



Meeting Minutes



Meeting Title:	Tobacco Control Advisory Council Meeting	
Meeting Location:	Zoom	
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, June 11, 2024	
Time:	9:00 am - 10:30 am	
Council Attendees:	Dr. Matthew Wesson Dr. Felix Twun Azande Williams Caroline Petty Rep. Creekmoore	
Non-Council Attendees:	Sharonda Banks Vickie Tucker Tiffany Johnson Baihly Birdseye Cassandra Brown Amy Ellis Emily McClelland Kaylah Stewart Calandra Davis Rhonda Shirley Nell Valentine Rochelle Thompson Sandra Shelson Courtney Johnson Kenneth Judie Leslie Musshafen Timberlyn Roby Shelethia Whisenton	



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	AGENDA TOPIC	NOTES
I	Introductory Remarks	The MS TCAC Meeting began at 9:00 a.m. and was presided over by Sharonda Banks, MSDH OTC. Tiffany Johnson, Interim Office Director, MSDH OTC welcomed the council and other attendees. Dr. Vickie Tucker, MSDH OTC gave an update on council attendance.
II	Legislative Updates Advocacy Partners	Rhonda Shirley, Government Relations Director, The Partnership for a Healthy MS, provided updates on the recent legislative sessions. The 124-day legislative session concluded officially in person on May 5, 2024, and officially on paper, on May 14, 2024. On the last day of the session in person, the legislators adopted a 7.9-billion-dollar budget allocating funds for state agencies, departments, etc., including the Appropriations Bill, House Bill 1796, to defray expenses for the MS State Department of Health. For legislative leadership to advance key policy issues on their agenda, newly elected House Speaker, Jason White, built a consensus within the House Chamber along with Lieutenant Governor, Delbert Hosemann, to advance some key issues that were at the top of their legislative agenda, such as Medicaid expansion, efforts to reform PERS, etc. However, the key priorities for the advocacy partners were to maintain funding for tobacco prevention and education programs. Within the Appropriations Bill for the State Department of Health, was embedded \$20 million with the tobacco trust fund, the funding that allocates money for the Office of Tobacco Control. They were able to maintain level funding. Some of the allocations are the Office of Tobacco, 7.4 million dollars, the ACT Center, \$595,000, the Attorney General's Office for Tobacco Enforcement, \$680,000, and the UMMC Cancer Center and Research Institute, 4.2 million dollars. Another priority for the advocacy partners was cleaning up the 2020 law, Senate Bill 2596, that raised the minimum legal sale age for tobacco and alternative nicotine products from 18 to 21. Former President Trump signed legislation to amend the federal Food and Drug and Cosmetic Act and raised the federal minimum legal sale age for tobacco products from 18 to 21 in December 2019. In Mississippi, advocacy partners worked with the state Attorney General's Office to introduce bills into the House and Senate to bring state code into compliance with federal law. Both bills passed in the House and Senate. Unfortunately, the bill succumbed to the deadline. There were other tobacco and vaping bills introduced, several bills brought forth by the tobacco industry. Some bills were introduced to establish directories for cigarette and vaping manufacturers; some bills passed and others succumbed to the deadlines. The conference report



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		was not adopted. In addition to those bills, other bills were introduced to raise the excise tax on cigarettes and vaping products. The bill that did prevail levied an excise tax on new products such as heated tobacco products. There's now a 25-cent excise tax on those products. The current excise tax on cigarettes is 68 cents, one of the lowest in the nation. There has not been an increase in the excise tax since 2009. The advocacy partners will continue to advocate for an increase in the excise tax for not only cigarettes but alternative nicotine products as well. The current tax on alternative nicotine products is 7% sales tax, there is no excise tax levied. Representative Creekmore: The Drug Education Bill was passed last year and is moving forward. Mississippi Public Health Institute (MSPHI) is working on the curriculum. They have some pilot schools that will implement the program.
III	Data Update Emily McClelland MS Tobacco Data Update MSU Social Science Research Group	Data supports that 5.9% of MS high school students smoke cigarettes. MS ranks 4th with adult smoking at 17.4%. 7th at 46.3 per capita cigarette consumption. State cigarette excise tax (2024) MS rank 39th at \$0.68. The average excise tax is \$1.39, with NY at \$5.35. Population covered by 100% smoke-free laws, MS ranks 36th at 31.8% as of January 2024. There is 37% of MS's population protected by a comprehensive smoke-free ordinance. There are 7 smoke-free counties in MS, and 188 smoke-free municipalities; 158 which have ordinances that include restrictions on electronic cigarettes. The 2023 Youth Tobacco Survey data is currently being processed. 1998-2022: The past 30-day use of cigarettes, cigar, and smokeless tobacco has significantly decreased from 30.3%. There has been an increase in e-cigarettes. Data shows that students prefer e-cigarettes over regular cigarettes. MS is above the national average in e-cigarette usage among high school students. After Juul entered the market in 2018, MS has seen an increase in e-cigarette usage among youth. The 2023 Social Climate Survey of Tobacco Control: Past Seven Day Exposure to Secondhand Smoke, 16.0% of adults were exposed in their home, 16.4% of adults were exposed in their car, 23.6% of adults were exposed at work, 18.5% of adults were exposed in an indoor public place.



