

**Tobacco Use Prevention & Control
Commission Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2021
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"> • Chad A Jensen – Chair • Dr. Robert Nichols – Vice Chair • Lorene Mein, ARNP • Dr. Teresa Aoki • Abi Harmison • Chase Willis • Willow Johnson 	<p>Non-Voting Members Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Herman Quirmbach • Donn Stanley, Attorney General’s Office • Becky Blum, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise • Dale Woolery, Off of Drug Control Policy • Representative Kristin Sunde
<p>Voting Members Not Present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. George Belitsos 	<p>Non-voting Members Not Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melissa Walker, Dept of Education • Senator Julian Garrett • Representative Tom Jeneary • Courtney Sweet
<p>Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Staff: Jerilyn Oshel, Sheri Stursma, Jane Larkin, Tabetha Gerdner, Joann Muldoon, Jill Wright, Laura Bell, Adam Shanks</p> <p>Guests: Erin Heiden, University of Northern Iowa; Kristina Hamilton, American Lung Association; Joshua Happe, Alcoholic Beverages Division; Jessica Ekman, Alcoholic Beverages Division; Beth Turner, American Lung Association; Michele Tilotta, Iowa Department of Public Health; Sarah Reisetter, Iowa Department of Public Health; Emilee Harris, Advocacy Strategies; Patty Funaro, Iowa Legislative Services; Demario Luttrell, Alcoholic Beverages Division; Kris Bell, Iowa Legislative Services</p>	

I. Introductions & Welcome
10:00 AM

Dr. Robert Nichols

II. New Business

A. IDPH/DHS Alignment

Sarah Reisetter

Sarah Reisetter reported on the status of the alignment work that the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) has been undertaking with the Iowa Department of Human Services (IDHS). Reisetter advised commission members to look at the website, which can be found here: https://hhsalignment.iowa.gov/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery.

Reisetter stated there is a lot of great information about what has been happening, in addition to finding resource information, there is also a contact us feature for feedback and Reisetter wanted to make all aware of this website.

Reisetter stated the process was started with a Request for Proposal (RFP) last Fall and the Public Consulting Group (PCG) was selected to help the agencies with this work. Reisetter reported that it was this past April or May timeframe when the work started with PCG in earnest. Reisetter reported that there are a number of change teams that are comprised of program level staff members from both IDPH and IDHS that have selected some connection points that were identified earlier this summer. This report can be found on the Health and Human Services (HHS) website.

Reisetter commented that among all the work that both agencies do, there are some connection points that are a little more obvious than others and those are what the changes teams are currently focusing on. Reisetter gave some examples of the change teams that have been put together to date and they are: Behavioral Health, Supports to Families, Food and Nutrition, Health Promotion, Maternal Health and Childhood and Aging and Disability. Reisetter stated that those groups are meeting and having in depth conversations about those connection points.

Reisetter stated there are specific sets of questions that the change teams are being asked to analyze and then put together a list of recommendations and options for consideration of what could be done across the agencies to make our work more effective and efficient. Reisetter reported that once the packages are developed by the change teams they are reviewed by the Alignment Project Team, which consists of three members from IDPH, five members from DHS, one member from the Iowa Department of Education and one member from the Department of Aging. Reisetter reported that once the Alignment Project Team reviews and approves the recommendations they are then sent on to the Project Steering Committee for review and approval and ultimately Director Garcia.

Reisetter reported that in October there will be a series of stakeholder engagement meetings where the change teams package will be discussed and the IDPH will receive input, advice and feedback from external stakeholders. Reisetter stated that the final change package is set to be developed sometime in November, at which time will be another opportunity for external stakeholder feedback.

Sen Quirnbach stated that there are certainly intersections between IDPH and IDHS, but he asked if there is any thought of merging the two departments? Reisetter stated there have been multiple conversations held about how to do this without breaking anything and it is something that they want to do in a responsible way. Quirnbach responded by stating he feels Human Services is already too large and generally understaffed. Quirnbach feels if IDPH is taken and folded under IDHS that the mission of public health and priorities of public health would tend to get lost.

Quirnbach relayed his dissatisfaction with the pace of appointments and conveyed he understood that this lies with the Governor's Office, but wanted Reisetter to convey that up the line.

Quirnbach relayed concerns about repeated complaints about delays in responding to open records request and stated the concern has been largely about public health in regards to pandemic related information and would like Reisetter to convey that up the line. Reisetter responded by saying she would take the feedback and would be sure to share it.

Chad Jensen asked what Reisetter foresaw as the ramification for the Division of Tobacco and also the Tobacco Commission with this potential merger. Reisetter stated that what the organizational structure ends up looking like is yet to be determined. Reisetter stated that this is one of the things that change teams have been asked to weigh in on and are looking at it through the lens of a functional organizational chart. Reisetter anticipates there will be an organizational chart that accompanies the final change package, but she does not know what that looks like today.

Reisetter stated that what she would encourage members to do is go to the website and engage in the opportunity to provide feedback and to keep eyes and ears open about stakeholder meetings. Reisetter conveyed that she is sure Jerilyn Oshel would be happy to provide information on stakeholder meetings as they get scheduled later into October and November. Reisetter stated members should feel invited and free to come to these meetings and to provide feedback.

