

**DRAFT**

Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Legislative Office Building

Room 1C

Hartford, Connecticut

**Members Present:** Anne Foley (Chair), Diane Becker, Patricia Checko, Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin, Ellen Dornelas, Kelly Leppard, Ken Ferrucci, Michael Rell, Raul Pino, and Fatama Williams for Robert Zavoski.

**Members Absent:** Elaine O’Keefe, Cheryl Resha, Robert Leighton, Elizabeth Keyes, Lisa Hammersley, and Larry Deutsch.

<p>Welcome and Introductions</p>	<p>The Chair, Anne Foley noted a quorum and convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Members introduced themselves. The chair noted that Cheryl Resha was reappointed by the Governor for three years. She also noted that the reappointment of Robert Zavoski, Governor’s Appointment, and Ellen Dornelas, Senate Majority Leader’s Appointment were pending. Staff is working with the assistance of Michael Rell to secure an appointment by the House Minority Leader to replace Geralyn Laut.</p> <p>Governor Dannel P. Malloy joined the meeting to express appreciation to the members for their work on the Board and thanked them for serving. The Governor provided an overview of smoking trends in Connecticut. The Governor noted that he will review</p>
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	<p>other options for additional funding for the Board. The Governor also noted that none of the proposals to address Connecticut's deficit set forth by the Executive Branch, Democrat and Republican Leadership removes the \$1.6 million currently available to the board.</p> <p>The Governor spoke of his personal experience regarding a family member impacted by the damaging effects of tobacco use.</p> <p>The Chair thanked the Governor, on behalf of the board, for his leadership in anti-tobacco efforts, including increasing the maximum amount that the board may recommend for disbursement, enhancing enforcement efforts designed to prevent tobacco use among minors, and banning the sale of e-cigarettes to minors.</p> <p>After emphasizing the importance of protecting youth from the adverse effects of smoking, the Governor departed.</p>
<p>Approval of September 23, 2015 Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>The Chair noted one correction to the September 23, 2015 meeting minutes e-mailed to members. The Chair stated that a revised copy is in the board packet. The correction revised Lucinda Hogarty, as Executive Director of the American Cancer Society to Executive Director of the CT Cancer Partnership.</p> <p>Ken Ferrucci moved approval of the September 23, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Diane Becker. The minutes were approved on a voice vote with the change noted</p>

	<p>above and clarification that the reduction in the numbers of calls to the QuitLine may be related the fact that the Tips from Former Smokers Media Campaign aired by CDC ended and DSS stopped enrolling participants into the Rewards to Quit Program on June 30, 2015.</p>
<p>Review of Status of the Biorepository Program</p>	<p>The Chair gave a summary of the Biorepository Program. She noted that in 2009 the legislature approved the Board’s recommendation to fund a Biorepository Program. DPH contracted with UConn Health Center to develop a Biorepository Program for \$250,000. She noted that in the early stages of the priorities the National Cancer Institute shifted away from supporting the development of biorepository. As a result, the focus of the project changed, with a focus on the issues around developing an EVirtual biorepository project. Due to this shift some of the work was not completed by the contractor. The Chair added that in the midst of the contract the Board recommended and the legislature approved and additional \$250,000 for the enhancement of the demonstration program and the development of a biorepository for genetic samples of smokers. The Chair asked Dr. Pramod Srivastava to give a status on the current programs.</p> <p>Dr. Pramod Srivastava gave an overview on the current project. Major points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established a smoking cessation clinic to provide comprehensive smoking cessation intervention and to serve as the primary place</li> </ul>

	<p>of recruitment for the biorepository program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created a database to investigate smoking history and assess medical, and psychological and substance use aspects to individualize treatment.</li> <li>• Created a genetic samples for analysis.</li> <li>• Began to establish a virtual tumor biorepository by using bladder cancer as test cases.</li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>Ellen Dornelas asked that the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board be acknowledged in all literature, research projects, and manuscripts produced with funds from the Board.</p>
<p>Development of FY 2016 Funding Recommendations</p>	<p>The Chair stated that the board had about \$1.6 million available for disbursement. She reviewed the Board’s Guiding Principles for Funding Decisions, the Board’s Current Programs, End Dates for Current Programs, and a Summary of Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco and Control Program recommended by Centers for Disease Control (CDC). She also referenced the Summary of Public Hearing Testimony, and the Final Evaluation Report of the Board’s Community Cessation Programs.</p> <p>The members reviewed and discussed the Summary of Best Practices for Comprehensive Control Program for 2014 document, which shows how funding available to the board may be disbursed based on CDC recommended intervention strategies. The Chair indicated that the board used the CDC recommended strategies last year to</p>

distribute funds and thought it worked well. She also noted that the recommended spending levels to disburse its \$1.6 million, based on CDC recommendation would be \$640,492 would be allocated for State and Community Interventions, \$176,136 for Mass-Reach Health Communication Interventions, \$544,419 for Cessation Interventions, \$160,123 for Surveillance and Evaluation, and \$80,062 for Infrastructure, Administration and Management.

Board members discussed whether or not to allocate funds to the Infrastructure funding category. After the discussion, members asked DPH to provide a status report on the current infrastructure contractor including specific administrative tasks of the contractor.

The Chair restated the ending dates of the Board's current program. She stated that current programs will run through 2017 with the QuitLine ending in 2018. After a discussion she recommended that the Board begin planning recommendations in 2017 prior to April 2018 disbursement.

After further discussion the members agreed to set aside a portion of the cessation interventions funding category for the Department of Correction (DOC) to expand cessation services to clients in their halfway houses. The Chair will reach out to DOC to identify specific funding proposal.

Members agreed that the 2016 RFP should include provisions for e-cigarettes and other tobacco related products.

Michael Rell asked for statistical information on the Teen Kids News (TKN) Program. Staff will work with TKN to gather information and report back to the board at its meeting in the spring.

The Board requested the following information for the next meeting:

- DOC proposed funding level
- Geographic map of the Board's current programs and other tobacco related services.
- Research the feasibility to place stickers with the QuitLine information on packs of cigarettes. Develop matches with the QuitLine information to be distributed by tobacco vendors.
- Revise the proposed recommended funding categories based on CDC recommendations to reflect the \$1,188,335 requiring approval from the legislature. Prepare a separate document showing carry over funds from the 2015 disbursements and current available funds, which were already approved by the legislature.

After discussion of the FY 2016 funding recommendations Patricia Checko made a motion to allow the Chair to move forward with the proposed

	<p>funding categories recommended by CDC and the additional material requested from the board. The motion was seconded by Ellen Dornelas. The motion was approved on a voice vote.</p>
Next Steps	<p>The Chair noted that the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 18, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1C at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. A draft report will be available for review.</p> <p>The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.</p>

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