

MINUTES
SUBSTANCE ABUSE/PROBLEM GAMBLING PROGRAM LICENSURE COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 9, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.
DIRECTOR’S CONFERENCE ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, LUCAS STATE OFFICE BUILDING
TELECONFERENCE

This electronic meeting of the Substance Abuse/Problem Gambling Program Licensure Committee was held in accordance with Iowa Code section 21.8 entitled “Electronic Meetings.” The Code states that a governmental body may conduct a meeting by electronic means only if circumstances are such that a meeting in person is impossible or impractical and access is provided to the public. An in-person meeting of the Committee to handle this limited agenda was impractical due to the schedules of the Committee members and the resources of the Department. This electronic meeting originated in the Director’s Conference Room, 6th floor, Lucas State Office Building, 321 E. 12th Street, Des Moines and public access to the meeting was provided at this location. Notices and agendas were posted in the building and posted on the Department’s web site.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Wolnerman called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Ms. McCurley conducted roll call.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Michael Wolnerman, via phone
Sandra McGrath, via phone

Department Representatives:

DeAnn Decker, IDPH
Lori Hancock-Muck, IDPH
Amanda McCurley, IDPH

Other Attendees:

Beth Artis – Sober Strategies
Stephen Picken – Sober Strategies
Brad Hjelmeland – North Iowa
Counseling
Keri Neblett - IDPH

I. Agenda/Minutes

Motion made by Ms. McGrath and seconded by Mr. Wolnerman to approve the January 12, 2022 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Substance Use Disorder/Problem Gambling Licensure

A. Licensure Recommendations

1) Two (2) Year License:

a. Motion made by Ms. McGrath and seconded by Mr. Wolnerman to approve a license for a period of two (2) years to the following programs: **Sober Strategies Inc., Urbandale, Iowa**, license effective **November 8, 2021 to November 8, 2023** and **North Iowa Counseling, LLC, Waverly, IA**, license effective **March 10, 2021 March 10, 2023**. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Denial:

a. Motion made by Ms. McGrath and seconded by Mr. Wolnerman to proceed with the denial of a license to **New Sight, Inc., Des Moines, Iowa**, in accordance with Iowa Administrative Code 641—155.11(3). Motion carried unanimously.

III. Substance Use Disorder/Problem Gambling Update – DeAnn Decker

Ms. Decker gave an update on the Alignment between IDPH and DHS. The alignment process continues to move forward. The bureau chiefs had a meeting with the consulting group to look at the organizational chart, and were able to provide feedback addressing what will work well and where gaps remain. The slides for the presentation “Health and Human Services Alignment” are available on the alignment website. Ms. Decker shared a reminder that the Preliminary Change

Package is available on the website as well. Ms. Decker stated the Final Change package should be available in the middle of February.

Ms. Decker shared that Governor Reynolds will be ending the COVID-19 proclamation on February 15, 2022. The bureau will be planning with our Behavioral Health Assistant Attorney General and helping providers make adjustments as necessary during this transition. Ms. Decker mentioned how providers are handling the workforce shortages and reshuffling.

Ms. Decker gave an update on the 2022 Legislative session. There have been a few bills moving forward regarding the reallocation of Problem Gambling and Sports wagering funding outside of the bureau into a county endowment fund.

Ms. Decker shared suicide rates in Iowa and Polk County are on the rise. Ms. Decker mentioned some of the most recent incidents in Polk County have involved young people. Ms. Decker shared the bureau is working on addressing the suicide rates in Iowa.

Ms. Neblett presented on the link between suicide and substance use disorder and provided a history of suicide prevention programming in the Bureau of Substance Abuse. Ms. Neblett provided an overview of 988, the new designated number for the national suicide prevention hotline and how 988 will be implemented in Iowa. IDPH received a state planning grant and is working with DHS to prepare for the launch of 988 in July 2022.

IV. Adjournment

Next Meeting

The Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. via Conference Call. This is a scheduled teleconference meeting.

Motion made by Ms. McGrath to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Wolnerman. Mr. Wolnerman adjourned the meeting at 10:02 am.