



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 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: October 17, 2014
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Videoconference Location: Nevada Public Utilities Commission
1150 E. William Street, Room B
Carson City, NV 89706
775-684-4215

Videoconference Location Nevada Public Utilities Commission
9075 W. Diablo Drive Suite, 250 Room B
Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
702-486-7206

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.

DRAFT Minutes

Members present: Gary Olsen, Angela Greer, Cindy Roller, Julie Balderson, Greg Ivie, Eli Schwartz, Mike Eifert.

Guests: Lisa Furr (Hamilton Relay), Tearra Donovan (Hamilton Relay), Farrell Cafferata-Jenkins (DHHARC), Jesse Palmer (Carson City School District), Cherie Valentine (Carson City School District), Rex Bosier (PUC), Cristina Zuniga (PUC),

Jack Mayes (NDALC), Jeff Beardsley, Linda Anderson (AG), Khalilah White (SNCIL), Jim Whitzel (SNCIL), Jermaine Grubbs (PUC), Mary Evilsizer (SNCIL).

Interpreters: Kimberly Dawson, Andrea Juillerat-Olvera, Denise Phipps (CART)

Staff: Laura Valentine (ADSD), Desiree Bennett (ADSD)

I. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions

Gary Olsen, Chair

Mr. Olsen explained the reason for rescheduling the Subcommittee on Communication Services for Persons Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Persons with Speech Disabilities (SOCS) meeting from October 3rd was to allow more people to be involved. Mr. Olsen stated that it is the mission of the Subcommittee to enhance open and honest communication among all people in Nevada who have a speech impairment or hearing disability. It is also important to remember that this body is representing people in the community and has an obligation to get them involved when discussing ideas that affect them. Mr. Olsen announced that Ms. Balderson will be taking care of the election portion of the agenda.

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.)

Mr. Daviton stated that on October 18th there will be a subcommittee meeting to discuss interpreter issues, but it will be out of town. Mr. Daviton asked if there will be a second meeting in the North or in the Rural counties so he can participate.

Mr. Olsen commented that the meeting on the 18th is a working group of the SOCS, and if it is successful, there will be another meeting in the north.

Mr. Beardsley stated that there is a responsibility at these kinds of outreach events to setup booths with SNCIL (Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living) equipment. He stated that demonstrations of equipment has been missing from previous events and people are wondering how to get equipment.

Ms. Cafferata-Jenkins stated that DHHARC (Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center) is not attending those events because of an agreement with SNCIL. SNCIL has agreed to attend community events and DHHARC will be available to distribute equipment from their offices.

Ms. Donovan spoke on behalf of Hamilton Relay services, that she has been attending different community outreach events but was unaware of the Interpreter Issues Workgroup meeting on the 18th.

Mr. Whitzel stated that November 18th is the 23rd annual Disability Awareness day, in which SNCIL will be advocating for outreach for the deaf and hard of hearing

community. Tables will be set up with all the equipment, brochures and flyers of SNCIL, NNCIL and DHHARC.

Ms. Evilsizer stated that she would like everyone to attend the Disability Awareness Day. She has sent out a mass e-mail with over 500 invitations. She also stated that SNCIL is pulling together a networking group which will involve Nevada Relay, Clark County School District, DHHARC, audiologists, and Nevada Advocacy and Law Center. SNCIL would like to create a coalition that can be on top of outreach demonstrations and pull resources, especially in the rural areas. It is important to ensure that everyone who needs equipment is informed and has access to it.

Mr. Beardsley asked the Subcommittee who is responsible for replacing any broken equipment, for example, TTYs in the prisons or detention centers.

Mr. Olsen stated that most likely, the agencies that are dealing with and distributing the equipment would be responsible for the replacement.

Mr. Daviton asked if the Subcommittee has done any research on new technology coming out that is a text to voice. It is technology being tested by Andriod and Apple that could possibly replace interpreters one day. Mr. Olsen asked Mr. Daviton to bring more information to the Subcommittee to address at a future.

