



Thomas Newton, MPP, REHS  
 Director

Chester J. Culver  
 Governor

Patty Judge  
 Lt. Governor

**Minutes of the Iowa Gambling Treatment Program Advisory Committee  
 April 1, 2010 Meeting**

Advisory Members Present	Advisory Members Absent	Others Present
Fred Breen Doug Borkowski Audrey Carlson Wes Ehrecke Dr. Gene Lutz Mary Neubauer Stephanie Lawrence Stan Landon Rev. David Clark Chuck Tornblom	Candace Peters Cynthia Steidl	Mary O’Neill, Tracy Smith, Mark Vander Linden, Julie Fox, Doug Billingsley, Sue Stannard, Sherry Shields, Mark Dodd, Gary Eisnicher, Margaret Van Ginkel, Dan Kenel, Deb Prier, Diane Thomas, Susan Poe, and Bob Kerksieck

- 1) Chairperson Fred Breen called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and introduced participants at all sites.
- 2) The January 8, 2010 meeting minutes were accepted as presented.
- 3) Fred Breen reported from the subcommittee to nominate new advisory committee members for FY2011. The subcommittee made the following committee motion:
  - A. The terms of Doug Borkowski, Stephanie Lawrence, Cynthia Steidl and Chuck Tornblom expire after this meeting. The subcommittee recommends these four be reappointed for three-year terms to end in 2013.
  - B. The terms of the following four expire in 2011 and shall be filled for a special, transitional term of one year, to 2012:
    - Fredrick Breen – term expires 2011 (second term)
    - Dr. Gene Lutz – term expires 2011(second term)
    - Candace Peters - term expires 2011(third term)
    - Audrey Carlson – term expires 2011(second term)
    -
  - C. The terms of the following four also expire in 2011:
    - Rev. David Clark – term expires 2011(first term)
    - Wes Ehrecke – term expires 2011(first term)
    - Stan Landon – term expires 2011(first term)
    - Mary Neubauer – term expires 2011(first term)

D. These recommendations passed unanimously, and go to the Director of the Department for approval.

- 4) Stan Landon moved and Rev. David Clark seconded a motion to nominate current Chair Fred Breen and current vice-chair Doug Borkowski continue in those positions. The motion passed unanimously.
- 5) Fred Breen presented the committee motion on bylaw revision and it passed unanimously. The changes include changing advisory committee member terms from two years to three years, and maximum length served from six years to nine years, and to include a section on amending the bylaws.
- 6) Mark Vander Linden gave an update on the FY2010 IGTP budget, complete with a handout titled brief funding history. The IGTP budget was reduced by \$715,000 in January through contract revisions. We were notified at 9 am this morning that these funds were restored to the original figure of \$4,078,035. We are working to find ways to restore these funds in ways that benefit clients and the citizens of Iowa the most. The handout titled brief funding history also shows that the 2010 legislature approved funding of \$3,699,530 for FY2011. The funding bill has not been enrolled and Governor Culver has not signed it.
- 7) Fred Breen and Mark Vander Linden led the discussion on the 2009 Strategic Plan and a needed 2010 Strategic Plan update. They formed a committee primarily including advisory committee members, making certain that recovering gamblers were represented as well as a licensed problem gambling treatment program director and are seeking a counselor and a prevention worker from licensed problem gambling treatment programs. Areas to focus on include:
  - A. What are we (IGTP) going to do?
  - B. When?
  - C. How will we know when we get there?
  - D. What are our priorities for our future?
  - E. How do we deal with budget cuts?
  - F. Send suggestions to Mark Vander Linden or Bob Kerksieck.
  - G. The goal is to have a strong document ready for the July meeting.
- 8) Mark Vander Linden gave an update on HF 811 (passed in 2009) and Bob Kerksieck gave an update on SF2425 (passed in 2008). Joint licensure rules were published and a public hearing is scheduled for April 13. The proposed rules are open to public comment, and we expect the rules to go into effect July 1, 2010. We are also working on merging data and clinical systems with substance abuse. We are also working on increasing cooperation between substance abuse, tobacco and gambling prevention. The current plan is to merge substance abuse and gambling treatment and prevention into one comprehensive RFP, issued in 2014 and effective July 1 of 2014, which will maintain best practices for both gambling and substance abuse. Efforts are also being made to consolidate advertising, Helplines and training.

