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**Minutes**

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission for Persons Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing - Employment Workgroup (Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 427.750)

Date and Time of Meeting: January 10, 2020  
10:30 am

This meeting will be a Video Conference between the following:

Las Vegas: Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation  
3016 W. Charleston Blvd. Suite 200  
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Reno: Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation  
1325 Corporate Blvd,  
Reno NV 89502

Sign language interpreters will be available at both locations, and CART will be accessible by following this link:

<https://captionsunlimited.1capapp.com/event/adsd>

According to NRS 241.020, Meeting Materials are Available at:

[http://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/NCPWADHHSI/Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired/](http://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/NCPWADHHSI/Nevada_Commission_for_Persons_Who_Are_Deaf_Hard_of_Hearing_or_Speech_Impaired/)

**Minutes**

1. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions:

Eli Schwartz, Commission Chair

Laura Fink, commission member, also present.

Las Vegas Attendees: Sal Fiorentino, Laura Thompson, Aimee Matts, Tim Smalley, Lance Ledet, Donna Kowalski, Randy Nance, Purite Williams, Erica Brown

Reno Attendees: Tammy Riley, Sandra Mitchell, Obioma Officer, Tessa Pearce

2. **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 five minutes per person at the discretion of the chair.)

Eli Schwartz, Commission Chair

N/A

3. **Discussion and Possible Recommendations on the Strategic Plan Objective 1.4 Employment of Nevadans who are Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing and those with a Speech Disability. (For Possible Action)**

- **Recruitment**
  - 1.4.2. BVR case management system was upgraded in April 2019 (AWARE) to allow for better data tracking and federal reporting with the intent to improve employment outcomes for all clients. The BVR Business Development Team (BDT) has helped register and process the 700 hour program candidates for state jobs. There are some reports of employer misunderstanding of the purpose for retention that may warrant suggestions to emphasize reeducation and clarification on the 700 hour program. BDT staffing and administration has recently shifted and restructured, so under new management, this outreach with employers may already be on the agenda
  - Deaf Centers of Nevada has employment specialists that are developing inroads with BVR and JobConnect collaboration for employer outreach. It has been noted that some employers have been resistant in providing communication access to D/HH individuals. Greater coordination time is needed for service access outside of Las Vegas valley.
- **Partnership**
  - 1.4.3. In addition to the partners/parties listed, the workgroup participants suggested the following entities be considered as resources and possible active participants in future Commission workgroup discussions: NV Partners, Metro Chamber of Commerce, Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living, Truckee Community College, Nevada Disability Advocacy Law Center (Reno, Elko, LV), University of Nevada - Reno, Western Nevada College, University of Nevada - Las Vegas, College of Southern Nevada, and the job developer companies registered with the state.
- **Outreach Education**
  - 1.4.4. Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) recently established a local chapter in Las Vegas (December 2019). Raising awareness and education are core foundations of HLAA chapter groups. DCN has a unit for assistive technology outreach and support that helps enhance the lives of D/HH Nevadans through service and equipment provision through a grant.

Eli Schwartz, Commission Chair

4. **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 five minutes per person at the discretion of the chair.)

N/A

5. **Adjournment**  
Eli Schwartz, Commission Chair

**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 Carole Hanley at (702) 486-9765 as soon as possible and at least **ten business days** in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at [clhanley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:clhanley@adsd.nv.gov). Supporting materials for this meeting are available at 1860 E. Sahara, Las Vegas, NV 89104, or by contacting Carole Hanley at (702)-486-9765, or by email [clhanley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:clhanley@adsd.nv.gov)

**Note:** To provide a safe environment for Aging and Disability Services Division meetings, please refrain from wearing perfume, scented hairspray, cologne, scented deodorant, essential oils, aftershave, or any other scented products when you attend.

Scented products contain chemicals which can cause migraines, nausea and even breathing problems for people with asthma, allergies, and environmental illness.

NO Scents is Good Sense! If you are unsure if a product is safe to wear, a good rule of thumb is to just not wear it.

### **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, 9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 200 Reno, NV 89521
4. Aging and Disability Services Division, Elko Office, 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104, Elko, NV 89801
5. Nevada Community Enrichment Program, 6375 West Charleston Boulevard, Ste. L200 Las Vegas, NV 89146
6. Southern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 6039 El Dora Street H-8, Las Vegas, NV 89101
7. Disability Resource Center, So. E. Greg St., Suite 102 Sparks, NV 89431
8. Nevada State Library and Archives, 100 North Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89706
9. Desert Regional Center, 1391 South Jones Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89146
10. Sierra Regional Center, 605 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Reno, NV 89431
11. Rural Regional Center, 1665 Old Hot Springs Road, Carson City, NV 89706
12. Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
13. Dept. of Health and Human Services, 4126 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706
14. Early Intervention Services, 2667 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512
15. Deaf Centers of Nevada, 6490 S. McCarran Blvd. Bldg. F Suite 46&47 Reno, NV 89509
16. Deaf Centers of Nevada, 3120 S. Durango Drive, Ste. 301 Las Vegas, NV 89117

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