III. Approval of the Minutes from the July 28, 2014 Meeting (For Possible Action)
Staff, Aging and Disability Services Division

Mr. Eifert made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the July 23rd meeting with corrections. Ms. Greer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IV. Elections of Chair and Vice Chair (For Possible Action)
Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson

Ms. Balderson stated that the Subcommittee needs to formally elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Mr. Olsen was the only member nominated as Chairperson.

Ms. Greer recognized Mr. Olsen for all his hard work on the Subcommittee and made a motion to elect Gary Olsen Chairperson of the SOCS. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ms. Greer nominated herself for SOCS Vice Chairperson. Ms. Roller seconded the motion. Motion passed.

V. Report on Legislative Committee on Seniors, Veterans, and Adults with Special Needs Work Session from the August 15, 2014
Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson

Mr. Olsen stated that he has been meeting with Jon Sasser from the CSPD and the Legislative Committee on Veterans, Senior Citizens, and Adults with Special Needs to discuss different issues in Nevada and changing laws. Six different points of concern were established and recommended to the Legislative Committee. Mr.

Olsen referenced the list of recommendations (attachment A), and explained the process of a Bill Draft Request (BDR). Mr. Olsen stated that a few issues are missing, such as interpreting issues and the need for an upgrade.

Ms. Balderson clarified that not all the recommendations made by this Subcommittee made it in to the Legislative Committee's work session document. The two BDR's that came out, is one regarding what Deaf Centers can do with the surcharge money and the second, is having to do with the oversight of interpreter occupational regulation in the state.

Mr. Schwartz asked what the purpose is for the different support letters listed on the document (attachment A).

Ms. Balderson stated that the letter to the Department of Health and Human Services is asking for support for additional positions within the Bureau of Healthcare Quality and Compliance for the purpose of conducting inspections of medical and other related facilities.

Mr. Eifert expressed concerns about the SOCS work group meeting on interpreter issues taking place in Las Vegas on October 18th. He stated concerns with the compliance of Open Meeting Law, funding and concern that the SOCS as a committee did not appoint the workgroup.

Mr. Olsen commented that the Workgroup on Interpreter Issues was meant to parallel the Wireless Workgroup meeting.

Ms. Anderson clarified that there was no violation of Open Meeting Law in the case of establishing an interpreter issues workgroup.

The Subcommittee discussed what decisions the Chairperson can make on behalf of the Committee. Mr. Olsen stated that in setting up the work group meeting in Las Vegas, Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) did raise questions and did investigate the matter. ADSD agreed to move forward with the workgroup meeting.

Mr. Eifert said that the agenda for the workgroup meeting states the meeting is about advocacy and lobbying efforts to improve the bills that are before the Legislature. Based on the PUC's order of last year, advocacy and lobbying cannot be paid for from the TTD surcharge and therefore the workgroup meeting cannot be financed by monies from the TTD program.

Ms. Anderson clarified that the funding of the meeting can be decided after the Supreme Court decision.

VI. Appoint Working Groups and Establish Objectives (For Possible Action)

Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson

- Interpreter issues
- Education
- Strategic plan

Ms. Balderson stated that as far as the interpreter workgroup objectives, there is a BDR that proposes establishing an advisory board specifically to oversee the interpreter registry portion of ADSD's programs. The reason this BDR was developed is because there were quite a few interpreters in the south that got together and expressed serious dissatisfaction with the way ADSD is executing NRS 656 A, which is

the interpreter oversight chapter. The Committee discussed what items are included on the Interpreter Issues Workgroup agenda for October 18th. One specific objective for discussion is the dissatisfaction with the statute that deals with occupational regulations for interpreters. The second is to report and create public discussion on the current bill draft request, which includes the establishment of an interpreter advisory board.

Ms. Balderson clarified for the Subcommittee that the TDD surcharge pays for equipment distribution, deaf centers and also the administrative work overseeing the interpreter registry, carrying out 656 A.

The third objective for the workgroup meeting is to discuss the current recommendations from the Subcommittee on Communication Services to the Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities. The last topic is a report and public discussion on a state agency interpreter pool budget concept and financing.

