

**Tobacco Use Prevention & Control
Commission Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2022
Lucas State Office Building and Zoom Meeting
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

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| <p>Voting Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Robert Nichols – Chair • Dr. Teresa Aoki – Vice Chair • Chad A Jensen • Lorene Mein, ARNP • Abi Harmison • Chase Willis • Dr. George Belitsos • Bridget Saffold • Willow Johnson | <p>Non-Voting Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Herman Quirnbach • Melissa Walker • Courtney Sweet • Becky Blum, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise • Dale Woolery, Off of Drug Control Policy • Matt Gannon, Attorney General’s Office |
| <p>Voting Members Not Present:</p> | <p>Non-voting Members Not Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donn Stanley, Attorney General’s Office • Senator Julian Garrett • Representative Tom Jeneary • Representative Kristin Sunde |
| <p>Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Staff: Jerilyn Oshel, Sheri Stursma, Jane Larkin, Tabetha Gerdner, Adam Shanks; Garin Buttermore, Laura Bell</p> <p>Guests: Heather Adams, Attorney General’s Office; Whitney Randolph, Cedar County Public Health; Marley Eckblad, Prelude Behavioral Services; Kristin Frank, Prelude Behavioral Services; Nancy Roweddder, New Opportunities; Erin Heiden, University of Northern Iowa; Jessica Ekman, Alcoholic Beverages Division; Chris Kempker, Henry County Agricultural Extension District;</p> | |

- I. Introductions & Welcome** Dr. Robert Nichols
10:02 AM
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes** Dr. Robert Nichols
- A. January 7, 2022 Minutes: George Belitsos motioned. Chad Jensen second. Unanimous approval.

III. Old Business

A. **Position from Commission on Merger** Dr. Robert Nichols

Discussion was held regarding the Commission's position on the merger. It was collectively decided to wait for more information on the merger. Senator Herman Quirnbach suggested a meeting between Dr. Robert Nichols, Jerilyn Oshel and Director Kelly Garcia to emphasize and convey the importance of maintaining the commission and all of the representatives on the commission.

B. **New Member Orientation** Heather Adams

Heather Adams went through the New Member Orientation that was emailed out to all commission members. It can be found here [New Member Orientation](#).

Belitsos made a motion to review and update the rules at the next meeting with staff recommendations on changes/additions, along with input from Heather Adams. Dr. Aoki seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

IV. **Legislative Report/Update** Legislators Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance

Sen. Quirnbach:

Senator Quirnbach stated he scanned the Senate Study Bill 3158, the Health and Human Services appropriations bill. Quirnbach stated that the only mention of the word tobacco is in Division III and it is regarding the funding, which is \$4,020,894. Quirnbach stated there is a section in Division XI, which basically states that until the transition is complete that everything will remain the same. Quirnbach stated it seems that the commission's legal status is not affected until the Legislature takes specific action. Quirnbach stated that he did not see anything that undermines the commission role or authority.

Quirnbach called attention to Senate File 2263. Quirnbach stated that if this bill moves forward it will abolish senate confirmation for almost 30 boards and commissions.

Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance (ITPA):

Not in attendance

V. **New Business**

A. **Discussion on CDC funding recommendations calculations** Dr. Robert Nichols

Jerilyn Oshel stated that a document was sent out to show these calculations. It can be found here [CDC Recommended Funding Levels](#). Belitsos stated it is dated 2014 and asked why it hasn't been updated. Oshel stated that this was the last time the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) updated it.

B. HF 2523 bill to define e-cigarettes as tobacco products and have them taxed as such

A lot of discussion was had from commission members about the content of the bill. Belitsos made a motion to draft a letter that states the commissions support for redefining vapor and alternative nicotine products as tobacco products and communicate that to appropriate members of the Legislature. Dr. Aoki second. Unanimous approval.

VI. Division Director's Report/Update

Jerilyn Oshel

A. Budget:

Oshel reported that as of March 1, the Division has spent 66% of the budget. Oshel reported that the Division continues to work with contractors to get the funds spent according to Best Practices. Oshel reported that the Quitline Request for Proposal (RFP) closed on March 3 and the Community Partnership Request for Application (RFA) closed on March 23. Beltisos asked how many applications were submitted for the Quitline RFP. Oshel stated there was one applicant.

B. Alignment update:

Oshel discussed the functional org chart that was emailed out and stated the Tobacco Division will be housed under Public Health, under the Community and Public Health function. Oshel addressed concerns in the conversation about this merger trying to shrink the Department. Oshel stated that the goal of the merger is not to shrink state government in general, but it is truly to strengthen our coordination among the existing services and to provide a more comprehensive service to lowans

VII. TUPC Program Update:

A. Iowa Students for Tobacco Education Prevention (ISTEP)

ISTEP Youth

Courtney Sweet reported that there are 72 chapters across 45 counties in Iowa and 13 are newly established. Sweet reported that ISTEP and My Life My Quit (MLMQ) are partnering together on April 1 to do some street marketing events in the schools. Sweet stated that the ISTEP Summit is being held April 19 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in the Varied Industries Building.

VIII. Other Attendee Reports

A. Attorney General's Office

Matt Gannon

No updates.

B. Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP)

Dale Woolery

No updates

C. Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

Becky Blum

No updates.

D. Department of Education

Melissa Walker

Melissa Walker reported that in working with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Tobacco Commission and Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) they have been able to create a [hazardous waste medication guide](#) that includes an entire page regarding e-cigarettes and how to waste those.

E. Alcoholic Beverages Division (ABD)

Jessica Ekman

Jessica Ekman reported there is a budget handout through the month of January. Ekman stated that ABD is continuing to have issues pulling compliance reports and are in conversations with the vendor.

IX. Public Comment

There was no one from the public that wished to comment.

X. Next TUPC Commission Meeting Agenda Topics

Dr. Robert Nichols

- A. Next Commission Meeting May 20, 2022
- B. Review and update the rules
- C. Discussion of Healthcare Trust Fund – Donn Stanley

XI. Adjournment

Chad Jensen motioned to adjourn. George Belitsos seconded. Unanimous approval. Adjourned at 11:48 AM.