- 9) Mark Vander Linden gave an update on the HR2906 Comprehensive Problem Gambling Act of 2009. This continues to pick up support and co-sponsors in Congress, including both Democrats and Republicans. At this point four Iowa Congressmen are cosponsors, all except Congressman King. They are searching for a republican in the Senate who will co-sponsor this bill.
- 10) Bob Kerksieck gave an update on the Gambling NIATx project. State-wide we have had a 7.4% increase in admissions for the first nine months of FY2010 compared to the same period in FY2009 – despite ad revenue and total helpline calls being down.
- 11) All nine current problem gambling treatment programs and the Helpline are participating. All programs have made significant gains since the program started in April, and there has been a marked improvement in facilitating crisis calls from the Helpline to the programs, resulting in a significant increase in the number of calls that get to the programs and the number of these callers making and keeping appointments.
- 12) Sue Stannard was unable to give an update on ISAIC as her ICN site was not working. Several ICN sites were not working today. Their Website is: <http://www.drugfreeinfo.org/>
- 13) Tracy Smith from ZLRIgnition did a presentation on Helpline call data and the media with a PowerPoint showing the relationship between advertising and call volume over the years. The media budget is down 21% and referral calls from the Helpline to programs are down 6%. Tracy said that ZLRIgnition can pick up cancelled spots within days if funding is restored.
- 14) Upcoming Trainings Include:
  - A. May 7 of 2010: Responsible Gambling in Council Bluffs
  - B. May 27, June 3 and June 10 of 2010: A series of three Webinars on “**Cognitive Behavior and Motivational Treatment Approaches**” **Applications for Treating Pathological Gamblers, Substance Abuse Clients and Clients with Co-Occurring Disorders**
  - C. June 9-12, 2010: National Council on Problem Gambling 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon.
  - D. July 27-30, 2010: Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse (MCPGSA) 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Kansas City, Missouri.
  - E. November 14-16: National Center on Responsible Gambling 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Las Vegas.
- 15) Mary Neubauer presented details about the Responsible Gaming Awareness initiative the Iowa Lottery developed this year with IGTP and MECCA. The project was carried out in the week prior to and during National Problem Gambling Awareness Week, March 7-13. It included:
  - A. The distribution of a letter and two flyers to each of the lottery’s 2,500 retailers, calling attention to the laws applying to lottery products. Retailers were asked to display the enclosed flyers at the sales counter and in their break rooms to serve as a reminder for employees.
  - B. All gambling-treatment providers were invited to put their names and contact information on the letter to store managers, and all of the nine organizations did so.

- C. The Iowa Lottery brochure "Taking the First Step," which provides information about problem gambling and the help that is available in Iowa, has been updated to include the latest treatment information.
- D. The Iowa Lottery has printed and distributed thousands of these brochures.
- E. The Iowa Lottery also sent 300 brochures to each of the nine problem gambling treatment providers in Iowa and has a supply of the brochures on hand, should the locations need additional copies.

Mary thanked all of the provider organizations and the Gambling Treatment Program for working with the Iowa Lottery on the project, which was designed to present information to retailers in a new way.

- 16) Public Comment
  - A. Doug Borkowski reported that Peg Naylor from CFR did a very successful presentation on the Iowa State University campus.
  - B. Several people reported during and after the meeting that their ICN sites were not working. We will look into doing the next meeting as a Webinar to see how that works.
- 17) The meeting adjourned at 3 pm.
- 18) Next Meetings:
  - A. July 9, 2010
  - B. October 1, 2010
  - C. January 7, 2011
  - D. April 1, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Kerksieck, LMSW, ACADC  
Health Facilities Surveyor for Gambling Treatment Programs  
Division of Behavioral Health and Professional Licensure  
Iowa Department of Public Health