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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING  
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, April 25, 2024  
1:00 p.m. to Adjournment

Note: Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based on viewpoint.

1. Call to order/roll call – Alan Feldman, Chair

This meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., by Chair Alan Feldman, requested Ms. Garcia take attendance of members.

Members Present:

Alan Feldman, Chair  
Shane Galster  
Stephanie Goodman  
William Theodore Hartwell  
Constance Jones  
Dr. Shane Kraus  
Lesley Pittman  
Denise Quirk, Vice Chair  
Richard Taylor

Members Absent

Richard Taylor

Ms. Garcia confirmed that we met quorum.

2. Public comment– Alan Feldman, Chair

(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.

Chair Feldman, Chair asked if there was any public comment.

No public comment.

3. For Possible Action

Approval of Minutes February 22, 2024, meeting - Alan Feldman, Chair

Ms. Goodman advised that she did not see the date for the Problem Gambling Day at the legislature in the minutes and would like it to be documented. It is March 4, 2025, from 9-3. Ms. Garcia said she would get it added. Ms. Goodman moved to approve the minutes; Dr. Kraus seconded the motion. Ms. Pittman abstained as she was not present at the meeting. Motion carried.

4. Informational- Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention Updates (BHWP)

a. Discussion on Fiscal Report – Andrea Allen, DPBH, Contracted Administrative Service Officer I

Andrea Allen, contractor for DPBH went over the fiscal report balanced through March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. As of that date we are approximately 80% spent through the fiscal year. Total receipts and funding were \$2,582,192.00 expenditures for category 19 is \$1,931,197.79, with an available obligation of \$49,634.00. In Category 20 we have projected a \$100,000.00 for a contract. She also reminded everyone that the funding from Senate Bill 341 can be balanced forward to the next fiscal year of 2025.

Chair Feldman asked a question to clarify that we are allowed to move monies forward when we are within a given biennium, but once we then move to the next moment at which the legislature needs to create a new one, we can't transfer between those two things. Ms. Allen replied advising the language in the SB341 did provide that you could balance forward between the years 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027, the biennium that we're going to be coming upon. We can't speak to that yet because we haven't gone to the legislature, but it's my understanding that you would not be able to take remaining dollars from fiscal 25 and then forward it to fiscal 26 because that was not the language in the bill. Chair Feldman agreed and so did Ms. Garcia with that explanation.

b. Discussion on Program Updates - Kim Garcia, BHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III  
Ms. Garcia explained that almost everybody is on track to spend their dollars. Bristlecone will be changing some of their treatment services and New Frontier is going to be absorbing some of the residential funding. Bristlecone has added another counselor to their staff which is why they have requested an additional \$25,000.00 to get them through the year. She advised this is how there is an additional \$49,000.00 to request from Ms. Allen to carry forward into fiscal year 2025. Lastly, Ms. Garcia shared that there is a State Gambling Conference coming up on May the 22-24. Mr. Hartwell advised everyone to get their tickets now as it is a fantastic program.

c. Update on Treatment Provider Data – Andy Dassopoulos

Ms. Dassopoulos gave the quarterly data report for the first three quarters of the year. All information is referenced in the Treatment Quarterly Reports that is posted on the state's website. Per the reports they are seeing more people than anticipated. She expressed her concerns that only about 25% of our clients are receiving aftercare. Chair Feldman asked what is causing the low aftercare results and how are we measuring this? Ms. Dassopoulos explained we have some clients have an after-care program that doesn't involve the

program. Also, patients have more options so some of them that would have been aftercare clients are doing a program instead. Ms. Goodman reinforced that message by stating that everything is not being thrown into after-care because we have all these different programs and it's very exciting. Mr. Hartwell asked if we could put some kind of asterisk for the accounts or account somehow for the numbers that are being lost to Problem Gambling Center, having other levels of care, so that it doesn't look like we are not meeting our goal? Chair Feldman said we will need to put a pin in this for right now and we should re-visit the next meeting.

