



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

Administrative Office  
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RICHARD WHITLEY  
*Director*

JANE GRUNER  
*Administrator*

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
*Governor*

**Draft Minutes**

Name of Organization: Nevada Assistive Technology Council (AT Council)

Date and Time of Meeting: April 14, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held and video conferenced at the following locations:

Reno: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center  
1875 Plumas St., Suite 1  
Reno, NV 89509  
775-333-7878

Las Vegas: Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center  
2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 11  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
702-257-8150

To join this meeting by phone, dial 1-888-251-2909 then enter Access Code 8985078 when prompted.

Meeting Materials Available at: <http://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/ATCouncil/Agendas/>

1. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Ms. Keith called the Roll.

Members: Frieda Aizenman, NFB; Hentjie Apag, NNCIL; Havander Davis, Parent; Thomas Kearns TMCC/NFB; John Rosenlund, ADSD; Scott Youngs, NCEDS UNR EDU,

Absent: Victoria Essner; Jesse Leaman; Michelle Merrill; Brian Patchett; Scott Sauer; Rena Smith

Guest: Christie Heins-Coats, NDE; Rique Robb, ADSD; Tanya Keith, ADSD, George McKinlay, NCEDS UNR EDU

The Meeting was called to order at 2:14 pm. Mr. Rosenlund noted that in a prior meeting it was determined that Ms. Rena Smith was no long a member having missed 3 consecutive meetings and is no long on the AT Council. Mr. Youngs confirmed.

A quorum was verified present.

2. Verification of Open Meeting Postings  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Ms. Keith verified the notice was posted in compliance with Open Meeting laws.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 8, 2015 Meeting (For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Kearns motioned to accept the December 8, 2015 Minutes, with no changes. Mr. Rosenlund seconded. Motion passed unanimously

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.)

No members of the public chose to comment at this time.

5. Update from the Statewide Website Accessibility Taskforce and Possible Recommendations on Improving the Accessibility of State Websites (For Possible Action)
  - SWAT Letter Approval  
Thomas Kearns, TMCC and the National Federation of the Blind

Mr. Kearns reported the recommendation to the AT Council from the SWAT Subcommittee was a letter that was revised several times. (Attachment A)

Ms. Aizenman observed a grammatical error in the recommended document. In the second sentence that reads “able utilize the same” and should say “able to utilize the same”.

Mr. McKinley clarified this letter changed from a complaint-based letter that was demanding change; to a letter of requests offering assistance in creating web accessible resources for existing assistive technology to use as a destination. They are looking for the best possible technology to be released in the assistive technology field, have found there are very few places for that technology to go. This is an issue that has gone back over 20+ years and this letter outlines what is needed to allow the technology to not be held back any longer.

Mr. Youngs read a drafted introduction to the letter, “On behalf of the Statewide Assistive Technology Council (AT Council), its members and consumers with disabilities; we are writing to inform you of an important issue that has a desperate impact on the lives of Nevadan’s with disabilities. After years of discussion, research

and feedback regarding the state offered web based programs and services, as well as other types of information and communication technologies. We insist that people with disabilities should expect to be able to utilize the same convenient, user-friendly accessible technologies their family, friends and co-workers are currently using...” Then in the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph, where the proposed letter says, “all websites; electronic information and other communication technology services; offered by the State of Nevada conform to the widely adopted web accessibility standards (WCAG 2.0 AA) at a minimum”...

The group discussed briefly adding a number to the conclusion that reflects an approximate number of Nevadans being affected by the web accessibility. This suggestion was discarded for fear it would be misread as a number of complaints, not just a representation of the disabled citizens in the State.

Then the conclusion would go on to read,” The AT Council on behalf of the assistive technology users in the State of Nevada, are looking forward to collaborating with you for a solution. “

Mr. Rosenlund requests a draft made (See Attachment B), and available to read as one document. Mr. Kearns agrees, and says he would like to allow public comment made on the document before it goes to the Governor.

Mr. Rosenlund made a motion to draft the letter as discussed today in the meeting, and as agreed upon by the quorum of members; and to bring the letter back before the next meeting of the full AT Council for a full review at that time. Ms. Aizenman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion and Possible Recommendations to the AT Council Membership and Possible Council Elections (For Possible Action)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Youngs asked Mr. Rosenlund to review which members are terming out and what needs to be done to continue being in compliance with the AT Act. He spoke about the various lists ADSD is responsible for. He spoke of changes within the agency, and he requests a little additional time to verify the information being requested, as it could be used for voting new members, renewing any appointments' etc... He has suggested the council consider it become a standing agenda item.

Mr. Kearns inquired on Term limits, and if periods of inactivity due to subcommittee could halt the time earned in the term Limit. Mr. Rosenlund verified that the AT Council is held by term limits. Mr. Rosenlund explained the rules around membership. Mr. Kearns requests that the rules reflect the periods of inactivity and that those periods do not count against the term limits. Mr. Kearns said that he has been on other councils where the term limits did not include the periods of inactivity; and wishes the rules could reflect true participation. He suggested if the rules could not be changed, then perhaps

the AT Council work on more than one topic at a time, so to minimize the periods of inactivity

Mr. Youngs suggested that this topic be tabled until the next meeting to give ADSD time to review membership data.

