



BRIAN SANDOVAL  
Governor

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

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## MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities (Nevada Revised Statute [NRS] 426.365)

Date and Time of Meeting: December 10, 2013  
9:00 a.m.

Location: Sierra Regional Center  
605 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Sparks, NV 89431

Desert Regional Center – Administration Building  
1391 South Jones Blvd  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

This meeting was teleconferenced at the above locations.

- I. Welcome and Introductions  
Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Members attended in person and by teleconference.

**Members Present:** Brian Patchett, Mary Bryant, Bill Heavilin, Gary Olsen, Karen Taycher, Jodi Sabal, Jon Sasser, Nicole Schomberg, Jennifer Pharr

**Staff Present:** Julie Kotchevar, Kristen Rocha, Michelle Ferral, Laura Valentine, Vicki Kemp, Julie Balderson, Tina Gerber-Winn, April Guinsler

**Guests:** Chelsea Szklany, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services; Korine Viehweg, RAVE; Matt Stoll, Desert Regional Center; Jennifer Frischmann, Nevada Medicaid; Mechele Merrill, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation; Shelley Hendren, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation; Connie McMullen, Commission on Aging

A quorum being present Mr. Patchett called the meeting to order.

II. Public Comment

Ms. Hendren expressed gratitude for being invited to the meeting and stated that she looks forward to collaborating together.

III. Approval of Minutes from the October 7, 2013 Meeting **(For Possible Action)**  
Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Ms. Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes from October 7, 2013. Ms. Taycher seconded. All in favor none opposed. The motion carried.

IV. Update on the Status of Nevada's Olmstead Plan and Possible Recommendations for Plan Revision **(For Possible Action)**  
Bill Heavilin, Commission Member

Mr. Sasser requested a status update on Tony Records. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated that Mr. Records is a consultant used to help with the evaluation of compliance with Olmstead about 4 years ago. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated that there is currently no funding to hire Mr. Records but she is looking into finding funding to hire him.

Ms. Bryant requested the possibly of involving the Senior Commission. There was a discussion on starting a new subcommittee to meet with the Olmstead Subcommittee. Ms. McMullen stated that the Commission on Aging currently has a Senior Services Strategic Plan Accountability Committee with 5 members. It was decided that the Senior Services Strategic Plan Accountability Committee would meet with the Olmstead Subcommittee.

It was requested that the web link for the Senior Services Strategic Plan Accountability Committee be sent out to the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities board members.

V. Update on Changes to the Intermediate Care Facility  
Matt Stoll, Desert Regional Center

Mr. Stoll stated that the current census is 46 and two more individuals will be added by the end of next week and they will be full at that point. They have hired a recreational therapist to help increase activities. They are also in the process of hiring a mental health counselor.

Mr. Stoll stated the following information that was requested of him regarding guardians:

- 34 people have relatives as guardians
- 10 people have public guardians
- 2 people who are self guardians

Mr. Stoll stated the following information that was requested of him regarding allegations of abuse, substantiated and unsubstantiated, from January 2013 through November 15<sup>th</sup>:

- Physical abuse: 2 substantiated, 8 unsubstantiated

- Verbal abuse: 1 substantiated, 2 unsubstantiated
- Community Providers: 11 substantiated, 51 unsubstantiated
- Verbal and Emotional: 11 substantiated, 24 unsubstantiated

Mr. Stoll stated that their Deputy Attorney General is looking into the legal aspects of placing cameras in the facility. There was a discussion on the abuse policy and Mr. Stoll stated that they have a zero tolerance abuse policy.

VI. Update on Early Intervention Services as it Regards Part C  
Michelle Ferrall, Aging and Disability Services Division  
Laura Valentine, Department of Health and Human Services

Ms. Ferrall stated the following regarding approval for funding:

- 38 new developmental specialist positions.
- 16 of the 38 positions are dedicated to quality assurance.
- The remaining 22 positions will be handling caseloads.
- The first 7 QA positions are funded for the South.
- 6 of those 7 are Developmental Specialist III's who were recruited from Early Intervention Services who are currently carrying caseloads.
- The 7th position is a Developmental Specialist IV acting as supervisor.
- There are two additional Quality Assurance positions that are being funded in December for the South that will likely start in January
- In January there is funding released for addition two Quality Assurance positions in the south and an additional 4.5 in the northwest. The half position is a Developmental Specialist IV who will spend half of their time in general Early Intervention caseloads and the other half in the Quality Assurance role.

There was a discussion on the importance of continuing child find regardless of the amount of people currently on waitlists. It was agreed that Child Find was important to be able to show the real numbers of persons in the state who need services.

Ms. Valentine stated the Office of Special Education Programs Policy manual needed to be completed by April 2014 and sent in with the Part C application to ensure timely funding in July 2014.

It was requested that Ms. Valentine send the policy to the Commission when it is completed.

VII. Update on Waitlist for Waiver Services  
Jennifer Frischmann, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

Ms. Frischmann stated the following information on the waiting list which is current as of October 2013:

- IID Waiver: 816 individuals which is up from 625 in October 2012
- Frail and Elderly Population: 189 individuals which is down from 263 last year
- WIN Waiver: 128 individuals which is the same as last year
- Assisted Living Waiver: 3 individuals which is the same as last year

Mr. Sasser requested more in depth numbers on the following; the amount of time an individual sits on a waiting list, if the amount of time is excessive, if the reason for the amount of time on the waitlist is due to not enough social worker positions to work the cases. Ms. Frischmann agreed to provide that information via email within the next few days.

