



STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION

Administrative Office  
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RICHARD WHITLEY  
*Director*

JANE GRUNER  
*Administrator*

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
*Governor*

**Draft Minutes**

Name of Organization: Nevada Assistive Technology Council (AT Council)

Date and Time of Meeting: May 20, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

This meeting will be held and video conferenced at the following locations:

Reno: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center  
1875 Plumas St., Suite 1  
Reno, NV 89509  
775-333-7878

Las Vegas: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center  
2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 11  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
702-257-8150

To join this meeting by phone, dial 1-888-363-4735 then enter Access Code 1228133 when prompted.

Meeting Materials Available at: <http://adسد.nv.gov/Boards/ATCouncil/Agendas/>

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Introductions  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Members: Scott Youngs, Frieda Aizenman, Havander Davis,  
Thomas Kearns, Mechelle Merrill, Brian Patchett, John Rosenlund, Scott Saur,

Absent: Victoria Essner, Jesse Leaman, Scott Sauer

Guests: Christi Heins-Coats, Jack Mayes, Henjie Apag, Tanya Keith, Janice Monroe,  
George McKinlay

Mr. Youngs called the meeting to order at 11:05 am. Mr. Youngs opted to allow Public Comment after each agenda item.

2. Verification of Open Meeting Postings  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Ms. Keith verified the meeting was posted in accordance with Open Meeting requirements.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2016 Meeting (For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Rosenlund motioned to approve the minutes from the April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, with no changes. Mr. Kearns seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item.)

Ms. Janice Monroe from the Clark County School District, in the Assistive Technology Services Department is attending the meeting as a guest observer, and is interested in learning the process for these meetings.

Mr. Jack Mayes, with the recent changes with the Administration on Community Living, several programs have merged under their department. The Commissioner Aaron Bishop is considering coordinating programs for collaboration with the AT Council, The Protection Advocacy Agency, the Nevada Center of for Excellence in Disabilities at UNR (NCED), the Development Disabilities Council (DD), Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI), and Centers for Independent Living (CILs), and Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC). His mission is to bring everyone together to work towards each other's common goals. In the future, Mr. Mayes would like to schedule a meeting of all the parties to begin the discussion process.

There were no other public comments.

4. Presentation: Mr. Kearns Report: Meeting with Shannon Rahming, Chief Information Officer for the State of Nevada  
Thomas Kearns, TMCC and the National Federation of the Blind

Mr. Kearns summarized a phone conversation he had with Shannon Rahming, the Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the State of Nevada's Enterprise Division. They discussed the letter that was written by the State Web Accessibility Taskforce (SWAT) Subcommittee, and discussed that the letter would be addressed by Ms. Rahming. Mr. Kearns expressed the desire of the AT Council to work with her office when it comes time for the letter to be address. She received the offer favorably.

5. Review and Finalize the Adoption of the Final Draft of the Letter to the Governor.  
(For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

(See Attachment A) Mr. Kearns read the final draft of the Letter to the Governor to the Council. Discussed Corrections noted:

- Should be "desperate impact" not "desperate impact"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph need a period at the end WICAG "at a minimum."

- Remove the apostrophe in the first sentence, as Nevadans is plural, and not possessive.
- Use of the Semicolon in the first paragraph should be a comma
- Use of the Semicolon in the third paragraph should be commas
- Ensure the 5 links at the bottom are included in the hard copy.

Mr. McKinlay mentioned in the allowed public comment period, he feels the final sentence seems too soft. He understands the letter is not seeking a solution, but is pushing for adoption of the WICAG 2.0 and NASCIO Standards. He feels the final sentence should be: "collaborating on this issue".

The Council agreed the signers should be Mr. Youngs as the Chair of the AT Council, and Mr. Kearns as the Chair of the SWAT Subcommittee.