Mr. Schwartz made a motion to accept the objectives discussed as agenda topics for the Interpreters Workgroup meeting on October 18th. Ms. Roller made an amendment to the motion, asking that the workgroup also meet in the north. Ms. Greer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Olsen formally appointed Ms. Greer as the leader for the Interpreter Issues Workgroup. He appointed Ms. Roller to lead the Education Workgroup and Ms. Balderson and Mr. Eifert to continue to work on the Wireless Workgroup. Himself and Ms. Balderson will lead the Strategic Planning meeting. Mr. Olsen appointed Mr. Schwartz to lead the Assistive Technology and Equipment Workgroup. Mr. Olsen stated that at the next SOCS meeting in December, there will be a more in depth discussion on the responsibilities and objectives for each workgroup.

VII. Discussion and Possible Approval of Bylaws (For Possible Action)

Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson

Mr. Eifert thanked Ms. Anderson for her help on finalizing the bylaws. Mr. Eifert would like to amend the bylaws regarding page 4 article 3, section 1, paragraph A to state "for the purposes of a regular meeting, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the voting members". Ms. Anderson also suggested amending page 4, article 3, section 5, where it states "if a quorum is not present, the chair may adjourn the meeting, recess the meeting or take measures to obtain a quorum", to end the sentence there. Ms. Roller made a motion to accept the amended bylaws. Mr. Schwartz seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VIII. Appoint Liaisons to Other State Advisory Groups (For Possible Action)

Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson

- Assistive Technology Council
- State Independent Living Council
- Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Rehab Council
- Department of Education Board Meetings

221 Mr. Olsen stated that it is important for members of the SOCS to attend other meetings
222 outside of CSPD. He will assign Subcommittee members to attend other state advisory
223 group meetings and bring information back for discussion.
224 Mr. Schwartz- Assistive Technology
225 Mr. Eifert- Independent Living Council
226 Mr. Daviton- Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
227 Mr. Ivie- Department of Education Board meetings
228 Ms. Roller- Nevada Early Intervention Services
229
230

231 IX. Report from Wireless Working Group and Possible Action on Development of
232 Wireless Option (For Possible Action)
233 Julie Balderson, Aging and Disability Services Division
234 Mike Eifert, Subcommittee Member
235

236 Ms. Balderson stated that she is looking forward to working with Mike and other
237 partners in the community who are involved in the equipment distribution program to
238 see what can be done to better serve this population.

239 Mr. Eifert stated that there was a very good discussion that came out of the public
240 meeting and that there are a lot of other organizations that are interested helping with
241 cell phone use in the community. He asked if the Committee feels comfortable enough
242 with this to now approach the process of putting a docket together to engage the Public
243 Utilities Commission.

244 Ms. Grubb, assistant staff council for the PUC, answered that the Committee could put
245 a separate docket together, maybe a petition for an advisory opinion or a declaratory
246 order.

247 Ms. Balderson suggested that herself and Mr. Eifert discuss the issue a little further
248 before acting on anything.
249

250 X. Review and Possible Approval of Equipment Distribution Consumer Satisfaction
251 Survey (For Possible Action)
252 Julie Balderson, ADSD
253

254 The Subcommittee decided to change the look of the Equipment Distribution
255 Consumer Satisfaction Surveys to a bigger size and added a contrasting black text on
256 a yellow background. The Committee also discussed addressing issues like internet
257 based surveys and adding different languages. Mr. Schwartz made a motion to accept
258 the size and color discussed for the mailed survey program. Ms. Roller seconded the
259 motion. Motion passed.
260

261 XI. Discussion and Possible Establishment of Priorities for State Fiscal Year 2016
262 Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) Budget Priorities (For Possible Action)
263 Julie Balderson, ADSD
264

265 Ms. Balderson stated the reason for this agenda item is that the annual docket is due
266 November 15th. Some priorities that are important to discuss is the equipment
267 distribution grant and the funding that is established for it. She stated that today, the

268 fiscal 2014 actuals showed that the grantee last year didn't draw almost \$200,000 of
269 their grant funding that was authorized to use. She believes that that money would be
270 enough to cover the staff to oversee the interpreter registry, that was discussed in the
271 July meeting. When the PUC pulled or disallowed advocacy services, it left all this
272 authority to spend and no allowable activity to match it with the advocacy. ADSD did
273 ask for separate non TDD funds for a five-year plan and for advocacy and it will have to
274 go through the legislative process.

