



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: February 4, 2014
9:00 a.m.

Location: Reno Children's Behavioral Services
2655 Enterprise Road
Reno, NV 89512

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

This meeting was via video conference at the above locations.

This meeting was also teleconferenced.

- I. Welcome and Introductions
Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Members attended in person, by video conference, and by teleconference.

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

Staff Present: Kristen Rocha, Laura Valentine, Tina Gerber-Winn

Guests: Sherry Crance, Aging and Disability Services Division; Annie Urasky, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center; Jou; David Daviton, Nevada Association of the Deaf; J Farrell Cafferata-Jenkins, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center; Kirsten Coulombe, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

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

II. Public Comment

Ms. Gerber-Winn introduced Ms. Valentine as the new Chief over Disability Services. Ms. Valentine started in this position on January 6, 2014. Ms. Valentine is currently learning what the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities does and will take over as the point person once she is caught up.

Mr. Sasser introduced Ms. Coulombe with the Legislative Counsel Bureau. Mr. Sasser informed the Commission that the Legislative Counsel Bureau would be listening in on the meeting. Ms. Coulombe is the staff person for the Committee on Veterans, Seniors, and Adults with Special Needs. Their next meeting is on March 12, 2014 in Carson City and will be available by video conference in Las Vegas.

III. Approval of Minutes from the December 10, 2013 Meeting **(For Possible Action)**
Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated she noticed minor typo errors and would give corrections to Ms. Rocha in writing to be corrected.

Mr. Olsen made a motion to approve the December 10, 2013 minutes with the proposed corrections from Ms. Gerber-Winn. Ms. Bryant made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.

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

The following persons have been recommended by the Nominating Subcommittee to be voted on by the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities:

- Greg Ivie, Subcommittee on Communication Services
- Cindy Frank, Subcommittee on Communication Services
- Shelley Hendren, Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities

Mr. Olsen made a motion to approve Mr. Ivie for the Subcommittee on Communication Services. Mr. Sasser made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.

Mr. Olsen made a motion to oppose Ms. Frank for the Subcommittee on Communication Services as her background does not fit in one of the current vacant positions. Ms. Bryant made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.

Mr. Olsen made a motion to approve Ms. Hendren for the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities. Mr. Heavilin made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.

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

Mr. Heavilin stated the Olmstead Subcommittee met in a joint meeting with the Commission on Aging on January 29, 2014 to discuss updates on the Olmstead Plan. There was a discussion on the possibility of hiring Mr. Tony Records to review what had been done previously and how to move forward as a joint committee.

Mr. Patchett stated he and the chair of the Commission on Aging, Connie McMullen, are currently trying to get an appointment with Mr. Mike Willden to discuss Olmstead and get his approval to move forward. Mr. Patchett stated they will report back to the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities after their meeting with Mr. Willden.

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated there is a subcommittee under the Commission on Aging that is working on a strategic plan; the Chair is Connie Mc Mullen. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated there are several options for the Commission to consider:

- Update the Olmstead plan
- Update Strategic Plan for Persons with Disabilities
- Update Strategic Plan for Senior Services
- Combine all three into one update.

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated she sent Mr. Willden an email regarding the possibility of three plans that need updating, not just an Olmstead plan, and the need for funding. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated she had spoken with Mr. Tony Records about the possibility of consulting with the Commission; he stated he would be able to in April. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated the Commission needs to decide on moving forward with only updating the Olmstead plan or if they want to add both strategic plans as well. Mr. Sasser stated it would be much easier to update only the Olmstead plan rather than taking on the strategic plans as well.

- VI. Discuss, Draft and Develop Oral and or Written Testimony to be Presented to Interim Committees **(For Possible Action)**
Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Mr. Patchett stated he is working on arranging a meeting with the Chair of the Interim Committee on Child Welfare; Mr. Frierson. Mr. Frierson has not responded. Mr. Sasser stated that Ms. Coulombe is the staff person for the Interim Committee on Child Welfare. Ms. Coulombe stated she would send an email to Mr. Patchett with contact information for Mr. Patrick Guinan the analyst staffing the Interim Committee on Child Welfare.

Mr. Sasser made a motion to have a person from the Mental Health Commission, Ms. Kelly Wooldridge from Children's Mental Health, and Mr. Richard Whitley from Public and Behavioral Health Division come to the next Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities meeting to discuss working together around shared goals for improving the mental health system. Mr. Olsen made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.

- VII. Update of Policy Process for Persons with Dual Diagnosis
Chelsea Szklany, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services

This topic was not discussed due to the absence of the presenter. Mr. Patchett requested to have this item placed on the next agenda.

VIII. Agency Program Priorities for Next Biennium
Tina Gerber-Winn, Aging and Disability Services Division

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated the Home and Community Based Waiver has mandatory caseloads projections based on caseload growth, current numbers, waitlist totals, and population growth. These Caseload Evaluation Organization numbers have been sent out to the members. There is no current need to ask for more funding but there is a need to ask for modification and enhancements to caseload programs.

Mr. Sasser expressed his concerns with the Autism Treatment Assistance Program services. Mr. Sasser stated according to the Caseload Evaluation Organization numbers, it is not growing as fast as it was suppose to under the budget. Mr. Sasser stated the waitlist should be cut in half and he would like to get Medicaid involved as a payment source. Mr. Sasser stated Medicaid should cover kids getting screened for autism.

