your students. Who were there and just? Very, very impressive individuals and very impressive projects.

Chair Feldman inquired if there were any more public comments.

There were no more public comments. Chair Feldman closed this item.

- 11.)** Adjournment: Alan Feldman, Chair
Chair Feldman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m.