



MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders

Date and Time of Meeting: January 12, 2021 3:30 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Commission members will be attending telephonically and via Microsoft TEAMS. Members of the public will also participate via teleconference

Call to Order/Roll Call

Ms. Lozano called the meeting for the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders to order at 3:33 pm.

Members Present: Trisha Lozano, Antonina Capurro, Lenise Kryk, Julie Ostrovsky, Ritzie Gratrix, James Howells

A quorum was declared.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of the Minutes from the December 22, 2020 Meeting (For Possible Action)

Mr. Howells made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Ostrovsky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Presentation from Nevada Department of Education on data presented to Commission

Ms. Lozano said that they were unable to schedule the Nevada Department of Education for this meeting but will work to make sure they are scheduled in the near future.

Discussion and Finalization of the Biennium Report to the Governor's Office (Make recommendations / For Possible Action)

Ms. Lozano stated that she plugged in the data to the letter and made sure both letters were combined in to one.

Ms. Frischmann stated that she did update the numbers and changed the wording because they do not have the numbers from the national BACB but did pull the numbers from the Nevada Board of Applied Behavior Analyst, that is what they got licensed and then all the Medicaid numbers as of 12-21-2020.

Ms. Chalupnik shared the most recent letter and the commission members worked together and made edits live to the report to finalize. The report with the edits can be found on the ADSD website.

Mr. Howells made a motion to approve the letter the way it is with minor formatting changes to then send to the governor. Ms. Gratrix seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Lozano stated that she will format the letter, put it on letterhead, sign it and get it off to the governor.

Workgroup Updates to Include Discussion and Possible Approval of Strategies Addressing the Lifespan of People Diagnosed with Autism (for possible action)

Ms. Lozano reminded everyone that the workgroups consist of no more than two commission members and it is not subject to Open Meeting Law if it is established for research. The workgroups can have outside participants who are not members of the board/commission without limitation. Ms. Lozano continued that it is the chair's responsibility to make sure that the workgroup remains within compliance of Open Meeting Law. Looking at that, Ms. Lozano wanted to bring to the commission an agenda for the workgroups so Ms. Lozano can help and make sure there is a formalized process that falls within Open Meeting Law. This will consist of who is in attendance and what is going on in the workgroup.

Ms. Ostrovsky did not realize that they could not listen in, participate, or take an active role, so she thanked Ms. Lozano for clarifying.

Ms. Lozano clarified that workgroups are not subject to Open Meeting Law; However, they must remain in compliance with Open Meeting Law.

Ms. Lozano asked that the workgroups provide her with the following after each meeting since she cannot attend the meetings: The minutes, when the meeting started and ended, who was in attendance and basic things that were talked about.

Ms. Ostrovsky and Ms. Kryk asked if there cannot be more than two commission members assigned to the workgroup or in attendance to the workgroup?

Ms. Lozano will need to ask for clarification on that.

Ms. Lozano asked for help with the Workforce Development workgroup as she has not been able to give to this group that is deserved to it. Ms. Lozano does not feel like she can continue as she is very busy, so she asked if anyone else from the commission

would like to fill in for her to help. She will continue to try and do it as she already committed to it, but she just wanted to through that out there as an opportunity and if anyone is interested, to contact Ms. Capurro as she is the chair of the Workforce Development workgroup.

Ms. Kryk feels like both Insurance and Funding workgroup and the Workforce Development workgroup go hand in hand, so she asked if any two commission members can be a part of these meetings?

Ms. Frischmann stated that for the next commission meeting they will have a DAG present to answer all questions.

Ms. Lozano stated that the workgroups can continue with their meetings with the same two commission members and a post meeting update that consist of the minutes, when the meeting started and ended, who was in attendance and the topics that were discussed.

Ms. Kryk gave an update on the Insurance and Funding workgroup. They are currently trying to contact legislatures to see if any can include us in any BDR's for the following: The Medicaid 6%, the age cap, and the monetary cap.