5. Informational- Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Subcommittee and Work Group Updates

a. Discussion on Legislative Subcommittee Updates – Stephanie Goodman, Legislative Subcommittee Chair

Ms. Goodman advised that they are working with parties of interest such as the Gaming Control Board and will be speaking with the Nevada Resort Association. Chair Feldman has come up with a formula that essentially keeps us from having to go and ask for money out of the General Fund every year, but it also properly funds us so that we can maybe do some awareness advertising. We have identified someone to do a bill draft request for us and we are in the process of setting up that meeting and moving forward, we also are aware that July one is when BDR's typically are due. Getting that meeting and moving forward the amount that comes out of the formula is approximately \$6 million. Secondly, Ms. Pittman had mentioned that we had talked about maybe doing a BDR for paycheck cashing places for them to have some material there required kind of like they do in casinos for problem gambling. All were in an agreement it was a good idea.

b. Discussion on SB341 Appropriation Workgroup Updates - Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman started off by saying they are still trying to figure out what this program is going to look like and where it will take place. We are asking where are the gaps, what needs to be done, what does the future look like? I would ultimately summarize what the program is about, where we've got some dates that we're trying to work on and some locations and we're just not ready to get into that detail yet. Ms. Garcia advised that the grant has left our office and is headed to Governors Finance Office

6. For Possible Action Discussion and Possible Approval of Department Reallocations Recommendations for SFY24 Kim Garcia, BHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III

Ms. Garcia suggested that they should reduce Bristlecone by an additional 36,000.00 based off them not providing residential treatment for problem gamblers, and then the request from New Frontier of the 25,000. No questions were asked. Mr. Hartwell moved to approve the reallocation; Mrs. Quirk seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. For Possible Action Discussion and Possible Approval of Department Allocations Recommendations for SFY25 Kim Garcia, BHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III

Dr. Marotta started off by advising that after going from two residential gambling treatment programs down to one, residential treatment is the most expensive or resource intensive form of treatment we have. Also, with the Spanish-speaking program doing well and ramping up and is on track to greatly expand the number of resources they will need for their services. Since this was unknown at the time a budget increase was not requested. Therefore, Ms. Garcia was able to

create a budget for FY 2025 that will be sufficient, but the caveat is that it is the same expense but with fewer services in some ways as there will be fewer providers. Ms. Garcia stated we're spending additional dollars on treatment compared to what we spent in 25 or 24, it's 5% more. Everybody else is about at the same level, her recommendation at this point is for her to be able to start getting our sub awards out for 2025 is she is requesting that the board approve as is. Ms. Quirk moved to approve the motion; Ms. Goodman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Informational - Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Governance

a. Committee Membership – Alan Feldman, Chair

Ms. Garcia advised that Ms. Goodman, Mr. Taylor, and Ms. Pittman's appointments expire at the end of this month, but they have all been submitted. Mr. Hartwell's appointment will expire at the end of June. He has submitted as well.

b. Discussion on Position Statement or Show of Support letter – Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman stated Again, as we always do, a reminder that none of us can represent the CPG on our own if we are asked to weigh in, testify, speak to a legislator about any topic, the fact that you are a member of the CPG is something you can identify, but you're not able to or authorize to give the CPG's perspective to anyone.

9. Informational - Discussion on Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Alan Feldman, Chair

Ms. Garcia advised the next meeting is being held on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

10. Public comment – Alan Feldman, Chair

Mr. Hartwell I just wanted to share some information that I believe I already shared with everybody who's in the SB 341 discussion, but I thought it was interesting and will be valuable moving forward as we have data to support some of our asks. The Nevada Council will participate for the first time in National Screening Day this past month, which is simply an effort to involve different organizations in screening for problem gambling on a on a single day at their institutions, whether it's members of their staff and or clients. There were five different locations that we had that occur on or around March 12<sup>th</sup> and they included WestCare, Harris Springs Ranch, West Care Partial Hospitalization program, Crossroads of Southern Nevada and Foundation for Recovery, as well as a table that we set up in the Clark County Government Center for the day. From those five locations on that single day, we had 148 people that filled out surveys, including 61 just members of the public and or staff at the government center. There were 24 positive screens out of that 148, so about 21% of the screens were positive and those ranged from within the treatment and/or recovery facilities from a low of 11% up to 36% at individual locations and at the Clark County Government Center, 8% of individuals who just wandered by the table and were willing to fill it out. So, at a minimum, those are all individuals who have at least begun to experience gambling harms, and all, of course, should be at a minimum screened by professionals. But there's 24 people from a minimal sample of locations across the valley in a single day. And so, I think it does give a little more notice and perspective on the problem and we're hoping to kind of do several of these throughout the rest of the year, just separate from that day to continue to gather data. As we go out and give our monthly presentations to clients at a dozen or so different organizations that we have partnerships with, we're planning on just making it a regular part of our rounds with clients that these organizations serve so that we can get a good sense at least of those who are in treatment for substance use disorders and or other mental health disorder what the positive screens for those are.