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated she would provide Caseload Evaluation Organization numbers to the group on a monthly basis.

VIII. Update on the Aging and Disability Services Division Strategic Plan  
Tina Gerber-Winn, Aging and Disability Services Division

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated the Strategic Plan is now in middle of finalizing their goals and affirming that if they concentrate on the following 5 areas as an agency they will do a better job and meet more of people's expectations:

- Create a discussion of concerns about the agency
- Key informant interviews to say what people's opinions are about how well we're doing.
- Town hall meetings
- Focus Groups
- Provider surveys of staff as well as providers and consumers of service to figure out what people are expecting and are concerned about.

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated the Strategic Plan is concentrating now on affirming their goals and coming up with action plans such as:

- Training staff
- Defining our customer service policy
- Coming up with more satisfaction ratings
- Developing ways for staff and providers to be more sensitive to clients
- Creating more transparency on how well that is occurring

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated the following goals for the Strategic Plan:

- Establish an evidence based delivery system regardless of the program
- Informing people of our services and where they can access them
- Implementing policies consistently
- Being proactive to create changes in service delivery when we see problems
- Adopt and report on outcomes efficiency and cost effectiveness
- Having universal data elements
- Prioritize what we think is meaningful as far as quality
- Ongoing quality improvement
- Develop, recruit, and retain a skilled work force
- Working proactively for suggestions on change from the staff
- Having funding levels that allows any program to meet acceptable saturation rates

IX. Update on the Insurance Plans Available through Nevada Health Link

Kevin Costello, East Valley Family Services  
Shareece Bates, East Valley Family Services

This topic was not discussed due to the absence of the presenters.

X. Discussion on Interim Committees  
Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Mr. Patchett requested the following for future agendas:

- Something in writing from each presenter prior to the meeting
- Sufficient time for each item
- “For Possible Action” listed after all topics

There are three Interim Committees that have ability to address issues that affect people with disabilities:

1. Interim Committee on Veterans, Seniors, and Adults with Special Needs – Chairperson: Teresa Benitez-Thompson.
2. Interim Committee on Health Care – Chairperson: Senator Jones
3. Interim Committee on Child Welfare – Chairperson: Jason Frierson

The following are issues that were decided on to be brought up to the Interim Committee listed above:

- Interim Committee on Veterans, Seniors and Adults with Special Needs: Mr. Sasser will meet with Ms. Benitez-Thompson.
  - Deaf Issues
  - Transportation Issues
  - Discussion of Vocational Rehab
  - Olmstead Discussion
  - Ask for Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities to be on Agenda
  - Provider Rates
- Interim Committee on Health Care: Mr. Patchett will meet with Senator Jones
  - Olmstead Discussion
  - Ask for Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities to be on Agenda
  - Habilitation versus Rehabilitation
  - Provider Agreements and Rates
  - Out of State Placements
  - Deaf Issues
- Interim Committee on Child Welfare: Mr. Patchett and Ms. Taycher will meet with Mr. Frierson.
  - Olmstead Discussion
  - Ask for Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities to be on Agenda

- Deaf Issues

XI. Update on Policy Process for Persons with Dual Diagnosis  
Chelsea Szklany, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services

FY 2013: July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013

- Of the 8,311 unique individuals served with diagnosis in electronic medical record, 85 or 1% were diagnosed as having both mental health and developmental disorders, state wide.
  - Rural Services – 59 individuals including adults and children
  - Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services – 9 individuals adults only
  - Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services – 28 individuals adults only
- Data driven from individuals served that had at least one diagnosis indicating a mental health or behavioral problem
- Individuals served had at least one diagnosis indicating a developmental disorder or disability

Ms. Szklany was asked to follow up at the next meeting with more in-depth numbers.

XII. Update from Nominating Subcommittee and Possible Recommendations of New Members **(For Possible Action)**  
Bill Heavilin, Commission Member

There was a discussion regarding Shelly Hendren. It was decided that the statute would be reviewed and Ms. Hendren would be reconsidered at the next meeting.

Mr. Olsen made a motion to approve Cindy Roller for the Subcommittee on Communication Services for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Persons with Speech Disabilities. Ms. Bryant seconded. All in favor none opposed. The motion carried.

There was a discussion regarding Gregory Ivie for the Subcommittee on Communication Services for Persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Persons with Speech Disabilities. It was decided that an electronic vote would be done to accept or deny Mr. Ivie.

XIII. Discussion and Possible Determination of Issues and Agenda Items to be Considered or Deliberated at the Next Meeting **(For Possible Action)**  
Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

- Update from Nominating Subcommittee and Possible Recommendations of New Members Regarding Shelly Hendren with Bill Heavilin
- Agency Program Priorities for next biennium with Tina Gerber-Winn
- Discuss Interpreter Issues with Gary Olsen

XIV. Set and Confirm Dates for Future Meetings **(For Possible Action)**

Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Tuesday February 4, 2014 at 9:00am

XV. Public Comment

Mr. Sasser stated he believes the department will be developing a budget over the next few months. Ms. Kemp stated that within Aging and Disability Services Division they are starting to work on ideas for the next legislative session. She wants to make sure that Deaf and Hard of Hearing issues are addressed at the next subcommittee meeting. Mr. Olsen requested to have interpreter issues added to the next agenda. It was decided that Ms. Gerber-Winn would present on agency program priorities at the next meeting and that Mr. Olsen would discuss interpreter issues.

XVI. Adjournment

Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson