

MINUTES

Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission

September 25, 2014 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Heather Crow-Martinez, Tim Hartnett, Heidi Moawad, Dr. Dennis McCarty, Chris Senz, Lane Borg, Sheriff Pat Garrett, Dr. Tony Biglan by phone, Abby Sears by phone, Eric Nisley by phone, Judge Eric Bloch, Mitch Kruska (ODE), Colette Peters (DOC), Steve Marks (OLCC), Suzanne Hoffman (OHA), Fariborz Pakseresht (OYA), Iris Bell (YDC), Daniel Ward, ADPC Executive Director, and Katharine Lozano, Assistant Attorney General. Dwight Holton joined the meeting at 3:32 p.m.; Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson joined the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

1. Call to Order, Acceptance of Minutes

Having counted a quorum present, Commission Chair Crow-Martinez called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. She asked the Commission for acceptance of the previous meeting's minutes. Commissioner Garrett made the motion to accept, seconded by Commissioner Moawad. The minutes of the June 26, 2014 Commission meeting were accepted unanimously.

2. Report from the Budget Advisory Committee

Judge Bloch reported on two items from the Committee's first meeting, which was held immediately prior to today's Commission meeting.

MOU

Committee Chair Bloch described the discussion of the proposed Memorandum of Understanding among the Budget Advisory Committee's members today. The proposed MOU was presented to the full Commission at its last meeting in June, 2014.

He explained that the MOU assembles guidance for the committee to help it fulfill its mission. It is an agreement to work together, to share costs of operating the Commission. He noted the Committee's concerns about a paragraph in the MOU that seems to over-emphasize the use of cost-effectiveness analyses to determine whether programs should be funded or modified; he noted that the paragraph as written could become a barrier to experimentation with new programs to meet areas of unmet need. He explained that the section will be revised and the MOU will be brought back to the Committee for approval, then to the full Commission to be ratified.

Commissioner Borg observed that there are statutory mandates for agencies to use evidence based practices and to be cost effective. He asked whether the Commission should consider other criteria, such as whether an effective program collaborates well with others. Commissioner Bloch explained that considering the dimension of cost-effectiveness adds unique value to the work of the Committee and the Commission, as does the cross-department perspective to avoid redundancies and set priorities.

Commissioner Peters observed that the Committee and the Commission should also consider issues of continuity of care. She cited the value of improving the handoff from in-institution to community treatment, and there are also continuity issues from youth in custody to adult corrections to community supervision and county corrections, she said.

Commissioner Biglan observed that interventions presently being funded by state agencies are not necessarily evidence-based or cost-effective. He said we should be open to discovering these things.

Staff Expansion proposal

Judge Bloch then reported on the staff expansion proposal. He explained that based on discussions at the previous three ADPC meetings, Executive Director Ward worked with OHA staff to submit a "policy option package (POP)" (a budget funding request) for the new positions in time to meet the August deadline. Committee Chair Bloch added that there is an inter-department agreement to share ADPC

funding. He said that the Committee has approved the proposal and recommended that the Commission approve it as well.

Commissioner Nisley asked where the funding would come from. Commissioner Hoffman explained that the OHA, DOC, and DHS, have agreed to share the costs. She cautioned that each department budget has been submitted, but they are not approved as yet for the Governor's recommended budget, which will come out in several months. Commissioner Nisley recommended strengthening the proposal by detailing how new staff will do something different. Commissioner Peters concurred, pointing out that agencies are already required to describe their effectiveness.

Commissioner Monnes Anderson asserted that there are problems with CCOs and asked about the relationship of ADPC to the 16 Coordinated Care Organizations. Commissioner Hoffman said that though it is not in ADPC's purview to work with the CCOs, there should be a role. Commissioner Monnes Anderson stated that there are problems with access to treatment through the CCOs. She added that the Legislature wants programs to be evidence-based, but she said she has been getting complaints about CCOs' inadequate transitioning of patients into treatment and lack of access to care.

Commissioner Marks stressed that the Commission and its staff need to look at effectiveness, cost-benefit analyses, and access to treatment issues.

Commissioner McCarty added that he and Dr. Biglan are collaborating on research about what is happening to treatment and prevention in Oregon with the advent of the CCOs. He said that from preliminary data, it seems that the CCOs need to enhance their ability to identify and treat people with addictions. He said that he shares Commissioner Monnes Anderson's concern. For example, he said that rates of medication-assisted treatment for alcohol dependent CCO patients are less than would be predicted by established prevalence rates.

