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*Governor*



Richard Whitley,  
MS  
*Director*

**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

 **NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC  
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**



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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, 10:00 am

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

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 Mrs. Garcia take attendance of members.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent

Richard Taylor  
Lesley Pittman

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 September 21, 2023, meeting - Alan Feldman, Chair

Vice Chair Quirk motioned to approve the minutes; Ms. Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. For Possible Action

Approval of Minutes November 16, 2023, meeting - Alan Feldman, Chair

Vice Chair Quirk motioned to approve the minutes; Ms. Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. 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  
Ms. Allen with the Department of Public and Behavioral Health Fiscal Department provided updates for the current fiscal year 2024. We are currently roughly about 60% through the fiscal year. The total receipts and funding were \$2,582,192.00 we have spent \$792,567.14 in category 19 we have \$13,229.00 remaining to obligate.
- b. Discussion on Program Updates - Kim Garcia, BHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III

Ms. Garcia Spending as of December billing, looking good for the year 45% spent for the year. A few items will not show up till the end of the 3rd quarter such as incentives, conference etc. Received information from the Council that the conference is open and to please share that with others. Chair Feldman commented that this is roughly where we are at usually at this time of the year. There is a feeling there will be a push from the providers as more people will be seeking treatment. Ms. Goodman concurred with that feeling as there are more people seeking treatment with there not being such a stigma for getting help. There is 6% of the population that have a problem and we are getting about 1%, if we can get to that 6%, we are doing great work!

6. 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 they are working to move the needle forward to get money without taking it out of the general fund. Chair Feldman wanted to advise that Ms. Goodman and Ms. Pittman are working so hard to get this started and hoping to get it to Legislature this year. There will be a Problem Gambling day at the legislature in Carson City on March 4th, 2025 from 9 to 3.
- b. Discussion on SB341 Appropriation Workgroup Updates - Alan Feldman, Chair  
Chair Feldman advised that this is better to be advised on in item 7 of today's agenda.

7. For Possible Action

Discussion and Possible approval of the SB341 Appropriation Workgroup Proposal to Conduct Statewide Seminars on Problem Gambling Awareness– Stephanie Goodman

Ms. Goodman gave a presentation on Statewide Seminars on Problem Gambling. Sarah Polito from KPS3 also explained the initiative of the strategic approach to help promote seminars and how to use items for future campaigns as well. The presentation describes the purpose to increase awareness on the gambling harms and the identifying the gaps that need to be addressed. Ms. Goodman moved to approve the plan as presented, Mr. Hartwell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. For Possible Action

Presentation and Possible Approval of EVIVE Technology Platform to Help Mitigate Gambling Harm – Sam DeMello, EVIVE, Inc.

Dr. Marotta disclosed he is one of the founding members of EVIVE and will recuse himself from the discussion but will answer any questions that he can. Sam DeMello gave a little background on himself and why he created EVIVE. Worked in Biotech space for 13-14 years. Personally, he has struggled with a gambling addiction for most of his life. Has been in recovery for 4 years, tried therapy, gamblers anonymous none of these were effective for him. About a year ago as he felt more confident in his recovery, he made a post on Reddit particularly for people with gambling problems. He shared all the research he had done via books and understanding the neuroscience behind it. When the Reddit thread was so positively received, he realized that there was a need for access for treatment via a digital tool. Mr. DeMello presented a PowerPoint advising on the app and how it works. Chair Feldman asked if we could schedule something to have a meeting with KPS3 and EVIVE to have a further conversation about tele health.

9. For Possible Action

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

Ms. Garcia went over the reallocation plan- went through the draws through the end of December. Reached out to each agency in the treatment section to gauge their spending plan for the next half of the year. Ms. Garcia went through the data and advised the community of how the money will be reallocated. There is about 36k left over that needs to be obligated. Ms. Garcia recommended that based on the trends she was seeing an increase in people coming into treatment facilities, so she advised that we might want to put some money aside to make sure we can make them whole. She turned the question to the committee but asked to please take her recommendations. Mr. Kraus commented that they're trending up a little, which is a great thing, but asked for clarification on exactly how much we are trending up, as he sees this as an ongoing issue. Ms. Garcia responded that she agreed and that in the next meeting they will be planning the next budget cycle. Mr. Kraus said we need to keep this in mind to advocate for further funds as we keep proving it is needed. Ms. Goodman advised that she will be recusing herself from the vote as she would be the beneficiary of any extra funding. Ms. Quirk commented that she presumed Ms. Garcia had spoken to all the providers and exercised all kinds of options so she supports Ms. Garcia's idea for holding the money aside for treatment. Chair Feldman asked if that was a motion and Ms. Quirk said yes, we should accept Ms. Garcia's recommendation. Mr. Kraus seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Informational

Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Governance

a. Committee Membership – Alan Feldman, Chair

There are currently 4 members whose terms expire at the end of June. Those members are William Theodore Hartwell, Dr. Shane Kraus, Leslie Pittman, and Richard Taylor. Please make sure you get in whatever is needed to renew if you do not intend to renew, please let us know as soon as possible. Ms. Garcia advised that Leslie Pittman and Richard Taylor expire at the end of April, and she has already reached out to all 4 members. Dr. Kraus and Mr. Hartwell have already submitted their paperwork and the other 2 are working on it.

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

Chair Feldman advised that as members of this committee we are not authorized to speak on behalf of the Committee, especially involving legislature matters himself included. We can offer opinions so long as you do it individually. The official appointee of the committee is Leslie Pittman and that remains in place.

11. Informational

Discussion on Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman asked what dates do we have on the calendar? Ms. Garcia advised none because we didn't set any last meeting. Committee went through and set the following meeting dates:

4/25/2024 @ 1:00 pm

6/18/2024 @ 1:00 pm

9/16/2024 @ 10:00 am

Ms. Garcia then proceeded to ask about future agenda items. She said for sure we will have one for the reallocation and looking at the budget allocations for next year. Ms. Garcia said she would also like to do DAG training now that meetings are planned with dates, she will try to get it on one of these agendas.

12. 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. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the Meeting ID, enter 216 208 811#. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. The person making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

No public comment.

13. Adjournment - Alan Feldman, Chair

Chair Feldman called the meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.