

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley,
MS
Director



Cody Phinney,
MPH
Administrator

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

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PALLIATIVE CARE AND QUALITY OF LIFE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 20, 2025

3:00 p.m.

Chair Anderson-Mackey called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

- Call to Order and Roll Call

Members:

- Kim Anderson- Mackey, council chair
- Eddie Belluomini
- Angela Berg, DNP, APRN, CPNP
- Marilyn Jeanne Hesterlee, RN
- Stephanie Schneider

State Support Staff:

- Claire Walton, Education and Information Officer
- Monique Peden, Administrative Assistant III

- Public Comment

- No public comment

- For Possible Action: Review and approve meeting minutes from September 28, 2023, to the present, including:

- September 28, 2023
- October 10, 2023
- October 16, 2023
- October 19, 2023
- January 25, 2024
- February 9, 2024
- February 16, 2024
- April 4, 2024
- May 14, 2024
- July 25, 2024
- January 23, 2025

Motion to approve all minutes from September 28, 2023, through January 23, 2025, made by Angela Berg. Kim Anderson-Mackey seconded. Marilyn Jeanne Hesterlee approved minutes from September 28, 2023, October 19, 2023, January 25, 2024, and January 23, 2025. Stephanie Schneider approved minutes from October 19, 2023, and January 23, 2025, that she was present for.

- Discussion Item: Discussion on council members appointment status for Angela Berg and Stephanie Zylstra (pending approval by Director)

Claire informed the council that the appointments are still pending Director approval.

- For Discussion and Possible Action Item: Discussion and possible action to recommend members to a vacant position that has experience in the provision of interdisciplinary palliative care, including, without limitation, hospital, medical, nursing, social work, pharmacy, financial and spiritual services; to fill this position as required by [NRS 232.4855](#).
 - Discussion to include recommendations for non-statutory member to apply and/or nominate themselves, if qualified for this position.

Motion to nominate Eddie Belluomini into the vacant position made by Kim Anderson-Mackey. Angela Berg seconded. Motion in favor was unanimous.

- For Information Only: Update on Palliative Care Awareness Day slated for National Healthcare Decisions Day on April 16, 2025- *Kim Anderson Mackey*
 - Marketing of event: flyer, social media, website and council members' roles
 - Update council on current registration numbers
 - Finalizing and review of presenters PowerPoints
 - Times people are available to staff the informational booth
 - Review the handouts
 - Video testimonials – Antonio Narvaez Ramos
- For Discussion and Possible Action Item: Discussion and possible action on 2025 Nevada Legislative Session Subcommittee - *Tom McCoy & Kim Anderson-Mackey*
 - Discussion Item:
 - SB 78 – Revises provisions relating to boards, commissions and councils
 - Rare Disease Council at risk of elimination discuss alignment of goals
 - Possibility of requesting to merge with Rare Disease Council or take on rare disease initiatives

Angela Berg mentions that Rare Disease Council initiatives are in alignment with the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Council. Angela and Eddie Belluomini are in favor of absorbing the Rare Disease Council initiatives.

- Possible Action:
 - Recommendations for or against SB 78
 - Support as the bill stands; or
 - Opposition to bill- recommend changes

Claire Walton explained that the council has committee members that are state employees, and it could be a conflict of interest for those members to take a stance on bills with the council. Marilyn Jeanne Hesterlee confirmed. Claire and Monique Peden will clarify with Deputy Attorney General (DAG). Tabled for the following meeting due to clarification needed from DAG.

- Recommendations for or against AB 161
 - Support as the bill stands; or
 - Opposition to bill- recommend changes

Claire Walton explained that the council has committee members that are state employees, and it could be a conflict of interest for those members to take a stance on bills with the council.

Marilynn Jeanne Hesterlee confirmed. Claire and Monique Peden will clarify with Deputy Attorney General (DAG). Tabled for the following meeting due to clarification needed from DAG.

- For Discussion and Possible Action Item: Next meeting date and subcommittees' next meeting dates

Kim Anderson-Mackey motioned for next meeting for April 3, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. Seconded by Angela Berg.

- Public Comment
 - No public comment
- Adjournment – Council Chair
 - Meeting ended at 4:03 p.m.