



## State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

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CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

NEIL VAN ESS  
*Acting Chairman*

JOHN L. HULICK, MS, CPS  
*Executive Director*

### MINUTES

#### Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse July 16, 2013

#### Call to Order

The two hundred eighty second regular meeting of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess.

#### Open Public Meetings Act Statement

Mr. Van Ess announced that notice of this meeting was provided in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 – 10:4-21).

#### Roll Call

Katelyn Assenheimer called the roll. Members present and absent were noted for the record.

#### Approval of June Minutes

After a brief discussion, the June minutes were approved. (Y-12; ABS-5; N-0)

#### Overdose Prevention Act Overview – Thomas Calcagni, First Assistant Attorney General

Thomas Calcagni gave an overview of the Overdose Prevention Act to the Council members. The purpose of this Act is to maintain a balance between saving lives and enforcing the law.

The Attorney General's office has issued a directive to all New Jersey prosecutors, chiefs of police as well as state, local and county police informing them of this Act. Criminal and civil immunity will also be considered for anyone who administers an opioid antidote to someone who is overdosing, but only if they have requested medical assistance prior to administering the antidote.

#### Overview of Recent SCI Report – Phil Degnan, SCI Executive Director and Chadd Lackey, SCI Counsel

State Commission of Investigation Executive Director Phil Degnan presented an overview of SCI's recent report regarding the heroin and opiate epidemic in New Jersey.

The purpose of this report was to foster public awareness regarding the crisis. The report focused on prescribers of painkillers and other opiates and showed the vulnerability of the medication prescribing system.

### **Chairman's Report**

Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess shared that the Task Force on Heroin and Other Opiate Use by New Jersey's Youth and Young Adults met on July 2<sup>nd</sup> to review Task Force recommendations. He asked that the Council vote on extending the term of the Task Force for up to nine months. After a discussion, the extension was passed. (Y-12; ABS-4; N-0)

Mr. Van Ess also informed the Council that Tom Calcagni and his staff had offered to draft the Task Force report. In light of this, Mr. Van Ess asked the Council to vote on terminating the services of The Innovations Collaborative, which were originally charged with this task. After a vote, this motion was approved. (Y-11; ABS-5; N-0)

After a brief discussion, Mr. Van Ess asked that a motion be made to extend the reinstatement of the 2010 Council bylaws for 30 additional days. (Y-11; ABS-5, N-0)

### **Acting Executive Director's Report**

Acting Executive Director Celina Gray thanked the Attorney General's office and the State Commission of Investigation for their presentations to the Council.

Ms. Gray informed the Council members that the Alliance program guidelines workgroup has been meeting the past few months and a presentation will be made to the Council once the guidelines have been completed.

The Summit workgroup will be meeting today to review the workshop submissions for the Council's Summit to be held on September 12, 2013.

Ms. Gray also shared that GCADA staff member John McLaughlin had recently retired. She thanked the staff for their hard work during this transition period.

### **Adjournment**

Acting Chairman Neil Van Ess adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.