

**Tobacco Use Prevention & Control
Commission Meeting Minutes
September 27, 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 • Sellah Ambundo • Abi Harmison • Lorene Mein, ARNP 	<p>Non-Voting Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Herman Quirnbach • Susie Sher, ODCP • Representative Adam Zabner
<p>Voting Members Not Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridget Saffold 	<p>Non-voting Members Not Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative Anne Osmundson • Courtney Sweet • Melissa Walker, Dept of Education • Senator Julian Garrett
<p>Behavioral Health Staff: DeAnn Decker, Joe Campos, Tabetha Gerdner, Patti Manna, Jancy Nielson, Jill Wright</p> <p>Guests: Tyler Ackerson, Carrie Arblaster, Jackie Cale, Denise Dutton, Jessica Ekman, Kristina Hamilton, Threase Harms, Erin Heiden, Chelsea Hoye, Lynzey Kenworthy, Mattie Kompsie, Emilie Stewart, Angie Sylling, Susan Vileta</p>	

- I. **Introductions & Welcome** **Dr. Robert Nichols**
The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Dr. Robert Nichols.

- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** **Dr. Robert Nichols**
The August 2, 2024, minutes were distributed to the Commission members. Teresa Aoki motioned to approved both, Lorene Mein seconded. The motion carried. There was no discussion.

- III. **Vote for Repeal of 641-152** **Dr. Robert Nichols**
Dr. Nichols facilitated a discussion on the vote to repeal Chapter 152 “Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Funding Process” of Iowa Administrative Code. This rule chapter sets forth procedure of the Iowa Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Commission in conducting competitive procurement on behalf of the tobacco initiative. The Commission may engage in its own procurement under Iowa Code. Under current practice the Commission utilizes HHS department procedure to engage in procurement.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) representative, Joe Campos, explained that through the government alignment, consolidation of rules have occurred to centralize processes. He stated that the change does not affect what the Commission can do, but the process by which it can be done through procurement. Joe Campos clarified that this process change would not affect the ability to fund services. There was clarification that the effect of keeping this rule chapter in place would have the effect of keeping a process that is not currently used in place.

Jancy Nielson, Iowa HHS legal representative, answered questions regarding the appeals process and stated that appeals are sent to a centralized appeals division. The HHS generalized appeals process was shared with the Commission. Dr. Nichols clarified that there have not been appeals in the recent past. Tabettha Gerdner clarified that there have not been any recent Requests for Proposals (RFP) submitted by the Commission.

Senator Quirnbach recommended that the commission not act on this issue today, stating a concern that the change could result in delays of issuing contracts. Senator Quirnbach asked the HHS representatives to return with a proposed amendment to change, rather than repeal, the rule at the next Commission meeting. Teresa Aoki expressed concern that a centralized process could affect how prioritization will occur and questioned the need for the change at this time. Joe Campos clarified that the rules repeal process would expire prior to the November meeting.

Dr. Nichols made a motion to table the discussion and reconvene to discuss on October 11th, 2024, from 10am to 11am. Lorene Mein seconded the motion. The motion carried.

IV. Legislative Report/Update

Legislators
Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance

Legislators:

Senator Quirnbach stated he did not have any additional comments.

V. Tobacco Use Prevention Program Update

Tabetha Gerdner

Tabetha Gerdner shared the Iowa Tobacco Prevention and Control Program 2024-2028 Strategic Plan overview. Through a collaborative process, five strategic areas of intervention were identified as central to Iowa advancing its aims in tobacco and nicotine prevention and cessation. The primary areas of intervention identified are Iowa adult use rates, youth and young adults, cessation and treatment, secondhand and thirdhand smoke, and co-occurring disorders.

Primary objectives identified are decreasing smoking prevalence, decreasing e-cigarette prevalence, increasing cessation supports and counseling, increasing adoption of tobacco and nicotine-free policies and increasing access to treatment. Tabetha Gerdner suggested that more in depth discussion of the plan can be done at a future meeting.

VI. Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance (ITPA) Update

Dr. Robert Nichols

Dr. Nichols shared a proposal of recommendations that have been developed by the Commission for submission to the HHS Council, as suggested by Director Garcia. The proposal includes a history of progress, summary of recent accomplishments, summary of

the tobacco burden in Iowa, threats from emerging products, and funding for tobacco prevention and cessation in Iowa

The proposed actions for tobacco prevention and control in Iowa include the following:

1. Include at least one HHS Council member with tobacco prevention and control expertise.
2. Maintain/expand Iowa Students for Tobacco Education (ISTEP).
3. Establish a consistent relationship with tobacco experts on the HHS Council, the Behavioral Health Advisory Board, and the Tobacco Prevention Subcommittee.
4. Ensure collaboration with community leaders and state and national public health organizations dedicated to tobacco prevention and control.

VII. Iowa Students for Tobacco Education Prevention (ISTEP)

ISTEP Youth

Emilie Stewart reported that 200 youth are already registered for this year's ISTEP Youth Summit, which will be held Thursday, October 10, 2024, at the Varied Industries Building on the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines. Street marketing kits have been finalized, with four being offered.

VIII. Other Attendee Reports

A. Attorney General's Office

Lynzey Kenworthy

The Attorney General's office has been working on implementation and revision of rule provisions, clarifying regulatory requirements and ensuring civil enforcement.

B. Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP)

Susie Sher

The ODCP submitted a written update regarding the recently passed "pipe bill." The fund for Specialty Courts and Diversion projects has been set up. The taxes and fees from the bill will begin being deposited after Jan 1, 2025.

C. Department of Education

Melissa Walker

Not in attendance.

D. Alcoholic Beverages Division (ABD)

Jessica Ekman

The ABD submitted a written update on the FY24 I-PLEDGE Tobacco, Alternative Nicotine, Vapor Product Enforcement and Retailer Training Program. Results will be sent out to the commission. The compliance rate for FY24 was 91%, and overall, the data is consistent with FY23 results. The Iowa Department of Revenue (IDR) did expend the entirety of our FY24 HHS tobacco budget. IDR's modernization program is launching the ability for tobacco retailers to apply for retail tobacco permits within GovConnectIowa, as well as a new tobacco retail licensing portal and a new law enforcement portal on November 12, 2024.

IX. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

X. Next TUPC Commission Meeting Agenda Topics

Dr. Robert Nichols

The Commission decided to hold a special meeting on October 11th, 2024, at 10am.

XI. Adjournment

Robert Nichols motioned to adjourn, Teresa Aoki seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:04pm.

