



**Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2024**

Virtual Meeting via MS Teams and in person at Washington State Department of Health 111 Israel Road, Room 153, Tumwater, WA 98501

Committee members present: Susan Cherry, SUDP, Chair
Bergen Starke, LMHC, SUDP, Vice Chair
John D. Gubatayao, SUDP
J. Kimber Rotchford, MD

Committee members absent: Gayle Martinsen
Alicia Egan, SUDP
Raymond Gregson, CPC

Staff members present: Claire Wilson, Program Manager
Eve Austin, Executive Director
Katie Impecoven, Program Support
Kristi Knieps, Assistant Attorney General
Zach Patnode, Quality Manager
Melissa Derefield, Credentialing Supervisor
Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst

Guest presenters: None

On December 6, 2024, the Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee met online via Microsoft Teams and in person at Washington State Department of Health 111 Israel Road, Room 153, Tumwater, WA 98501. Notice of the meeting was published on the [Substance Use Disorder profession website](#) and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

Open Session:

1. Opening of Public Meeting – Susan Cherry, SUDP, Chair

- 1.1. Call to Order – Ms. Cherry called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Committee and agency staff members as well as public attendees introduced themselves.
- 1.2. Approval of the December 6, 2024 meeting agenda. – Motion to approve meeting agenda, Vote 4-0.
- 1.3. Approval of joint meeting minutes from October 4, 2024 – Motion to approve meeting agenda, Vote 4-0.

2. Public Comment – Susan Cherry, SUDP, Chair

There were no public comments received.

3. Management Report – Claire Wilson, Program Managers

- 3.1. Budget Report – Ms. Wilson briefed the committee on the budget for the SUDP program. The current fund balance is -\$400,400.
- 3.2. Credentialing Report – Mr. Patnode briefed the committee on the credentialing statistics as of November 2024. For the SUDP certification, there are 3,077 active licenses and 195 pending applications. For the SUDPT certification, there are 1,496 active licenses and 131 pending applications.

4. BHA Facility Suspension – Eve Austin, Executive Director

- 4.1. Ms. Austin briefed the committee on the license suspension for the Rainier Recovery Center.

5. Assistant Attorney General Report: Kristi Knieps, AAG

- 5.1. Ms. Knieps allowed the opportunity for questions regarding the Ranier Recovery Center suspension.

6. Approval of 2025 Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

- 6.1. The following meeting dates for 2025 are: February 7th, 2025, June 13th, 2025 (joint meeting with Licensed Counselor Advisory Committee), October 3rd, 2025, and December 5th, 2025 – Motion to approve 2025 Meeting dates, Vote 4-0.

7. Legislative Updates – Claire Wilson, Program Manager

- 7.1. Recap of ongoing rulemaking for SUDPs
Ms. Wilson provided an overview on the upcoming legislative session and reviewed the process of upcoming legislation process that will take place for proposed bills.

8. Scheduling Subcommittee For Detox Survey Analysis – Claire Wilson, Program Manager

- 8.1. Ms. Wilson discussed the priority of forming a subcommittee for the Detox Survey Analysis. Mr. Cherry and Ms. Starke volunteered to be on the subcommittee and will begin meeting in January 2025 to dissect the survey results.

9. Scheduling Ethics Subcommittee – Claire Wilson, Program Manager

- 9.1. Ms. Wilson discussed the purpose of forming a subcommittee to discuss the ethics of the profession. Details regarding the Ethics Subcommittee will be discussed at the February 2025 Advisory Committee Meeting.

10. Discussion – Dr. Kimber Rotchford, Committee Member

- 10.1. Dr. Rotchford discussed the importance of integrating comprehensive and collaborative care in the field of behavioral health to combat the obstacles of care that often occur.

11. Future Agenda Items – Susan Cherry, SUDP, Chair

- 11.1. Ms. Wilson will invite Bill O'Connell from the University of Washington Behavioral Health Support Specialist program to speak about the BHSS credential at the next advisory committee meeting.
- 11.2. Ms. Wilson will examine the current requirement set for SUDPs updating treatment plans with colleagues at the Department and potentially invite a representative to inform the committee on further details about this requirement.
- 11.3. Future advisory committee meeting invites including a calendar link.

12. Adjournment

- 12.1. The meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

Submitted by:

Claire Wilson, Program Manager
Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory
Committee

Approved by:

Susan Cherry, Chair
Substance Use Disorder Certification
Advisory Committee

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