Ms. Kryk asked if there were any ideas or ways to get out there for people who are affected by some of these things? She would like to get the community more involved, but just does not know how.

Ms. Ostrovsky suggested to blast it on the listserv. Ms. Ostrovsky also mentioned that reaching out to legislatures knowing that you are a constituent and can be a resource is always helpful. Just building the relationships and initial contact cannot hurt.

Ms. Kryk said that a couple of the workgroup members are putting together an easy checklist of things that someone could call or some bullet points that can be included in an email in addition to anything that is personal. This may be something to streamline and make it easy for people to participate in, but then again it comes back to getting it out, as she is not sure who all is on the listserv.

Ms. Frischmann stated that the listserv originally came from every licensed or registered provider that the board did have emails for. Members of the public are absolutely included on that, but there is not a list of everyone that has signed up for the listserv. Ms. Frischmann encourages to have people sign up to the ABA listserv that is located on the ABA site.

Ms. Gratrix stated that she does have a contact in the Autism family community, and she knows that they have a mailing list of parents that are motivated.

Ms. Lozano stated that the Workforce workgroup did not get a chance to meet, so she does not have an update on this workgroup.

Legislative Updates to Include General Discussion and Approval of Commission Strategies to Introduce or Propose Legislative Recommendations to Legislators (For Possible Action)

Ms. Ostrovsky said that they have been reaching out to legislators who have Medicaid legislation to possibly insert some language. They are currently trying to revert the 6%, which will be a challenge. Ms. Ostrovsky continued, as far as the age cap and monetary cap, they are not asking for more money but more access and may have a better opportunity that way. At this time, they have not been contacted to help with any formal language.

Ms. Ostrovsky ask Ms. Frischmann if she can clarify if agencies were asked to take an additional 12% cut?

Ms. Frischmann answered yes. The Governor's State of the State is on the 19th at 6pm and the budget will be released then.

ATAP Updates

Ms. Jayme stated that she does not have a presentation at this time due to the change in meeting dates but gave an update on SB174, the legislative audit related to autism services: On Thursday, the audit subcommittee will be presenting the audit information and after the presentation the audit report will be public. Ms. Jayme believes she sent out the legislative invite and can send out the report as soon as that is made public as well. Ms. Jayme will provide a presentation for the next meeting, as it is typically harder to gather data from the month prior early in the month, so being a standing agenda item, presenting at the end of the month works best for ATAP.

Nevada Early Intervention Services Presentation of Data on Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) Services for Children Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Ms. Sprout shared and reviewed the Autism Diagnosis Services Report. The report can be found on the ADSD website.

Ms. Kryk stated that she is very appreciative of NEIS for doing all this additional work to collect this detailed information. Ms. Kryk just received this report today, so she will review it and asked if she can email someone with any questions she may have.

Ms. Spout is not sure why the report was just emailed out today as she emailed this over to be distributed weeks ago. The goal was to have this to the commission members in enough time to review and come with questions at this meeting. Ms. Sprout suggested that the commission members email Ms. Chalupnik individually with any questions and Ms. Chalupnik can forward the questions on to her. Ms. Sprout said she would be happy to gather all questions and answer them in a future meeting.

Ms. Sprout informed the members that NEIS does have the MCHAT report that was promised on a quarterly instead of the annual roll up. It is in Ms. Sprout's inbox to

review from the team and she is currently in the process of reviewing and should have that done in the next day or two to then have out to the commission members. Ms. Sprout asked that the report gets pushed out ASAP as she suspects there will be questions on it.

Discuss and Approve Agenda Items for Future Commission Meetings (For Possible Action)

Ms. Frischmann stated that ATAP is a standing agenda item and wants the commission to understand that ATAP will not have a presentation to present at every meeting and does not want that to reflect negatively on the ATAP program.