Nichols thanked Reisetter for in the information and asked Oshel to keep Commission members abreast of when those opportunities come about.

B. 2022 Commission Dates

Dr. Robert Nichols

Nichols stated that all dates seem to be okay. Chad Jensen motioned to approve the dates as presented. Lori Mein second. Unanimous approval.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Dr. Robert Nichols

A. June 4, 2021 Minutes: Chad Jensen motioned. Lori Mein second. Unanimous approval.

IV. Old Business

A. None

V. Legislative Report/Update

Legislators
Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance

Sen. Quirnbach: Senator Quirnbach reported that there is a special session on October 5, for redistricting legislative lines, but he is hoping it will be a one-day session.

Rep. Sunde: Representative Sunde reiterates Sen Quirnbach and has nothing else to add.

Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance (ITPA)

Kristina Hamilton reported that in late August a letter was sent to all legislators with tobacco priorities for the upcoming session; that included modernizing the Smokefree Air Act, increased funding for tobacco use prevention and cessation and an ask to increase the cost of tobacco products.

Hamilton reported that next week ITPA would be meeting with Representative Meyer about the tobacco products and e-cigarettes bill in particular. Hamilton stated that Meyer sponsored the bill last year.

Emilee Harris with Advocacy Strategies reported that she is new on staff and will be lobbying on behalf of the Iowa Tobacco Prevention Alliance (ITPA), as well as Clean Air for Everyone.

VI. Division Director's Report/Update

Jerilyn Oshel

A. Budget:

Jerilyn Oshel reported that the Division did have a slight reversion of \$2,489 for the FY21 budget. Oshel reported that all FY22 contracts are in place and contractors are beginning to vouch.

B. Community Partnership Funding:

Oshel reported that the contracts are all out for this fiscal year. Oshel reported that all 99 counties have Community Partnerships covering them.

Quirmbach asked for the Division's budget status for the next fiscal year. Oshel reported that it would be status quo. Quirmbach feels the Commission should ask for more funding. Jensen asked Quirmbach how we go about getting this done? Quirmbach explained how the College Student Aid Commission goes about it. Quirmbach suggested that Oshel give a call to the College Student Aid Commission and talk with Todd Brown, who is their Legislative Representative and inquire of them how they go about conveying that to the Administration. Quirmbach asked if this could be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Oshel reported that new staff has been hired and her name is Laura Bell. Oshel stated the Bell is former Community Partnership staff and came to us from Iowa State University.

VII. TUPC Program Update:

A. Iowa Students for Tobacco Education Prevention (ISTEP)

ISTEP Youth

Jill Wright reported that Courtney Sweet was reelected as President and Abi Harmison, Chase Willis and Willow Johnson were elected as voting members and in the ISTEP handout you will see when those terms end. Wright reported that there are currently seven active council members and spots will be opened up throughout this year. Wright reported there are 57 registered ISTEP chapters throughout 40 counties and 4 are newly established chapters. Wright stated that the Fall ISTEP Summit was postponed and the hope is to have it in the Spring. Wright reported that ISTEP officially announced last week what the Street Marketing events are that the council has been working on. Wright reported the first one is Tobacco Free Tailgate for Red Ribbon Week; the second one is Ten Days of ISTEP and that is for ISTEP's 10-year anniversary coming up in December; ISTEP/My Life My Quit cross collaboration for the National Day of Action on April 1.

Wright reported that the Division is doing a Leadership series for council members so we can support and encourage them to continue developing their leadership skills.

VIII. Other Attendee Reports

A. Attorney General's Office

Donn Stanley

Donn Stanley reported that he presenting on behalf of Matt Gannon today. Stanley reported that a decision was made on September 1, for an arbitration that the hearing was for in 2017, and Iowa prevailed over the tobacco companies' effort to get some of their money back from Iowa. Stanley reported that there was over \$50 million at stake and were given a unanimous decision from the arbitrators that Iowa had diligently enforced for the 2003 year and know they are arbitrating 2004-2007. Stanley reported that they expect to prevail in those years as well.

B. Office of Drug Control Policy

Dale Woolery

Dale Woolery reported that they are planning on having Tabetha Gerdner come present to their Drug Policy Advisory Council on a Vaping update in December. Woolery reported that November 1 is the date for the 2022 Iowa Drug Control Strategy and they always make sure to touch on tobacco and nicotine issues in that. Woolery also asked for help from Jill Wright in getting ISTEP youth to participate in a focus survey.

C. Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

Becky Blum

Becky Blum stated IME did not have any updates.

D. Department of Education

Melissa Walker

Melissa Walker emailed and stated there was nothing to report at this time.

E. Alcoholic Beverages Division (ABD)

Jessica Ekman

Jessica Ekman reported they did spend all FY21 funding. Ekman reported on the handouts she included.

IX. Public Comment

X. Next TUPC Commission Meeting Agenda Topics

Dr. Robert Nichols

A. Next Commission Meeting December 3, 2021

B. Letter from Commission regarding Funding for Tobacco Division

C. Report to the Governor

XI. Adjournment

11:04 AM