Commissioner Bloch asserted that for the ADPC to accomplish its work, we need independent analytic capacity. He suggested that if the new budget is ultimately approved by the Legislature, we should develop that analytic capacity flexibly, considering options of sharing existing expertise of other state departments, such as DOC or the Criminal Justice Commission. He noted examples from DOC and OYA of valuable research and economic analyses. Commissioner Borg concurred, adding that the ADPC need more and better information to be relevant, to accomplish its charge.

Commissioner Biglan stated that the weakest parts of our efforts have been our lack of data, analysis, and the ability to communicate that analysis to make changes across the state. Commissioner Garrett stated that he supports this direction but urged open-mindedness about permanent vs. contracted staff.

Commissioner Bloch moved that the Commission approve the POP submitted through OHA to request expansion of ADPC staff following the pattern of the Staffing Expansion proposal while redrafting the plan to allow flexibility of the staffing arrangement: employed by the Commission, shared with other departments, or contracted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McCarty and approved by unanimous vote.

3. Introductions of new members

Two new members were introduced. The first was Dwight Holton, appointed to replace Judy Cushing, who has retired. Dwight has also replaced Judy as Executive Director at the Portland non-profit, "Lines for Life." The second was Mitch Kruska, who is Director of Education Programs and Assessment for the Oregon Department of Education. He is the delegate to the Commission for Deputy Superintendent Rob Saxton, representing the Oregon Department of Education.

4. Policy Priorities, Policy Agenda

Executive Director Ward presented a proposal to the Commission for its overall course during the next several months. He presented a three-page paper headed "Policy Priorities for the Alcohol and Drug

Policy Commission,” which he first presented to the Commission in October 2013. The paper outlined ten policy goals, three sets of priorities, and many policy issues that the Commission may choose to work on. He then presented a one-page paper called “Proposed Policy Agenda,” in which he recommended six areas of policy for the Commission to work on during the coming year.

The six policy areas he recommended were:

1. Build and effective, evidence-based, statewide prevention system
2. Expand the use of treatment matching tools for corrections to other state-supported drug and alcohol treatment programming
3. Improve and increase availability of prenatal intervention for pregnant women who use alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.
4. Increase the availability of naloxone and establish a medical amnesty law for drug overdose.
5. Support and expand drug take-back disposal programs.
6. Provide Medicaid reimbursement for drug treatment for pre-adjudicated jail inmates.

Commissioner Hartnett inquired whether these priorities are endorsed as such by the Governor or his staff. Executive Director Ward explained that the Commission’s first duty, according to its enabling Legislation, is to establish priorities and policies for alcohol and drug prevention and treatment services; it’s not the Governor’s role to set those priorities, he said.

Commissioner McCarty asked why marijuana regulation isn’t on the list. Commissioner Moawad cautioned that the Commission should stay out of the politics of the Measure 91 debate. After some discussion, it seemed that Commissioners would like to be involved in considering prevention and regulation issues regarding decriminalized marijuana, should Measure 91 pass.

Commissioner Bloch asserted that continuity of care and access to care issues should be very high priority. He asked the Commission to explore what it could do to quickly illuminate the disconnection between demand for and supply of treatment services, and to maintain quality, not just boost quantity. Commissioners Holton and Monnes Anderson strongly concurred, urging work with the CCOs and the Transformation Center to assure availability of treatment.

Commissioner Borg, reflecting on his work with the HB 3194 Public Safety Task Force, noted that community people and the providers recognize that need is high and supply is low. Offenders often don’t get care through health insurance programs, he said, and it’s important to ensure the quality of treatment, that it’s not just being offered because funding becomes available. AAG Lozano observed that because the ADPC purview includes programs that use funds provided or administered by the state, then the ADPC could have some influence over CCOs and availability of treatment. Commissioner Biglan capped the discussion with a closing observation that evidence-based prevention can reduce the demand for scarce treatment services in the long run.

5. Closing and Adjournment

Executive Director Ward relayed Police Chief Pete Kerns’ regrets for not being able to attend the meeting today. Commissioner Kerns has asked the Commission to consider moving the meeting time, because he often has a conflicting meeting in Eugene on Thursday afternoons. Commissioner Peters suggested running a Doodle poll among members; Commissioner Moawad offered the help of Kourtney Linebaugh of the Governor’s office.

Commission Chair Crow-Martinez thanked participants and adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

This meeting was held at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, 4190 Aumsville Hwy SE, Room A234, Salem, OR 97317.