Mr. Kearns wished it to be on record, that Mr. McKinlay was the author of the body of the letter and it was his focus that allowed the letter to be what it is. Mr. Youngs agreed, saying the letter may have been more of a complaint letter than the solutions letter as it is.

Mr. Kearns made a motion to adopt the letter as Finalized with the noted corrections and changes, and then send it to the Governor. Ms. Aizenman seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Aizenman inquired how the letter would be sent, would it be by email or by hard copy. Ms. Aizenman is concerned how the links would work in the hard copy. Since one of the links is a glossary, she feels each web page linked to the glossary would need to be printed and included with the letter for the hard document to be effective and that would make the letter very long and lengthy with the attachments. The Council agreed to expose the <http://www.> Website addresses in the hard copy of the letter.

### **Standing Items**

#### 6. AT Act Program Updates, Discussions and Presentations John Rosenlund, ADSD

(See Attachment B) Mr. Rosenlund discussed the Nevada Assistive Technology Collaborative, which is the official name of the state program as recognized by the Administration on Independent Living (ACL). This document discusses Required Program Activities, State Leadership Activities, State Financing Activities, Assistive Technology Recycling and Reuse, Assistive Technology Device Loans, and Assistive Technology Device Demonstrations. It also features contact information for those items as well.

The State Leadership Activities fall under the State Finance Systems. The Device Utilization, Loans and Demonstrations require at least 60% of the funding allocation. There are no other programs in the state that allow comparability with these topics.

If another program or Agency is providing a service, Assistive Technology grant funds, are typically not allocated there, and those providers are worked with directly.

Mr. Youngs asked for clarification on the fiscal categories the AT Act is split into. Mr. Rosenlund answered:

- State Level Activities: **60% of the budget** - Direct Consumer Services, i.e., Home Modifications/Vehicle Modifications
- State Leadership Activities: **40% of the budget** - technical assistance and training, skills assistance and training, application assistance and training, implementation training, integration training, **5% Minimum of the 40% is required spent to** - transitional training includes a Student to higher education, an individual from institutionalized care to independent living or the reverse, or transitioning to a different form of assistive technology.

Mr. Rosenlund suggested the Assistive Technology Resource Center at the University of Nevada, Reno could give an example of a transitioning activity they completed during the last year.

#### Under State Financing Systems: 2 Programs

- Alternative Finance: A lending program through the Care Loan fund. This is designed to allow people to purchase Assistive Technology through a lender for a low interest loan guarantee program. This allows people to have the funding for items they wouldn't otherwise have access to such as modified vehicles. Has a \$25,000.00 cap and works with Care Chest. Credit is an issue and medical bills can be taken into consideration. Uses a banking source.
  - Internal Lending: Lending through the program, not a banking source. General for smaller pieces of Assistive Technology.
- Assistive Technology for the State Independent Living Program: Small support, combination of 2 other funding sources. It's a smaller funded portion for operation. And it is for those with no other resources as a last resort. Primarily used on home Modifications or Vehicle Modifications, or an activity of daily living. Used as gap coverage, on such items as hearing aids. State funds through the Nevada Legislature, funding has not grown with programs. Focuses on best practices and follows Independent Living Goals through a Center for Independent Living.

Mr. Kearns discussed briefly a new program currently under development to give newly blind individuals training in life skills, and inquired how this could help them. Mr. Youngs and Mr. Rosenlund stated that assistance is provided on a case-by-case basis as determined by a team approach with the AT Providers, the CILs and the consumer's individual goals.

#### Device Reutilization:

- Passes technology down from upgraded users to users needing an upgrade
- Care Chest does a Durable Medical Equipment recycling and reuse: cleaning, refurbishing, making ready for the next person

- Reported in the annual report, approx. \$500,000 in savings to the Consumer
- Currently, no one contact in Southern Nevada. Many distribution closets around the area. ADSD is working at setting one up with Easter Seals. Traditionally, Las Vegas area has a 60% more need.
  - Nevada Assistive Technology Exchange – like a craigslist for medical equipment. A national effort that Easter Seals maintains.