Ms. Frischmann also mention that they are currently going full swing getting ready for legislative session and putting in really long hours. In addition, state staff are now required to take furloughs, so that puts an additional strain on resources as well, so she requests that the commission takes this into consideration. Ms. Frischmann mentioned that meeting every two weeks makes it hard on staff because they need to go back and listen to 2-hour meetings, that will now take 4 plus hours to do the meeting minutes and this is not ADSD staff's primary job, not discrediting this commission, but staff is stretched thin.

Ms. Lozano commented that she feels like the commission has got things in place and since the workgroups are meeting and doing research to bring back to the commission, she feels like it may a good time to start meeting monthly instead of bi-weekly.

Ms. Ostrovsky asked if able to get legislation, are they able to communicate that to the board? In the past, they were able to communicate via email through Aging and Disability or they would reach out to Dr. Gaspar de Alba who would send an email to the board members to submit testimonies. Ms. Ostrovsky asked Ms. Frischmann how they can communicate without meetings?

Ms. Frischmann answered that they can email Ms. Chalupnik and she then will blind copy the commission members and workgroup members if they would like to provider a list with their emails. Ms. Frischmann reminds commission members that this will be for notifications only and any sort of deliberation back and forth must be done in a public setting per Open Meeting Law.

Ms. Robb stated that they can always do public comment during any type of legislative session that has Medicaid on their agenda and can determine who they want to represent you as a body or even have it written out. If looking at Medicaid bills, you will follow when those bills would be heard and can certainly provide public comment as individuals and/or as commission members.

Ms. Frischmann stated that Ms. Lozano can go back to the following agenda item: "Legislative Updates to Include General Discussion and Approval of Commission Strategies to Introduce or Propose Legislative Recommendations to Legislators (For Possible Action)" and the members can vote as a commission to designate one person to speak on behalf of

the commission board. Unless there is a designated person to speak on behalf of the commission, they can only speak as an individual.

Since everything is via zoom this year, Ms. Ostrovsky asked if anyone had an update how things were going to go?

Ms. Robb answered no. That they have not been given any direction at this time.

Ms. Lozano would like to go back to agenda item: “Legislative Updates to Include General Discussion and Approval of Commission Strategies to Introduce or Propose Legislative Recommendations to Legislators (For Possible Action)”

Legislative Updates to Include General Discussion and Approval of Commission Strategies to Introduce or Propose Legislative Recommendations to Legislators (For Possible Action)

Ms. Lozano asked Ms. Ostrovsky if she can be the designed person for the commission.

Ms. Ostrovsky answered that she would be honored but would like to request a secondary person as she will not always be available.

Ms. Frischmann answered that she would need to get clarification with a DAG about the secondary. The ABA board is allowed a secondary because it is staff members.

Ms. Ostrovsky & Ms. Kryk would like clarification on how the workgroups could relay their information because the commission does not have a full-time lobbyist.

Ms. Frischmann answered that a member from the workgroup that is not a commission member can speak at public comment and present the research.

Ms. Ostrovsky is happy that the letter got approved as she thinks that will be helpful to testify.

Ms. Capurro made a motion to appoint Ms. Ostrovsky as the representative for the commission at session. Mr. Howells seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Discuss and Approve Agenda Items for Future Commission Meetings (For Possible Action)

The commission agreed to hold the next meeting on February 9, 2020 at 3:30pm.

Public Comment

Ms. Kryk thanked Ms. Robb and Ms. Frischmann for their input on how to move forward more efficiently.

Mr. Cohen stated they were able to get a meeting with Senator Rosen for Thursday at 10:00 am if anyone is interested and he can take RSVP's up until tomorrow. The staff will then provide the zoom link.

Mr. Cohen also stated that about a week ago he sent Ms. Chalupnik the last five years of employment data from VR, in case the commission wants to look at this in the future it is accessible.

Ms. Lozano adjourned the meeting at 4:58 pm

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