

**Tobacco Use Prevention & Control
Commission Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2023
Lucas State Office Building and Zoom Meeting
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

<p>Voting Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Robert Nichols – Chair • Chad A Jensen • Lorene Mein, ARNP • Abi Harmison • Dr. Teresa Aoki – Vice Chair • Chase Willis • Bridget Saffold 	<p>Non-Voting Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becky Blum, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise • Senator Herman Quirnbach • Dale Woolery
<p>Voting Members Not Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ava Miller 	<p>Non-voting Members Not Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Julian Garrett • Representative Tom Jeneary • Representative Kristin Sunde • Courtney Sweet • Melissa Walker
<p>Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Staff: Jerilyn Oshel, Laura Bell, Tabettha Gerdner, Garin Buttermore, Jane Larkin, Sheri Stursma, Jill Wright</p> <p>Guests: Jessica Ekman, Alcoholic Beverages Division; Penny McCaslin, Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health; Erin Heiden, University of Northern Iowa; Susan Viletta, Johnson County Public Health; Chris Kempker, Henry County; Whitney Randolph, Cedar County Public Health; Theresa Armstrong</p>	

- I. Introductions & Welcome** Dr. Robert Nichols
10:00 AM
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes** Dr. Robert Nichols
- A. March 31, 2023 Minutes: Bridget Saffold made a motion to approve. Chad Jensen seconded.
- III. Old Business**
- A. Robert Nichols asked Jerilyn if there has been any news on appointing a person from the Attorney General’s Office. Jerilyn Oshel stated we have not received a response on who our contact will be for the Commission.

IV. Legislative Report/Update

Legislators
Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance

Sen. Quirnbach: Senator Quirnbach reported that he had nothing to update at this time.

Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance (ITPA): Not in attendance.

V. New Business

A. None

VI. Division Director's Report/Update

Jerilyn Oshel

A. Budget:

Oshel reported that there has been a lot of communication with the Community Partnerships to spend down funding according to Best Practices

B. Meeting Rooms:

Oshel stated that there will be no meeting rooms available in the Lucas Building after September 1, 2023, as the building will not be accessible due to renovations. Oshel stated that we could look for other locations to hold the meetings or we can hold the meetings as virtual only. Oshel asked how the Commission would like proceed for the next year of meetings. Nichols stated that he likes the virtual as an option, but would like to keep an in-person location available. Becky Blum stated she would send a list to Jerilyn for different locations. Jensen stated he likes the virtual option as well, but would also like the option of in-person meeting. Sen Quirnbach stated there are rooms at the capital that are equipped for in-person and virtual meetings.

Oshel introduced Theresa Armstrong to the Commission, as she will be the new Bureau Chief over Tobacco. Oshel stated that a new Table of Organization (TO) came out and Tobacco Control merged under Behavioral Health and reviewed the TO with the Commission. Armstrong introduced herself and stated that she is with legacy Department of Human Services (DHS) and has been with them for about 20 years. Armstrong stated how excited she is to get the teams integrated and get to know everyone. Quirnbach stated that the Commission has been a very important, independent voice of tobacco control. Quirnbach indicated that he understands the benefit and efficiencies gained from the reorganization, but doesn't want to lose the value that the Commission has. Quirnbach stated that he feels the Commission needs to have a prominent place in tobacco policy.

C. Legislative Liaison

Jancy Nielson

Jancy Nielson reported about the Red Tape Review as mandated under Executive Order 10. Nielson stated that the purpose of the exercise is to see how the work can be supported and how it can be done most efficiently. Nielson stated that they want to make sure these chapters are easy to use and easily readable. Nielson state the high lever overview is a 13-week process; from identifying different authorities and making sure current administrative rules are within that authority that has been given.

VII. TUPC Program Update:

- A. **Iowa Students for Tobacco Education Prevention (ISTEP)** ISTEP Youth
Abi Harmison reported that there are currently 65 registered chapters in 35 counties and 16 are new this year. Harmison reported that nine of the council members attended the FY23 regional meetings with the Tobacco Division staff. Harmison reported that youth council members alongside Jill Wright facilitated a 2-hour long networking session with adult contractors. Harmison stated that the Executive Council enjoyed celebrating the 15-year anniversary of the Smokefree Air Act. Harmison reported that the council has a retreat in late June that will focus on team building and participating in community/youth concept course and that on October 12, 2023, they will have the in-person ISTEP summit, which will focus on youth/adult partnerships.

VIII. Other Attendee Reports

A. **Attorney General's Office**

Not in attendance.

B. **Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP)**

Dale Woolery

Dale Woolery reported that their office is ramping up alignment with Public Safety, which will officially take effect July 1, 2023. Woolery stated that the Governor signed House File 595, which enhanced penalties on Fentanyl delivery and other drug delivery activities. Woolery reported that the ODCP office launched a new portion of the website devoted to emerging drugs in Iowa. Woolery asked Oshel about the states plan for the JUUL settlement. Oshel stated that a plan has been put together and has been submitted to Director Garcia and Marissa Eyanson. Oshel stated that they come back with some further questions and further directive. Oshel reported that it has been worked on, but they want to get further on the alignment pieces before a work plan is approved and moved forward on. Oshel stated that there has been approval and movement on some of the funding for ABD.

Lorene Mein asked if the Commission can get a copy of what the JUUL funding will be spent on. Mein asked if there is anything in the bill that talks about extending treatment for people who are addicted. Woolery stated there was nothing in the bill in regards to the treatment. Oshel stated that once the JUUL funding plan is approved and it can be shared. Oshel will share what the settlement says and what the division is proposing.

C. **Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)**

Becky Blum

Becky Blum reported that there were really no updates at this time. Blume stated that IME is busy onboarding Molina at this time.

D. **Department of Education**

Melissa Walker

Nothing to report at this time.

E. **Alcoholic Beverages Division (ABD)**

Jessica Ekman

Jessica Ekman reported that the JUUL funds will be used to assist the Iowa DOT in launching a mobile ID. Ekman reported that they have done a soft launch, but the tentative hard launch will be around mid-August. Ekman reviewed the data that was included in the handouts. Nichols asked what it would look like if there could be a month-long trial period focused solely on vapor products and alternative nicotine products.

Ekman stated that they are partnering with nearly 200 agencies to do this work and stated it is difficult to get them to do these checks at all. Ekman stated she could reach out to the more receptive department and see how it is received. Quirnbach asked for a report that shows which areas are not conducting the enforcement checks. Ekman stated they have been told lack of officers or political reasons for not doing the checks.

IX. Public Comment

Mein stated she is concerned about what the tobacco industry's sale pitch is. Mein stated the verbiage coming out has the terms stating safer product, less harmful products, etc. Mein stated we need to counter that with information on the hazards of any nicotine use. Mein asked where is our data and information going to come from to counter this message? Mein stated that we need input from lobbyist, advocates, Health Department, etc. Nichols stated that he is hearing these phrases from his patients as well.

X. Next TUPC Commission Meeting Agenda Topics

Dr. Robert Nichols

- A. Next Commission Meeting July 28, 2023.
- B. Update on JUUL settlement funding.

XI. Adjournment

Adjourned at 11:17 AM. Jensen made a motion to adjourn and Saffold seconded.