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		There has been an increase in e-cigarette usage among adults. In 2011 MS current smoking rate in adults was 26%, and that significantly decreased to 17.4% in 2022. There has been a change in the four-level smoking status over the past 11 years. More adults report “never smoker”, and “former smoker” and there has been a decrease in “daily smoker”; it has decreased from 18.8% in 2011 to 13.1% in 2022. There has been a decrease in cigarette smoking among adults in MS by age, and current smoking by education, in adult population with a GED or high school diploma. There is still an increase in the adult population with less than a high school education. There has been a decrease in smoking by race and gender also. The 2023 Tax Burden: Mississippi’s cigarette consumption and cigarette tax revenue can be found on MSU’s website. This report shows that the revenue from the tax increased by 93% and per capita consumption decreased by 51% from 2008 to 2023. The Mississippi tax fact sheet has been updated also, and it illustrates what happened when we implemented that tax increase to \$.68 in 2009 however, we’ve started to see that effect level out over time. The number of packs of cigarettes sold in Mississippi has decreased by 50% while tax revenue from cigarette sales has doubled.
IV	Open Floor for Council	Dr. Wesson had a question about the drug education bill. Representative Creekmore advised that it is a K-12 bill. The pilot program will be enough for about 10 schools. Schools can apply and the curriculum will be implemented within those schools. Dr. Wesson also inquired about the amount of funding the MSDH receives for cessation. Rhonda Shirley advised that MSDH receives 7.4 million to fund the Office of Tobacco Control which funds tobacco prevention and education programs across the state. Tiffany Johnson advised that roughly \$850,000 is used to fund the MS Quitline vendor, RVO Health for cessation efforts.
V	Business (Old)	No Quorum – The council could not vote and approve previous meeting minutes.
VI	Business (New)	The council welcomed one new member, Dr. Felix Twum (USM).



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VII	Closing Remarks/Comments/Feedback	The evaluation link was provided via a QR code to participants during the meeting for completion.
VIII	Adjourn	All agenda items were addressed, and the meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

ACTION ITEMS			
#	Step	Person (s) Responsible	Due Date
1	Email a “save the date” for the next meeting.	Sharonda Banks	6/25/2024
2	Email meeting minutes to council members.	Sharonda Banks	6/25/2024



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Instructions for Form 1075, Meeting Notes

Revision Date, 1/22/18

Purpose: The MSDH Meeting Minutes are optional and not mandated for use; however, it is strongly recommended to meet adequate documentation standards as a PHAB accredited agency. The form serves as strong documentation that a meeting took place and what was discussed. This documentation is particularly important for continuing accreditation.

Instructions: Prior to the meeting, prepare the agenda with topics to be discussed and times for discussion. Meeting Title, Location, Date and Time should match what is listed on the Meeting Agenda (Form 1074). Agenda topics should also be listed in the table provided, and corresponding discussion and/or decisions made should be entered into the notes section of the table. The Action Items table should be completed to list actions to be taken after the meeting, as well as who is responsible for their completion and any relevant deadlines associated. There is space in the footer for the name of the person who compiled the minutes and submitted them to the group for review and approval.

Office Mechanics and Filing: To be determined by meeting purpose and topics discussed.

Retention Period: To be determined by meeting purpose and topics discussed.