

**Tobacco Use Prevention & Control
Commission Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2024, 2024
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 • Dr. Teresa Aoki – Vice Chair • Lorene Mein, ARNP • Bridget Saffold 	<p>Non-Voting Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Herman Quirmbach • Courtney Sweet • Susie Sher, ODCP
<p>Voting Members Not Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sellah Ambundo • Abi Harmison 	<p>Non-voting Members Not Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative Anne Osmundson • Melissa Walker, Dept of Education • Senator Julian Garrett • Representative Adam Zabner
<p>Behavioral Health Staff: Patti Manna, Jill Wright, Adam Shanks, Nick Crawford, Kelly Garcia, Carrie Malone</p> <p>Guests: Jessica Ekman, Alcoholic Beverages Division; Susan Viletta, Johnson County Public Health; Chelsea Hoye, Advocacy Strategies; Threase Harms, Advocacy Strategies; Lynzey Kenworthy, DOJ; Susie Sher, Office of drug Control Policy; Susan Vileta, Johnson County Public Health; Courtney Sweet, ISTEP; Erin Heiden, University of Northern Iowa; Chelsey Hoye Advocacy Iowa; Josie Redman, American Lung Association; Kristina Hamilton</p>	

- I. Introductions & Welcome** **Dr. Robert Nichols**
The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by Dr. Robert Nichols.
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes** **Dr. Robert Nichols**
A. The March 29, 2024, and May 31, 2024, minutes were distributed to the Commission members. Dr. Nichols motioned to approved both, Bridget Saffold seconded. The motion carried. There was no discussion.
- III. Commission Discussion** **Dr. Robert Nichols**
Dr. Nichols facilitated a discussion on the design of the future system and the role of the Commission after it sunsets in July 2025 due to recent legislation. Commissioners expressed a strong interest in continuing to share their vast knowledge with Iowa Health and Human Services (HHS), with a desire to have the ability to utilize a dedicated, structured format to actively provide feedback in addition to attending the public feedback sessions. There was interest in obtaining more information on the future of the funding and structure of the tobacco youth programs and community partnerships. Concerns were raised that the

knowledge base of the Commission would be lost in the bureaucracy after the transition. There was discussion on the role of the Commission in lobbying the legislature, with an understanding that HHS representatives are limited in this area.

IV. Iowa HHS Director Garcia Update

Director Kelly Garcia

Director Garcia shared updates regarding the Iowa HHS Behavioral Health System Alignment. The district map has been finalized and there will be a townhall meeting August 6th, 2024, to share with interested stakeholders.

Director Garcia shared that the goals of the Behavioral Health System Alignment are to have a system with clear access points, that Iowans will have access to services and supports, there will be links to federal, state and local governance, an elimination of administrative red tape, and funding will be tied to measurable system outcomes. Director Garcia shared the implementation timeline.

Director Garcia answered questions from the Commission. Commissioners asked what the future of the youth programs would look like, whether there would be policy commitment to financial support, and how the Commission could continue to provide input. Director Garcia shared that there is currently robust discussion with the HHS Council on how to include the body of work of the Tobacco Commission in the future and answered questions regarding the HHS Council's purpose and formation. The HHS Council is a publicly facing advisory body, gives feedback on HHS proposals on emerging issues in Iowa, has the discretion to convene advisory committees, and is in the process of adjusting to changing duties and broader interconnections within Behavioral Health.

Commissioners emphasized that they would like to continue to advise on tobacco programs, including community partnerships, partnerships with local police departments, youth programs and funding needs. There was a suggestion that HHS should consider statutory changes to the Behavioral Health bill to ensure ongoing authorization for the tobacco youth and community programs. Director Garcia stated the agency will take the feedback into consideration and encouraged the Commission to submit to HHS specific, achievable recommendations for continuing the tobacco work.

V. Legislative Report/Update

Legislators
Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance

Legislators:

Senator Quirnbach complimented the Commission on their robust input into the conversation with Director Garcia. Quirnbach expressed concern that HHS is not fully hearing the input of the Commission. Quirnbach expressed that the legislation as passed is in need of adjustments to ensure the established tobacco programs move forward with statutory authorization and funding.

Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance (ITPA):

No update given.

- VI. TUPC Program Update:** **Adam Shanks**
Scott County Health Department adopted a zoning ordinance that restricts tobacco and vape retail stores to the industrial district. This included partnership and support from the city of Des Moines to draft the language and a presentation from the local school district. Smoke Free Homes program, through a partnership with state fire Marshall division, has developed presentations and marketing materials. Registration on the Smoke Free Homes registry has increased. The Quit Line FY24 report shows continued positive use of the program. The mass media efforts have been successful with over 11.8 million impressions through the campaign.
- VII. Iowa Students for Tobacco Education Prevention (ISTEP)** **ISTEP Youth**
Courtney Sweet has represented as the ISTEP President for 4 years, her service is greatly appreciated, and she is now leaving to attend college. Emilie Stewart was appointed as ISTEP President and Mattie Komsie as the newest voting member. Chapter registration ended for FY24. There were 77 chapters throughout 35 counties with 20 of those chapters being newly established. Chapter registration is now open for FY25.
- VIII. Other Attendee Reports**
- A. **Attorney General's Office** Lynzey Kenworthy
Lynzey Kenworthy is new liaison from the Attorney General's office.
- B. **Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP)** Susie Sher
No updates.
- C. **Department of Education** Melissa Walker
Not in attendance.
- D. **Alcoholic Beverages Division (ABD)** Jessica Ekman
Jessica Ekman reported on tobacco, alternative nicotine and vapor product enforcement activities, retailer training, and tobacco fund. She gave updates on the Iowa Department of Revenue's new tax guidance on glass and metal devices and vapor products directory. More information can be found on the Iowa Department of Revenue website.
- IX. Public Comment**
There was no public comment.
- X. Next TUPC Commission Meeting Agenda Topics** Dr. Robert Nichols
- A. Discuss a formal proposal to the HHS Council.
B. Determine if the Commission would like to have an HHS facilitator to the discussion.
- XI. Adjournment**
Adjourned at 12:04 pm.