7. Discussion and Possible Determination of Issues and Agenda Items to be Considered or Deliberated at the Next Meeting (**For Possible Action**)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Rosenlund requested the a brief on the Nevada Assistive Technology Collaboration as a refresher for Council Members in regards to what the goals and mandates are, what reports does the Council need, how the AT Program works, and what the legal requirements are in compliance with the Assistive Technology Act, such as:

“AT Act Program Updates

- State Leadership
- Position Paper and Strategic Plan: outlines the priorities of the Council
- Information presentation on what the council Is, does and how it relates to the AT Act
- Letter to the Governor for Web Accessibility
- AT Device Loans across the State – Presentation

“AT Collaborative Updates” –Presentation

- Providers, Administrators and Participant reports

Final Draft of the Letter to the Governor

- Mr. Kearns asked if he could give a report on a meeting with Shannon Rahming

8. Confirm next meeting Date (**For Possible Action**)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

It was requested that Ms. Keith send out a Doodle Poll to schedule the next AT Council meeting, 30 days hence, and to secure a the conference room at NDALC if they are available.

9. 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)

No public members spoke at this time.

10. Adjournment (**For Possible Action**)  
Scott Youngs, Chairperson

Mr. Rosenlund motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kearns Seconded the motion. After a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM

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.

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**Current Assistive Technology Council Members**

Scott Youngs (Chairperson), Frida Aizenman, Hentjie Apag, Havander Davis, Victoria Essner, Thomas Kearns, Jesse Leaman, Mechelle Merrill, Brian Patchett, John Rosenlund, Scott Sauer

**NOTE:** We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Tanya Keith at (775) 687-0551 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at [tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov). Supporting materials for this meeting are available at: 3416 Goni Road, #D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Tanya Keith at (775) 687-0551 or by email at [tanyakeith@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:tanyakeith@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, 2950 S. Rainbow Blvd., #220, N. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146
  6. Disability Resources, 50 E. Greg St Suite 102, Sparks, NV 89431
  7. Nevada State Library and Archives, 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89701
  8. Desert Regional Center, 1391 So. Jones Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89146
  9. Sierra Regional Center, 605 South 21<sup>st</sup> St., Reno, NV 89431
  10. Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center, 1875 Plumas St., #1, Reno, NV 89509
  11. Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center, 2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 11, Las Vegas, NV 89102
  12. Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living, 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
  13. Department of Health and Human Services, 4126 Technology Way, Carson City, NV 89706
  14. Bureau of Vocational Rehab, 1325 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502
  15. Rebuilding All Goals Efficiently, 2901 El Camino Ave., Suite 201, Las Vegas, NV 89102
- Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet: <http://www.adsd.nv.gov/> and <https://notice.nv.gov>

*(Attachment A)*

## Draft Recommendation from the SWAT Subcommittee

Due to Consumer and the Assistive Technology Council Member's Concerns, we are writing to inform you of this important issue. We found that people with disabilities expect to be able utilize the same convenient user-friendly accessible technologies their family, friends and co-workers are already using.

There are clear benefits for both state entities and to citizens when services are offered electronically. Therefore, it is essential such services be accessible and based on universal design principles—so that people with disabilities can use their existing accessible technologies to utilize these services.

We respectfully request that all electronic information services for the State of Nevada conform to the widely adopted Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0 AA) at minimum. Furthermore, to ensure existing and new services can meet accessibility and usability standards we urge the State of Nevada to formalize accessibility within the procurement process. The National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) developed the Policy Driven Adoption for Accessibility process that ensures accessibility is integral in the consideration process. We urge its adoption.

Formal recognition of accessibility standards combined with procurement policies incorporating accessibility will have a significant and positive impact on accessibility and usability for all citizens of Nevada. Therefore, the AT Council is looking forward to your position to address these concerns.

Glossary and links

[WCAG 2.0 AA](#) **Web Content Accessibility Guidelines**

[ARIA](#) **Accessible Rich Internet Applications Working Group**

[WCAG2ICT](#) **Guidance on Applying WCAG 2.0 to Non-Web Information and Communications Technologies**

[ATAG](#) **Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines 2.0**

To ensure that web content tools are both accessible to authors with disabilities (Part A) and encourage the production of accessible content (Part B).

NASCIO National Association of State Chief Information Officers **Accessibility in IT Procurement**

*(Attachment B)*

## Final draft, pending AT Council Approval

On behalf of the Statewide Assistive Technology Council (AT Council), its members and consumers with disabilities; we are writing to inform you of an important issue that has a desperate impact on the lives of Nevadan's with disabilities. After years of discussion, research and feedback regarding the state offered web based programs and services, as well as other types of information and communication technologies, we insist that people with disabilities should expect to be able to utilize the same convenient user-friendly accessible technologies their family, friends and co-workers are already using.

There are clear benefits for both state entities and to citizens when services are offered electronically. Therefore, it is essential such services be accessible and based on universal design principles—so that people with disabilities can use their existing accessible technologies to utilize these services.

We respectfully request that all websites; electronic information and other communication technology services; offered by the State of Nevada conform to the widely adopted web accessibility standards (WCAG 2.0 AA) at a minimum

Furthermore, to ensure existing and new services can meet accessibility and usability standards we urge the State of Nevada to formalize accessibility within the procurement process. The National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) developed the Policy Driven Adoption for Accessibility process that ensures accessibility is integral in the consideration process. We urge its adoption.

Formal recognition of accessibility standards combined with procurement policies incorporating accessibility will have a significant and positive impact on accessibility and usability for all citizens of Nevada. The AT Council on behalf of the assistive technology users in the State of Nevada, are looking forward to collaborating with you for a solution.