275 Mr. Eifert clarified that the money that is in reserve is not set aside for wireless. Ms.
276 Balderson stated that the Subcommittee will need to discuss what it would cost
277 feasibility for a wireless program and include it in the docket separately.

278

279 XII. Report from Equipment Distribution Program

280 Julie Balderson, ADSD

281 Ms. Balderson stated that the new grantees are working hard on some new outreach
282 approaches.

283

284 XIII. Report From Relay Nevada

285 Lisa Furr, Hamilton Relay

286 Ms. Furr presented a PowerPoint presentation on Relay Nevada (attachment B). Ms.
287 Furr and Ms. Donovan asked the members to inform them of any events that they would
288 like Hamilton to present at.

289 Ms. Roller stated that every year the State of Nevada has a State Speech and
290 Language Pathology Conference that usually switches between the north and the south.
291 The next conference will be in Las Vegas, but then it will come back to Reno. It would
292 be a good opportunity to reach out to the Nevada speech and language
293 community. She also recommended a presentation be held at the Governor's Council
294 on Developmental Disabilities Statewide Conference in July for all people with
295 disabilities in Reno.

296 Mr. Olsen invited Hamilton to join the next SOCS meeting in December.

297

298 XIV. Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting (For Possible Action)

299 Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson

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301 The Subcommittee discussed items to include on the next meeting agenda.

302 Report from Relay

303 Report on the budget

304 Report from Equipment Distribution Programs

305 Subcommittee Membership

306 Update and report from the appointed liaisons to State Advisory groups

307 Discuss wireless bridge devices

308

309 XV. Schedule Next Meeting (For Possible Action)

310 Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson

311

312 The next SOCS meeting is scheduled for December 4th in Las Vegas.

313XVI. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the
314 matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Please state and spell your name for
315 the record. Public comment may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chair.)
316

317 Ms. Roller commented that her ten year old son, Carson was accepted for the
318 People to People Ambassador program and is raising money to fund the trip. He is
319 selling shirts, stickers, buttons and posters he designed and made. He is a
320 ten-year-old boy who is deaf, wears cochlear implants, and he's determined that he
321 can do this and is going to travel on his own.
322

323 Mr. Beardsley stated that he will be in Reno for the voters rights presentation.
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326XVII. Adjournment

327 Gary Olsen, Acting Chairperson
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329 Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.
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338 Current Subcommittee on Communication Services Members

339 Gary Olsen (Acting Chairperson), Julie Balderson, Angela Greer, Cynthia Roller, Michael Eifert, Greg Ivie, and Eli
340 Schwartz
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342 NOTE: Items may be considered out of order. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for
343 consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the
344 agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public
345 comments but may not restrict comments based upon viewpoint.
346

347 **NOTE:** We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and
348 wish to attend the meeting. ASL Interpreters will be available at the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting
349 are necessary, please notify Desiree Bennett at (775) 687-0586 as soon as possible and at least **ten** days in advance
350 of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at dabennett@adsd.nv.gov. Supporting materials for this meeting are
351 available at 3416 Goni Road, D-132, Carson City, NV 89706, or by contacting Desiree Bennett at 775-687-0586, or
352 by email dabennett@adsd.nv.gov.
353

354 ***Agenda Posted at the Following Locations:***

- 355
- 356 1. Aging and Disability Services Division, Carson City Office, 3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132, Carson City, NV 89706
 - 357 2. Aging and Disability Services Division, Las Vegas Office, 1860 East Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104
 - 358 3. Aging and Disability Services Division, Reno Office, 445 Apple Street, Suite 104, Reno, NV 89502
 - 359 4. Aging and Disability Services Division, Elko Office, 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104, Elko, NV 89801
 - 360 5. Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 6039 El Dora Street, Suite H-8, Las Vegas, NV 89101
 - 361 6. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center, 2575 Westwind Rd., Suite C, Las Vegas, NV 89146
 - 362 7. Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
 - 363 8. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advocacy Resource Center, 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
 - 364 9. Nevada State Library and Archives, 100 North Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89706

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

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