



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

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MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

Name of Organization: Subcommittee on Communication Services for Persons Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (SOCS) and Persons with Speech Disabilities of the Nevada Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities (Nevada Revised Statute [NRS] 427.750)

Date and Time of Meeting: April 8, 2015
9:00 a.m.

Videoconference Location: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center
1875 Plumas St. #1
Reno, NV 89509

Videoconference Location: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center
2820 West Charleston Blvd. #11
Las Vegas, NV 89102

To join the meeting by phone, dial 1-888-251-2909 and enter the access code 8985078 when prompted. Persons in Northern Nevada requiring sign language service can call their VRS providers; give them the dial in information in order to access the meeting.

Minutes

Members present: Gary Olsen, Cindy Roller, Eli Schwartz, Julie Balderson, Angela Greer

Staff: Laura Valentine, Jill Berntson, Desiree Bennett, Marisa Shaber

Guests: Farrell Cafferata, Lisa Furr (Relay NV Hamilton), Tearra Donovan (Relay NV Hamilton), David Daviton, Jessica Ludlow, Mary Evilsizer, Tim Smalley, Jeff Beardsley,

Rita Sullivan, Amy Kuzluk, Caroline Bass, Lorina Daviton, Antoinette Lewis, Kimberly Holloway

Interpreters: Kimberley Dawson, Denise Phipps

I. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions
Gary Olsen, Chair

Mr. Olsen stated that today is a good day because many good things are happening and more are in store that will have positive impacts and changes for persons with communication and hearing loss of all ages. We have a huge challenge ahead of us and I believe that as members of the Communication Access Council we will venture into the future in different but positive ways. As we create a fundamental structure for our Council to better serve people with communication challenges, each of us need to do our share to make Nevada a better place for all people. We have already begun setting up several parameters of organization management.

For example: we have begun utilizing work groups of certain sorts, more will be proposed in time and when needed. The committee has set up timelines for future meetings ahead of time to be ahead in challenging issues. The Committee has also set up member assignments to serve in different work groups to explore, research, and bring to the table new ideas and innovations that will help overcome the various communication barriers. The committee is about to launch the five year plan to collect community members' thoughts, ideas, issues and solutions to alleviate the maladies in their communities. There will be assigned roles for the SOCS with other state agencies and organizations doing synergetic work to solve important issues and generate positive outcomes. The committee will become proactive in what is about various issues. We will become aggressive in our efforts soliciting, involving and listening to those with communication issues.

Mr. Olsen stated that the meeting will be cut short today and the rest of the agenda will be tabled to the next meeting at the end of the month. Ms. Balderson explained that there is a work session for AB200 this afternoon at the Legislature. Mr. Olsen commented that

The reason it's really important for the committee to attend is, because the last few months the committee has been working diligently with the Legislature and it's been very successful. We need to show them that we recognize their hard work and be there for them and be available if they need to ask any questions.

II. 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. Please state and spell you name for the record. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chair.)

No comments were made.

III. Approval of minutes from January 14, 2015 Meeting **(For Possible Action)**

Mr. Olsen would like future minutes to include what questions are being asked by the committee members and also to list Lisa and Tearra as representatives from relay Nevada, Hamilton. Ms. Roller made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Schwartz commented that he would like to have a further discussion at the next meeting on deaf and hard of hearing prisoners.

IV. Report from Relay Nevada Lisa Furr, Hamilton Relay

Ms. Furr presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Relay Nevada TRS Call Traffic report (Attachment A).

Mr. Schwartz asked if in the future Hamilton could report information that is separated by area code, instead of just northern and southern Nevada. Ms. Furr also explained the acronym for ASCII as presented in her presentation is a different version of a TTY.

Mr. Schwartz asked why recently the percentage in and numbers decrease. Ms. Furr explained that it was due to weather and the expansion of CapTel workstations resulting in a few growing pains. Mr. Schwartz asked if an increase of eleven phones in two months is a good or bad thing. Ms. Balderson stated that she would appreciate more historical information provided in the next presentation in order to determine any kind of trend line.

Ms. Evilsizer asked if the 1,221 CapTel phones listed are all Hamilton's.

Ms. Balderson stated yes and clarified that there are outside groups that make a business on selling the equipment. The program through ADSD provides it for free, so we tend to focus on low income users compared to people who will just buy it themselves. She stated she has no reporting about who's purchasing, just who is getting free services and also the minutes that are being used. Those minutes are not connected with a specific piece of equipment. Ms. Balderson is happy to work more with Hamilton and develop a better rapport.

Mr. Olsen commented that the Subcommittee can keep track of the numbers with a caveat that it's not including other vendors.

Mr. Smiley asked if the 1,221 CapTel phones are compliant with the FCC laws that were passed a few months ago. Ms. Furr replied yes, they are always in compliance with the FCC rules and regulations.

Ms. Donovan presented on the outreach portion of the PowerPoint (Attachment A).

Mr. Olsen asked if Hamilton could keep track of how many people are being reached through the outreach program. Mr. Schwartz offered to get Ms. Donovan in contact with a representative from Hands and Voices for collaboration and community involvement.

Mr. Olsen thanked Hamilton for all the outreach efforts and stated it is important to be exposed to the culture, community and history. A lot of people in the area are not aware.