Chair Feldman Thank you, Ted and in accordance with our public comment policy, if you could provide that information to Kim, that would be terrific. Thank you.

Mr. Hartwell believes she already has a copy of probably from my previous note, and so I think you can probably reach out to her.

Dr. Kraus stated, "I was just wondering if you know as I have noticed as I have been talking to different reports for various sports bettors that there's a lot of discussion around whether universities should be sending out gambling related advertisement on behalf of casinos here in our community. I'm just wondering whether this committee itself or members think that's worth a discussion because it is kind of interesting with sports betting and the issues that might be coming. It seems interesting that higher education where we know college students and other folks have risk factors when universities are kind of partnering up at sending out commercials and ads with really kind of concerning language: you know, free play and all these things. So, I'm wondering if that's something that's worthy of a discussion whether ACPG members would like to take a position and discuss that. I think the literature is quite clear that that is not the way to go, and that's going to be borne out with research as well. So, I'm just wanting to make that comment because I've actually received four of those emails myself and not wanting them. But I know other members of the community have also reached out to me. It's come up by reporters, so I was wondering what our thoughts were around advertisement for sports betting for university settings so."

Ms. Goodman replied.

"I wanted to say that I'm actually working on that. Shane, there is not really any kind of material in all our health centers across the state in the various community colleges and universities. I'm actually working on that to make sure at least there is information for students to know where they can get help. I'm working with the mental health coordinator for the system, so I'm happy to have another offline conversation with you about that and kind of get any of your input."

Ms. Jones, "I just returned from the International Masters of Gaming Law Conference in Florida. That is a really hot topic. I believe that some jurisdictions are banning brand ambassadors on campuses. You've got sports brand ambassadors on campus. It is a big issue and I think it's something that we should look at."

Chair Feldman

A very good question. The advertising you're talking about, is that from the university going to students?

Dr. Kraus "Explains an email going out from the sports, you know, the sports on behalf with partnership with the casino with these members really incentivizing with the language. We know it's common in sports betting for enrollment, free play, and that's going out widely distributed to people who you know, because I purchased tickets before in the past, but I didn't sign up for gambling. Then, of course, seeing multiple emails with increasing language which we know is likely to happen, I was a bit surprised. I just know this is a big discussion. There are six very large universities being investigated. I think this is going to be a very problematic and I'm just wondering if this group has maybe some concerns and once the discuss that or should really be providing feedback to universities and learn places of learning around potential pausing or being thoughtful around some because the this is an evolving area of research, but I would just say what I've seen so far is worrying me already, because it's really definitely not something we you shouldn't have to be using a lot of this language itself. And I don't know that I will be sending out to community and particularly students and faculty and staff as well. So. So it's just interesting that I got a lot of reactions; people email me all the time about it. Like, did you see this? And I was just curious, but I hadn't expected it to come so, but I wonder whether we have any thoughts ourselves

as advisory committee around concerns around advertising that we're seeing bombardments of for younger people, if that's what I'm saying, but that's something we want to have a conversation.”

Mr. Hartwell suggested that this be addressed as an agenda item for a future meeting.

Chair Feldman stated “There's a lot more information that we need to have about this. Having had a toe in the industry in the past. Maybe even to some extent. staff, students. It could mean that depending on what list was used, thousands of students might very well have received that. It is absolutely worth some further discussion, including some further details to what exactly happened.”

From Dr. Adriene Renwick (in the chat) says, “not sure if you've heard that UNR is changing the location of their basketball stadium, moving it off campus. I'm curious to see how this affects sports betting from students.”

Ms. Garcia addressed the comment placed in the chat by Dr. Adrienne Renwick as I turned off the chat, if she wanted to put anything as a public comment, can you please provide your public comment through approved mechanism. The comment in the chat from Dr. Renwick was I'm not sure if you have heard, but UNR is changing the location of their basketball stadium - moving it from off campus to a casino. I'm curious to see how this affects sports betting from students.

Chair Feldman responded No. It's still a good question, Adrienne

Ms. Garcia stated that yes that is correct, planned to be off campus at the GSR.

Chair Feldman It's moving off campus this is very interesting.

Chair Feldman asked if there were any other comments and hearing none.

11. Adjournment - Alan Feldman, Chair  
Meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm