

# STATE OF NEVADA SUBSTANCE ABUSE WORKING GROUP

## MINUTES OF MEETING

February 8, 2017 – 10:00AM

### **Location of Meeting**

*(Videoconferenced)*

Office of the Attorney General  
Mock Courtroom  
100 N. Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

Office of the Attorney General  
Grant Sawyer Building  
Room 4500  
555 E. Washington Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

### **Members present:**

Adam P. Laxalt, Attorney General – Chair  
Wesley Duncan, First Assistant Attorney General – Vice Chair  
Linda Lang, Executive Director, Nevada Statewide Coalition Partnership  
S. Paul Edwards, General Counsel, Nevada Board of Pharmacy  
Dr. Stephanie Woodard, Department of Health and Human Services  
Chuck Calloway, Police Director, Las Vegas Metro Police Department (LVMPD)  
Pat Hickey, Executive Director of the Charter School Association of Nevada  
Asheesh Bhalla, Board Counsel

### **Members Absent:**

Dr. Miriam Adelson, Adelson Clinic  
Mark Jackson, Douglas County District Attorney  
Dr. Larry Pinson, Executive Secretary, Nevada State Board of Pharmacy  
Richard Whitley, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

### **Others Present:**

Michele Smaltz, Executive Assistant to Attorney General Adam Laxalt  
Marissa Kuckhoff, Legal Secretary II, Office of the Attorney General  
Chris Ferrari, Ferrari Public Affairs  
Yenh Long  
Tom McCoy  
Martie Washington  
Beth Momssey  
Liz MacMenamin  
Jennifer Delett-Snyder  
Christine Adams  
Chelsey Parvin  
Kathleen Conaboy  
Christiana Cabrera  
Krystin Larkin  
Trey Delar

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Substance Abuse Working Group

Minutes of Meeting

February 8, 2017

Page 2 of 6

**1. Call to order and roll call of working group members.**

Assistant Attorney General Wes Duncan called meeting to order. Secretary, Marissa Kuckhoff, called roll.

**2. Public Comment.**

No public comment from Carson City or Las Vegas.

**3. Discussion and possible action on approval of December 8, 2016, meeting minutes. Attachment A. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION).**

Wes Duncan moved to approve the Minutes of Meeting as written. David Marlon seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

AG Laxalt moved to next Agenda Item, No. 4.

**4. The Attorney General's Statewide Messaging Campaign and possible action plan. Linda Lang/Carson City. (DISCUSSION AND ACTION.)**

Linda Lang provided an update on the Statewide Messaging Campaign. Lang worked with Dr. Stephanie Woodard and they came up with two options to present to the group for discussion. The first option would feature the Good Samaritan Law. The goal of this message would be to educate communities on the limited immunity provided to those reporting a possible overdosed. The second option would feature a message to overcome the stigma of substance abuse with emphasis on unintended addiction to prescription drugs.

Marlon expressed support for the education campaign featuring SB 459, the Good Samaritan Law, and access to Naloxone. He asked for further information regarding the "stigma campaign." Dr. Woodard explained that this would focus on helping people identify when a problem exists and that recovery is possible. AG Laxalt suggested showing how addiction can affect different walks of life and emphasizing that help is available and that Facebook could be used to disseminate the message. He suggested finding high profile names that have overcome an addiction to add their stories to the message. Marlon suggested targeting families of those suffering from an addiction to educate them on how they can help a loved-one seek help and avoid enabling the addiction. AG Laxalt suggested taking volunteers to work with Lang and Dr. Woodard. Marlon and Jamie Ross volunteered. Ross explained that she is currently working with Southern Nevada Health District on an opioid campaign. Chuck Calloway suggested reaching out to a public relations firm to help the group find their target demographic and the most effective way to target these populations. AG Laxalt supported targeting the message and suggested using the Office of the Attorney General to assist. Paul Edwards explained that the PMP may have statistical information that could be provided to benefit the message targeting. AG Laxalt asked how reliable the data is. Edwards suggested utilizing the health department's information in conjunction.

AG Laxalt confirmed with the group that the Statewide Messaging Campaign will

Substance Abuse Working Group

Minutes of Meeting

February 8, 2017

Page 3 of 6

focus on both of the above reference topics and the group expressed consensus.

AG Laxalt moved to Agenda Item No. 5.

**5. Discussion of BDR 455 from the upcoming Legislative session (2017) and an update on the use of naloxone pursuant to SB 459 passed in the 2015 Legislative session. Attachment B. David Marlon/Las Vegas. (DISCUSSION.)**

Marlon reported to the Group that Bill Draft Request (BDR) 455 will have a small effect in numbers but a large effect on focus. Many states allow or mandate the assumption of benefits and some payers are choosing to pay the recipient of services or beneficiary rather than the provider of services. He expressed concern over the danger of those being released from treatment receiving a check for said treatment and being responsible for submitting it to the provider. Further, he stated this is a tactic used to pressure providers to contract with insurance companies. AG Laxalt asked who was carrying the bill and Marlon answered Senator Farley.

SB 459 from the prior Legislative Session. Access to Naloxone is still being hindered by pharmacies refusing to provide it without a prescription. Ross explained that every CVS in Las Vegas and every Walgreens in Northern Nevada has Naloxone and to obtain it a person must speak to the pharmacist, not a technician. Paul Edwards commented that the Board of Pharmacy has been working to educate pharmacists and pharmacies in the state about this law and its requirements and that education is an ongoing process.

AG Laxalt moved to Agenda Item No. 6.

**6. Survey Results from Roseman's Adolescent Drug Use Study  
David Marlon/Las Vegas. (DISCUSSION.)**

Marlon explained that Senator Farley has BDR 795 and has been working with Roseman University to fund a survey that was done at schools throughout the state. The survey was completed on an I-Pad and had a large response rate. He expressed support of this BDR to further understand adolescent substance use and reported that the independent survey has a fiscal impact on the state. Woodard asked if this would be in addition to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data collected annually. Marlon answered that the Clark County School District data was limited and the survey would focus on enhancing understanding of behavior. Woodard explained that the BRFSS is a key data set for use of message targeting for prevention. AG Laxalt asked if this information could be shared. Lang or Dr. Woodard will share this information with Marlon. Marlon asked if the BRFSS survey was different than the YRBS survey. Dr. Woodard explained that the YRBSS is the youth survey.

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Lang asked if the survey questions could be shared to compare to the BRFS survey.

Substance Abuse Working Group

Minutes of Meeting

February 8, 2017

Page 4 of 6

Marlon will provide the survey questions to Lang and Dr. Woodard.

AG Laxalt moved to Agenda Item No. 7.

**7. How Communities Use Information Sharing to Track and Address  
“The Opioid Epidemic.” Dr. Stephanie Woodard/Carson City.  
(DISCUSSION.)**

Dr. Woodard researched how different communities coordinate first responses. Currently, the data is outdated because it is derived from claims and deaths from the previous year. In her research she found that jurisdictions outside the state are moving forward with coordinating information sharing between law enforcement and health care providers. The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Report shows an increase in heroin overdose deaths. In the threat assessment, Heroin and prescriptions are making a “come back” in the state and pose the largest threat. Public Health Preparedness can be resource at the local level.

Dr. Woodard reported that Tom Carr with HIDTA shared a new tool for first responders called ODMAP. ODMAP is a cell phone application that first responders can log information into and obtain real-time data when responding to a suspected overdose. Prior to any jurisdiction being able to use this tool, it must demonstrate that the community has a Public Health Response available.

New York City has been able to utilize public health data to educate law enforcement, hospitals, emergency rooms, and first responders as to ongoing changes and threats in the community. Lang asked Dr. Woodard how the information could be shared with respect to HIPPA. Dr. Woodard explained that the information shared is de-personalized and therefore, is not a confidentiality issue.

Dr. Woodard explained that Project SAVE is an example of information sharing between law enforcement and treatment facilities in Gloucester, New Jersey. SAVE has had some successful outcomes. The RxStat Technical Assistance Manual was compiled by the New York City Health Department and covers Manhattan and the five boroughs. It shows a head-start method for public health and law enforcement collaboration. AG Laxalt asked if this was done with a DG grant and Dr. Woodard confirmed it was.

Chuck Calloway stated he will provide this information to the assigned chief at Las Vegas Metro Police Department and the Southern Nevada Fusion Center. He stated that there was a 16% increase in violent crime in Las Vegas. Calloway will be in touch with Duncan regarding collaboration.

AG Laxalt moved to Agenda Item No. 8

**8. Nevada Substance Abuse Working Group 2017 Report submitted to  
the Legislature per NRS 228.820. Attachment C. Wes Duncan/Las  
Vegas. (DISCUSSION.)**

Substance Abuse Working Group

Minutes of Meeting

February 8, 2017

Page 5 of 6

Duncan updated the group on the Legislative Report submitted to the Legislature in accordance with NRS 228.820. He reported that the group held four meetings last year and tackled an array of different issues. As discussed at the December meeting, Duncan reported his progress of writing a letter to the Legislature from the Group including thirteen recommendations addressing recreational marijuana. This report and recommendations was submitted to the Legislature and the Group is encouraged to share it with interested parties.

AG Laxalt moved to Agenda Item No. 9.

**9. Summary of current BDRs addressing opioid or drug abuse of interest to the Substance Abuse Working Group in the upcoming (2017) Legislative Session. Attachment D. Linda Lang/Carson City. (POSSIBLE DISCUSSION.)**

Lang provided as Attachment "D" a list of Bill Draft Requests prepared with input from Ferrari Public Affairs. The list includes all BDRs related to controlled substances, the BDR's sponsor, a description of what this bill would accomplish, and important notes.

Lang reported that the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services is looking at cannabis as a means to break opioid addiction. The Governor's Bill has not been drafted but will include mandatory prescribing protocols and rolls of licensing boards. Discussion was opened to the group on future following and tracking of bills. Lang will keep the Group updated and will circulate additional information as she receives it. Lang commented that Ferrari Public Affairs has assisted keeping track of and reporting this information. SB59 is the only BDR that has become a bill. Duncan stated that a hearing date has not yet been provided and he will update the group as he receives new information on the date. Pat Hickey asked whether the group would pass the Group's Recommendations along to the regulatory body. Duncan stated that they have reached out to the Governor's general counsel without response. AG Laxalt suggested to the group that members stay open to testifying in Legislature.

**10. Public comment.**

No public comment from Carson City or Las Vegas.

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**11. Adjournment.**

Duncan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Marlon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 AM.

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Substance Abuse Working Group

Minutes of Meeting

February 8, 2017

Page 6 of 6

*Minutes submitted March 2, 2017 by Marissa Kuckhoff, Legal Secretary II, Office of the Attorney General.*