V. Legislative Update

- AB 200
- AB 219
- SB 419
- SB 13

Gary Olsen, Chairperson

Mr. Olsen stated that at the interim finance committee meeting in July, there were discussions and suggestions made by the NVAD (Nevada Association of the Deaf) and the SOCS. The Subcommittee has been working with different stakeholders and getting people involved to really discuss what needs to change and what needs to improve. Also there are discussions on to how to get out of the PUC's grasp. The CSPD reviewed the different suggestions and agreed to support the ideas of the SOCS. The Subcommittee brought it to the interim finance committee, and they wrote a BDR. Since January, SOCS has been working with different Congress people and assemblymen James Oscarson. Mr. Olsen stated that both ADSD and the PUC are in support of AB200. He also explained that there is currently a Supreme Court case between ADSD and the PUC regarding funding of deaf centers and their activities. AB200 also deals with membership on the CSPD and its subcommittees. The Legislature agreed that ADSD staff and Nevada Telecommunication Association staff should not be voting members of the advisory board.

Mr. Olsen stated that the state must be responsible for making communication accessible all of the time. The Subcommittee is working to make the interpreter pool added as a part of AB 200. The surcharge has been capped at \$0.08, the PUC is supportive of the amount and they don't make a determination on how that money is used anymore.

Mr. Olsen clarified that there will be a work session at the Legislature this afternoon. The purpose is to watch the committee discuss the bill, there will be no testimony on behalf of the public.

AB219 is regarding interpreters in court. There needs to be clarification on the definition for deaf interpreters. There is more focus on Spanish translation than there is on specifically deaf interpreters. There needs to be clarification between certified interpreter and credentialed interpreters.

Ms. Balderson added that the next meeting the Legislature will have on AB219 is on Thursday at 8:00 a.m. Mr. Beardsley asked if there will be interpreters provided.

Ms. Balderson stated she was unsure if they will be provided, but anyone can contact Sylvia Brown at the Legislature to set one up.

SB419 is a new bill proposed by Brian Patchett in interest of having ADSD set up services that will provide and help people with disabilities including blind, deaf, and blind deaf people.

SB13 is the old bill from two years ago; AB210. The bill has passed to improve IEPs (Individualized Education Plan). There have been discussions to improve the bill language, such as "feasible" versus "appropriate". The state and school district needs to

be compliant with the federal IDEA laws. Now, students and parents have the right to choose their communication mode instead of the school.

Ms. Roller stated that continuing forward with the Department of Education; the Committee needs to work on the communication plan piece of the IEP that needs to be made stronger.

BDR 54.420, was recommended by the interpreters for establishing a board. There will be a meeting in Las Vegas on May 1st with the NVAD (Nevada Association for the Deaf). Mr. Daviton stated that all BDRs will be dead after April 10th.

AB132 is related to improving paraprofessionals.

Ms. Balderson stated that anyone can sign up for an account on the legislative website to get more information on Senate and Assembly bills and also agency budgets.

AB162 is regarding police officers wearing a video camera. This technology would also help deaf people. Mr. Olsen is meeting with the Legislature about AB162 later in the week.

The rest of the agenda was tabled to a future meeting date tentatively for May 22nd at 9:00 a.m. due to the work session meeting at the Legislature.

- VI. Discussion on Recommendations Made by the CSPD Nominating Subcommittee for Filling Vacant CSPD Subcommittee Membership Positions and Discussion and Possible Recommendations on Recruitment Efforts **(For Possible Action)**
Gary Olsen, Chairperson
- VII. Program Update
Julie Balderson
 - Relay Nevada
 - Equipment distribution program
 - Interpreter Registry
 - FY16 budget at PUC
 - FY16-17 budget at legislature
 - Annual agenda items for subcommittee quarterly meetings
- VIII. Update, Report and Possible Recommendations Relating to Working Groups and Previously Established Objectives **(For Possible Action)**
Gary Olsen, Chairperson
 - Interpreter issues
 - Education
 - Strategic plan/ Town Hall Meetings
 - Assistive Tech.
 - Open Captioning
 - Mental Health
 - Employment
- IX. Update, Report and Possible Recommendations Relating to Appointed Liaisons to Other State Advisory Groups **(For Possible Action)**
Gary Olsen, Chairperson

- Assistive Technology Council
Eli Schwartz, Subcommittee Member
- State Independent Living Council
Mike Eifert, Subcommittee Member
- Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
David Daviton
- Rehab Council
Greg Ivie, Subcommittee Member
- Department of Education Board Meetings
Cynthia Roller, Subcommittee Member

X. Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting (For Possible Action)
Gary Olsen, Chairperson

XI. Schedule Next Meeting (For Possible Action)
Gary Olsen, Chairperson

XII. 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. Please state and spell your name for the record. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chair.)

XIII. Adjournment
Gary Olsen, Chairperson

Current Subcommittee on Communication Services Members

Gary Olsen (Chairperson), Julie Balderson, Angela Greer, Cynthia Roller, Michael Eifert, Greg Ivie, and Eli Schwartz

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.

NOTE: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. ASL Interpreters will be available at the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Desiree Bennett at (775) 687-0586 as soon as possible and at least **ten** days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at dabennett@adsd.nv.gov. Supporting materials for this meeting are available at 3416 Goni Road, D-132, Carson City, NV 89706, or by contacting Desiree Bennett at 775-687-0586, or by email dabennett@adsd.nv.gov.

Agenda Posted at the Following Locations:

1. Aging and Disability Services Division, Carson City Office, 3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132, Carson City, NV 89706
2. Aging and Disability Services Division, Las Vegas Office, 1860 East Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104
3. Aging and Disability Services Division, Reno Office, 445 Apple Street, Suite 104, Reno, NV 89502
4. Aging and Disability Services Division, Elko Office, 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104, Elko, NV 89801
5. Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 6039 El Dora Street, Suite H-8, Las Vegas, NV 89101
6. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center, 2575 Westwind Rd., Suite C, Las Vegas, NV 89146
7. Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
8. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center, 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
9. Nevada State Library and Archives, 100 North Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89706

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet at: <http://www.nvaging.net/> and <https://notice.nv.gov/>