Ms. Taycher expressed her concern on the lack of services for persons who are blind. Ms. Taycher stated she was under the impression that there was an interim committee for services for persons who are blind.

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated currently there are no services for younger persons who are blind, except for a small program that the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, operates for older blind persons. The Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation is looking at offering to expand those services for older individuals.

There was a discussion on interpreter issues. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to hire a pool of interpreters for state use.

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated Aging and Disability Services is currently working on:

- Family Caregiver Relief – Respite
- Housing
- Transportation – especially in rural areas

Mr. Patchett asked Ms. Gerber-Winn to provide Ms. Bryant with this information for her subcommittee.

IX. Recommend and Develop Solutions for Interpreter Issues **(For Possible Action)**
Gary Olsen, Committee Member

Mr. Olsen stated that the issues on the report from the Subcommittee on Communication Services are:

- Interpreter Certifications
- Requirements and Enforcements of Interpreters

- Employment
- Training
- Education
- Mental Health
- Government Services
- Television Captioning

Mr. Olsen stated that he is hoping by May 2014 he will be able to bring in a few out of state experts to address the Commission regarding interpreter issues.

Mr. Sasser encouraged Mr. Olsen and the Subcommittee on Communication Services to take into account the Interim Committee's deadlines and to provide them with enough information to be able to put together their agenda and have the ability to invite the correct persons to speak at their meetings.

Mr. Sasser requested the Subcommittee on Communication Services look into the Public Utilities Commission issues and the appeal of the legal limitations on the use of the money.

Mr. Olsen made a motion for the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities to write a letter to the Interim Finance Committee from the Commission to express their opposition to the cuts. Ms. Bryant made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.

Mr. Patchett requested that Ms. Rocha create an action item for a follow up with the issues that have been brought up with the Interim Committee.

Ms. Coulombe stated the members of the Interim Committee will not take action on recommendations until the final work session meeting in June 2014. Ms. Coulombe stated the committee has an allocation of 10 recommendations. It is up to the committee what action they will take on the recommendations. Ms. Coulombe stated it would be helpful to have background information on the issues that are suggested for the committee meeting in March. Backup information is needed within the next two to three weeks. Ms. Coulombe stated in May, the committee will issue a solicitation for recommendations. Ms. Coulombe suggested submitting all recommendations and the members will decide on what action they want to take. Often time's recommendations can be combined into one bill draft request.

Mr. Patchett requested that Ms. Rocha arrange for one meeting location in person for the next Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities meeting. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated there is funding for travel for several meetings and advised that the funding was also to be used to hire Mr. Tony Records. Mr. Patchett stated he would like for everyone to meet in one location.

- X. Discussion and Recommendation of Drafting the NRS 439 Report Due to Department of Health and Human Services by June 30, 2014 **(For Possible Action)**
Tina Gerber-Winn, Aging and Disability Services Division

A draft report on NRS 439 regarding the use of tobacco funding, which was completed by the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities approximately two years ago, was emailed out to members. Final recommendations for funding are due by the end of June 2014.

There was a discussion on creating a subcommittee to meet prior to the next Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities meeting in March to come up with funding recommendations to complete the final report.

Mr. Sasser made a motion to create a subcommittee to make recommendations to bring to the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities. Mr. Olsen made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.

Ms. Bryant, Ms. Schomberg and Mr. Patchett volunteered to form the subcommittee with Ms. Bryant acting as the Chair.

XI. 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

- Discussion and Recommendations for Report Regarding the Use of Tobacco Funding.
- Follow up with the issues that have been brought up with the interim committee. Letter written for Gary
- Update of Policy Process for Persons with Dual Diagnosis
- Update on the Status of Nevada's Olmstead Plan and Possible Recommendations for Plan Revision
- Update on the Subcommittee on Communication Services
- Discuss, Draft and Develop Oral and or Written Testimony to be Presented to Interim Committees
- Mental Health Commission, Ms. Kelly Wooldridge from Children's Mental Health, and Mr. Richard Whitley to come to the next meeting to discuss working together around shared goals for improving the mental health system

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

Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Monday, March 3, 2014 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

XIII. Public Comment

Ms. Bryant passed out brochures for P2i: Path to Independence.

Ms. Bryant stated the Developmental Disabilities Council has issued a report to ask Governor Brian Sandoval to make a proclamation to make Nevada an employment first state. The Developmental Disabilities Council may ask the Commission to write a letter to the Governor asking to be in favor of employment first.

Mr. Patchett suggested looking at the new Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services rules as they relate to services for persons with intellectual disabilities and asking someone to come and present to the Commission about those changes on a future agenda.

Ms. Gerber-Winn stated in the past, three subcommittees reported to the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities, the Communication Access Committee, Traumatic Brain Injury Subcommittee, which no longer exists and the Personal Assistance Services Subcommittee, which has been inactive for some time. In attendance today, is Sherry Crance who is the subject matter expert. She is a nurse in the Community Based Care Unit who will be responsible for that program. There are currently no members on the Personal Assistance Services subcommittee. Ms. Gerber-Winn stated the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities should recommend reviving the Personal Assistance Services Subcommittee or vote that it no longer exists. Mr. Patchett suggested talking about that after the meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

Brian Patchett, Commission Chairperson

Mr. Olsen made a motion for adjournment. Mr. Sasser made a second. All in favor, none opposed. The motion carries.