



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



### Nevada Assistive Technology Council (AT Council) Meeting Minutes

**Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday, July 27, 2023, 10:00 AM**  
**Location of Meeting: Zoom ([Zoom.us](https://zoom.us))**

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1. **Roll Call:**

Members: Ashley Price, Chris Jarvis, Connor Fogal, David Winik, John Rosenlund, Lance Ledet, Steven Cohen  
Staff & Guest: Deanna Smith, Autumn Blattman, Marjory Olaes, Lori Lutu, Kelcy Meyer, Jack Mayes  
Captioner: Becky

2. **Public Comment:**

- Scott announced a successful application for the telecommunication program for the next four years.
  1. Provides free telecommunication related equipment for Deaf, hard of hearing and speech impaired.

3. **For Possible Action:** Approval of Minutes of the June 15, 2023, meeting:

- John motioned to approve.
- David second
- Minutes approved unanimously.

4. **For Information:** Review of Council Membership, Pending Applicants and Recruitment of Council Membership.

- Two applications in review with the Director's Office (DO)
- Two applications being processed to be submitted to the DO.
- Two referrals we haven't received the completed applications for yet.

5. **For Information:** Open Meeting Law (OML) Training

- OML is governed by NRS 241.
- Definition of a public body can be found in NRS 241.015
- Slideshow for presentation can be found [Here](#).

6. **For Information:** Update Regarding the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) Olmstead Plan:

- Provides was in which folks are able to live in the community.
- Completed assets, gaps, and critical issues phase of the plan.
- Currently working on developing goals, objectives, and strategies for the plan.

7. **Presentation and Discussion:** Updates of the Nevada Assistive Technology Collaborative (NATC) and presentation on Nevada Assistive Technology Resource Center (NATRC) program update:
- Presentation was given in April.
  - In the 30 years the program has existed it's always had a waitlist for having resources to purchase assistive technology.
  - Possible \$1.2 million from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to be used towards covering the roughly \$700,000 needed to cover the waitlist.
    1. ARPA funds have not yet been released and not yet built into that program.
  - Obstacles, other than funding, needed to reduce the waitlist would be:
    1. Increase in staff.
    2. Find additional vendors.
    3. Changes in the way the caseload is operated.
  - More programs under NATC and NATRC will be out for proposal over the next four years.
  - Assistive Technology for Independent Living Program operates on the State Fiscal year and has already concluded the ongoing partner for the next four years.
    1. Services are specific.
    2. Not grant funds.
  - All services will be listed in the State Plan that was submitted and approved earlier this year.
  - NATCR has a long-time partnership with CARE Chest for reutilizing assistive technology.
    1. Taking donated items, sanitizing, fixing, and getting durable medical equipment use within the AT Community for those in need.
  - For the year the program has:
    1. Served roughly 1300 people.
    2. Provided about 10,000 devices.
      - a) Typically, between 3,000 and 5,000 devices per year.
8. **For Possible Action:** Review, discuss and approve joint letter of support concerning State accessibility audit.
- Letter directed to individuals broadcasting meetings for legislation through Nevada Electronic Legislative information system (NELIS)
    1. Closed caption doesn't work.
    2. Recommended to watch through YouTube.
  - Steven to rewrite letter of support to include NRS codes and in coordination with the AT Resource Center.
  - Revised letter of support to be presented later for possible support from the AT Council.
9. **For Possible Action:** Review, discuss and approve letter of support for Nevada to pursue a wheelchair right to repair law.
- Connor Fogal working on a bill to assist AT users in need of repairing and replacing wheelchairs when needed.
  - Connor's statement can be found: [Here](#)

- Recommendation to present for Seniors, Veterans and Adults with disabilities to gain more support for the need of legislation.
  - Letter of support for Connor to be brought forward at a future meeting.
10. **For Possible Action:** Review, Discuss and Approve Nevada AT Council Position Statement.
- For brainstorming purposes need to determine the why of the Position Statement and how the position statement can be used going forward
  - Be more specific to technology, rather than a generalization.
  - Should include the individual with a disability in the AT decision making process.
  - Should educate the AT user and the community.
  - Will have draft position statement for review in following meeting.
11. **For Information:** Legislative update  
Steven Cohen, Vice Chair
- AB 252: Accessible Museums
    1. Will add audio descriptions to museum exhibits throughout the state.
    2. Require museums to create an accessible website for people with disabilities.
  - SB 422: Emergency Management
    1. Will permit robots to be on Nevada's System of Higher Education (NSHE) campuses to deliver food from Uber Eats, DoorDash, etc.
    2. Will have an audible noise that indicates that the robot is nearby for blind and visually impaired persons.
12. **For Possible Action:** Elect new Vice Chair and volunteers for Olmstead Steering Committee.
- John Rosenlund volunteered to step in as Vice Chair temporarily until someone else takes over the position.
    1. Steven motioned, Chris second.
    2. Council voted for unanimously.
  - Ashley Price volunteered to step in on the Olmstead Steering Committee, starting in September.
    1. Steven motioned, Chris second.
    2. Council voted for unanimously.
13. **For Possible Action:** Discuss and approve Tentative Agenda Topics for September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting:
- For possible action for the review of the two additional required membership positions created through the reauthorization of the assistive technology act that would include the council to review and have an opinion of who we would engage. (John Rosenlund)
    1. List of potential members
    2. Who would be best to serve as an alternative finance/financial lending program.
  - Discussion of the Nevada assistive technology collaborative, that includes things supported under the act, including the reauthorization of the Assistive

Technology Act, the status of the current NATC state plan. (Standing agenda item)

- Clarification of Bylaws, review, discuss and vote on.

14. **Public Comment:**

- Autumn Blattman introduced herself as Regional Coordinator for the Washoe County region.
  1. Lori Luto serves Southern Nye and Clark Counties
  2. Kelsie Meyer serves Carson, Lyon, Churchill, Douglas, and Storey Counties.
- Scott Youngs announced training by the regional representative that has a contract with the American publishing house for the blind.
  1. Training educators and staff within the education system
  2. Training is on some of their AT related products for people with vision impairments.
  3. Products used during training stays within the school district as needed.

15. **Adjournment:** 12:37, meeting adjourned

**AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at [www.adsd.nv.gov](http://www.adsd.nv.gov) and Nevada Public Notices website at <https://notice.nv.gov>