

Joe Lombardo  
Governor

Richard Whitley,  
MS  
Director



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Cody Phinney,  
MPH  
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam,  
Ph.D., M.D.  
Chief Medical  
Officer

# Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2025  
10:00 am

Present Members	Absent Members
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Feldman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leslie Pittman
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shane Galster	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephanie Goodman	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connie Jones	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Shane Krause	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denise Quirk	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Taylor	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ted Hartwell (arrived late)	

This meeting was held using remote technology in compliance with Nevada Revised Statute 241.023.

## Agenda:

1. Call to order/Roll call – Alan Feldman, Chair  
Quorum was met.

2. Public Comment  
Chair Feldman stated no action may be taken on a matter raised under the public comment period, unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. If any of you wish to provide a public comment telephonically you can dial 775-321-6111 and then when prompted to provide a meeting ID, the meeting ID is 830285152#. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. The person making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name, also provide the secretary with written comments.

No public comment was made.

3. For Possible Action, Approval of Minutes February 19, 2025, meeting – Alan Feldman, Chair  
Ms. Jones motioned to approve the February 19 meeting minutes. Dr. Shane Krause seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Informational, Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Subcommittee and Work Group Updates  
a. Discussion on Legislative Subcommittee Updates- Stephanie Goodman, Legislative Subcommittee Chair  
Ms. Goodman stated Problem Gambling Day on March 4 was successful. Problem Gambling Day helped to provide individuals with understanding of what is happening with problem gambling in the state. Discussion of the possibility to get funds earmarked each year through the Gaming Control board rather than have it come out of general funds. This will potentially be added to an existing bill.  
b. Discussion on SB341 Appropriation Workgroup Updates- Ashlan Sherron, KPS3, Inc.  
i. Problem Gambling Awareness Day March 4, 2025  
Ms. Sherron reviewed her presentation, providing updates and statistics from past and present ads and the effect the ads had on the websites traffic. The week of March 31<sup>st</sup>, interviews were filmed in Reno, the full interviews are expected to be combined and released in May for June's launch of the campaign.
5. Informational  
Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention Updates (BBHWP)  
a. Discussion on Fiscal reports- Paul Ripple, DPBH, Contracted Administrative Service Officer I  
Mr. Ripple reviewed 3200 Prev/Treat of Problem Gambling budget tracker for SFY 2025. Based on the budget tracker, category 19 reflects a remaining balance of \$7,700. Category 20 is projected to be fully spent.  
b. Discussion of Program Updates- Kim Garcia, BBHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III  
Ms. Garcia reviewed the Problem Gambling Reward Expenditures, stating the budget is 50 percent spent. There is currently \$7,691 remaining in unobligated dollars. Current spending is currently on track.
6. For Possible Action, Discussion and Possible Vote on Approval of Department Reallocations Recommendations for SFY25 – Kim Garcia, BBHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III, Problem Gambling  
Ms. Garcia stated requests have come through for the unobligated \$7,691. The suggestion is to take around \$5,000 and leave the remaining for Bristlecone to close out their funds. \$12,691 would remain obligated. CASAT training had some expenses not in their original budget, so they have requested additional funds to cover the unexpected expenses. There are currently six interns on the waiting list, waiting to be pushed forward in this fiscal year. Suggestions from the committee are open for where to obligate the remaining funds. Funds cannot be shifted to KPS3 due to the contract ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The extension for the KPS3 contract is currently underway, but not yet approved.  
The committee continued discussion of where to obligate the funds to.  
Chair Feldman asked for a motion to approve the department reallocation recommendations to the Reno office for SFY25 and to authorize Ms. Garcia to make changes and add on codes contingent on budget outcomes.  
Ms. Quirk motioned to approve. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.  
Ms. Goodman abstained from the motion.

7. For Possible Action, Discussion and Possible Vote on Approval of Requests for Applications for Specialty Treatment Centers- Kim Garcia, BBHWP, Social Services Program Specialist III/Problem Gambling  
Ms. Garcia stated five applications were submitted. One application was removed for technical proposal disqualification. Allocations will be discussed under agenda item number eight. No action was taken on this agenda item.
8. For Possible Action, Discussion and Possible Vote on Approval of Proposed Department Allocations Recommendations for SFY26 – Kim Garcia, Social Services Specialist III, Problem Gambling  
Ms. Garcia reviewed the Problem Gambling Services SFY 2026 Allocations and Considerations presentation. Anticipated authority and the differences between SFY25 and SFY 26 were mentioned. The effects of the change in fund availability and budget were discussed.  
Chair Feldman asked for a motion to approve the fiscal year 2026 allocations as presented knowing there will be a return to these topics throughout the course of the year and making continued adjustments.  
Ms. Quirk motioned to approve. Ms. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Goodman and Ms. Quirk abstained from the motion.  
Ms. Goodman stated the motion needed to be revisited due to Ms. Quirk motioning to approve and abstaining.  
Dr. Kraus motioned to approve. Ms. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Goodman and Ms. Quirk abstained from the motion due to receiving funding.
9. Informational, Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling Governance
- a. Committee Membership – Alan Feldman, Chair  
Chair Feldman discussed who is due for reapplication and how to do so.
  - b. Discussion on Position Statement or Show of Support Letter – Alan Feldman, Chair  
Chair Feldman stated there are very strict rules regarding who represents the Association of Problem Gambling to the legislature, currently the sole person responsible for this is Leslie Pittman. Any member of the committee is welcome to advocate, meet with law makers, provide information and to do so with the understanding of being a committee member. It is required to be explicitly clear that individual presence is not to represent the Association of Problem Gambling.
10. Informational, Discussion on Scheduling of Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items – Alan Feldman, Chair  
The committee discussed possible dates for the next meeting. The meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2025, at 1:30 PM. Agenda item suggestions for the next meeting were discussed.
11. Public Comment  
Mr. Hartwell stated that starting in May we will be opening and co locating and office with PCG. Looking forward to that up in Reno. I plan on working out of that office a week or so a month to start out with and as needed beyond that, but excited about that. I was a little premature in bringing a first load of stuff out which, Denise thank you so much, was so happy, just ecstatic to have it dumped into her living space there. It is all ready to be moved over once we start the lease, which is believed to be May 1<sup>st</sup> is the target date.  
Ms. Goodman stated there will be a soft opening, then a grand opening in September.  
Chair Feldman stated he wanted to bring up a kind of upend new story that has been happening in Las Vegas, and frankly around the country with the passing of Elaine Wynn earlier in the week. There are an awful lot of tributes and very appropriate acknowledgement for her activities. What many of

you may not know is the first day that I met her in 1989, Elaine was very sensitive to the topic of what we were then calling either “problem gambling” or “compulsive gambling”. Her father-in-law, Mike, was a compulsive gambler. She had been around that environment. She knew it was real, you know, for her. I do not know that it was necessarily an issue that required a lot of proof that it was real because she lived in and through all of the work that I was able to do at both the Mirage Resorts and then later MGM. She was a stalwart supporter of it, and I wanted to share that because it was probably not the kind of thing that is going to come out. The big focus is her and her commitment to education, art, and philanthropy, but you should know that the very first check that Robert Custer ever received from anyone in the industry was from the Golden Nugget Inc. That is because both Elaine and Steve knew full well how real this was and how real what Doctor Custer was saying, and they supported him. It is going to be a little bit unnoticed, but I thought it would be nice to share that with all of you and you can include that in your thought about her legacy.

12. Adjournment

Chair Feldman adjourned the meeting at 11:51 AM, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.