Device Lending:

- Primarily at NCED in the north, Easter Seals in the South
- Device Loans are typically a 2 week duration
- No charge
- Disabled individuals as well as family members and service providers can borrow items to try
- Does not purchase technology and it does not include data plans.

Device Demonstration:

- NATC has community partners with Easter Seals Nevada, and the AT Resource Center in Reno to offer Device Demonstrations
- Demonstrations are hands-on with AT Specialists
- Disabled individuals as well as family members and service providers can use the Device demonstrations at the sites or make appointments for off-sites demonstrations.
- State Financed AT/IL programs coordinate through vendors or with Reutilized AT Programs

Mr. Rosenlund also mentioned the iBill hand held reader has become available for demonstration at the AT Recourse Centers and as an application process to receive one.

Mr. Kearns offered that NewsLine, is now being offered through the state for vision or reading disabled persons through the National Federation for the Blind (NFB). They will receive a link with access to periodicals from around the world, at no cost and electronically. This works with Smart Devices, Apple Devices and a land phone, by dialing in to a phone number and the periodical will be read out loud. This available for students with print disabilities as well as vision impaired.

No Public Comment was made.

7. AT Collaborative Updates and Reports from Partners  
John Rosenlund, ADSD

This item was combined with Agenda Item #6. No Public Comment was made.

8. Update, Review and Consideration of the AT Council Membership and Possible Council Elections (For Possible Action)  
John Rosenlund, ADSD

The Council discussed membership of Mr. Saur and Mr. Leaman. Mr. Leaman has moved out of the state and Mr. Youngs will try and receive a notice of his status as a council member.

Mr. Rosenlund asked the Council to allow him additional time to research the status of members, pending members, term dates and times, re-appointments and to compile a complete report. He advised that the council move forward as usual until the status information on membership has been completed. The Council agreed to his request. He asked the Council members to e-mail him with any questions they may have on membership status. He reiterated, even if a member has completed their maximum terms, they can stay involved as a member of the public.

9. Discussion and Possible Determination of Issues and Agenda Items to be Considered or Deliberated at the Next Meeting (For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Youngs asked if there were any other items that needed to be added to the Standing Agenda Items section. Mr. Rosenlund said what he saw was fine. Mr. Youngs clarified the language he wanted on the Agendas more specific.

- AT Act Update – Reviewing 2015 Annual Report
- A Update on the Governor’s Letter, which will be sent by the next meeting
- Possible Upcoming Legislation that affects AT
  - Jack Mayes – Possible presenter – Agreed to be on the next meeting if schedule allows
  - Brian Patchett - chair CSPD presenter
  - Lisa Boni,- Chair of SILC
- Add presenters as a standing agenda item
- Revisit the AT Council’s position paper (for possible action)
  - Next topic the Council wants to address

10. Confirm next meeting Date (For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Youngs asked Ms. Keith to send out a Doodle Poll in regards to the next AT Council meeting in August. Mr. Kearns suggested 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week with the month with the new school year at the University starting.

11. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item)

Mr. Mayes reminded the Council that Legislation at this time is not a concern. The Election season needs to complete first, and those that propose legislation may not be reelected.

13. Adjournment  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Rosenlund motioned to adjourn. Mr. Kearns seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 pm.

NOTE: Items may be considered out of order. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based upon viewpoint.

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**Current Assistive Technology Council Members**

Scott Youngs (Chairperson), Frida Aizenman, Hentjie Apag, Havander Davis, Victoria Essner, Thomas Kearns, Jesse Leaman, Mechelle Merrill, Brian Patchett, John Rosenlund, Scott Sauer

**NOTE:** We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Tanya Keith at (775) 687-0551 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at [tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov). Supporting materials for this meeting are available at: 3416 Goni Road, #D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Tanya Keith at (775) 687-0551 or by email at [tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov).

