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## MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders

Date and Time of Meeting: May 11, 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**

The meeting for the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders was called to order at 3:31 pm.

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

A quorum was declared.

### **Public Comment**

Ms. Jayme made a public comment for Ms. Chalupnik who could not make today's meeting. As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Open Meeting Law requirement in having one meeting location will go in effect. Ms. Jayme is unsure where the meeting location will be, but she will have Ms. Chalupnik send out an email to coordinate that. Ms. Jayme stated that Ms. Chalupnik suggests for the commission members to schedule standing monthly meetings to make it easier with securing meeting locations.

### **Approval of the Minutes from the April 15, 2021 (For Possible Action)**

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

### **Legislative Updates to Include Review of and Approval for the Commission Support Letter or Public Comment for the Following Bills (For Discussion and Possible Action):**

Ms. Ostrovsky updated all with the following information for SB 96 and SB 234:  
Ms. Kryk updated all with the following information for SB 217:

- **Senate Bill 96** – Bill has been marked exempt. Therefore, no hearings scheduled at this time, but dollars are attached, so this can be positive. Hearing should be in the next two weeks because the session is almost over.
- **Senate Bill 217** – There was an ABA board meeting yesterday and this bill is currently waiting for an amendment for the fee structure. They are hoping to be on the agenda for the workshop on Friday where there should be more discussion and updates. The ABA board has been doing a good job preparing so if it does pass, things are in place and can have a smooth transition.
- **Senate Bill 234** – Bill has been marked exempt. Therefore, no hearings scheduled at this time, but dollars are attached, so this can be positive. Hearing should be in the next two weeks because the session is almost over.

Ms. Ostrovsky asks all commissioners and people on this call to make sure to reach out and write their legislators in support of SB96. In the last meeting the commission members wrote a letter to be sent for this bill.

Ms. Jayme got confirmation that the commission's letter was sent.

Ms. Kryk informed everyone that if SB217 passes, there will be a fairly large gap in being able to create RBT's. RBT's are the forefront who provide the direct service. There is already a shortage in RBT's from COVID since a lot of them left the field to get a more consist hourly paid job. Ms. Kryk stated that in general the turnaround in the field is anywhere from 30% to 80%. So, if there is a gap in being able to create RBT's, that is going to impact services for children drastically. A lot of agencies have been feeling this for a while already.

Ms. Kryk continued, if this does pass, she would like to reach out to the commission members to possibly draft a letter or something of the sort to show their concerns. As of May 17<sup>th</sup>, they will no longer be accepting fingerprints. Ms. Kryk asked the commission what their thoughts are.

Ms. Ostrovsky's understanding on this is that even if it passes, it still needs to be signed by the governor. So, Aging and Disability can not stop providing support until it is actually passed and signed. Currently, there is no timeframe for potential lack of support, fingerprints, and licensing.

Ms. Jayme's understanding is that there is a meeting tomorrow with the DPS division to go through the process and options. Ms. Jayme can request a division follow-up to the commission and ask for an update on that.

### **Presentation from Nevada Department of Education on Data Presented to Commission**

The Nevada Department of Ed. was not available to present today, as they will need a months' notice.

## **Review of the Current Community Strategic Report, to Include Discussion of Resources, and Finances in Preparation for Upcoming Strategic Report**

The last notes that Ms. Kryk had was that Ms. Frischmann was going to look into some suggestions from an ADSD person since the funding was an issue.

Ms. Jayme offered to reach out and ask for an update.

Ms. Ostrovsky stated that in the past the commission did have funding. The commission has an outstanding strategic report that is now five years old. But Ms. Ostrovsky thinks they can take a look over it and if given agency support, they should be able to come up with something. Possibly look maybe at future sessions and possibly putting some money in to help support a new strategic and long-term plan.

### **Subcommittee Updates Addressing the Lifespan of People Diagnosed with Autism**

- **Workforce Development** – No updates at this time.
- **Funding and Insurance** – No updates at this time.

### **Discussion Related to Budget Closing and Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) Updates**

Ms. Jayme informed everyone about the following meeting on Thursday: Joint meeting of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means on Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 8am.

Ms. Jayme shared and presented updated information on ATAP. The presentation can be found on the ADSD website.

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

The commission members would like to hold a meeting in a couple weeks with a simple agenda that covers the following:

- Legislative Updates for SB96, SB217 and SB234 for discussion and possible draft of a letter. Action item.
- Review of the Current Community Strategic Report, to Include Discussion of Resources, and Finances in Preparation for Upcoming Strategic Report. Action item.

Ms. Ostrovsky motioned to schedule a meeting for May 25, 2021 at 3:30pm. Ms. Kryk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Ostrovsky motioned to have future meetings on June 15, 2021 at 3:30pm and July 20, 2021 at 3:30pm. Ms. Kryk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Kryk will not be able to attend June 15<sup>th</sup>'s meeting.

Ms. Kryk asked how the commission members who are not present today will be notified of these meetings since the minutes do not get emailed out right away.

Ms. Jayme stated that she will send out a follow up email to all commission members with the upcoming meeting dates.

The commission members would like the following on the upcoming meeting agendas:  
June 15th / July 20th –

- Nevada Department of Education (Needs a months' notice)
- ATAP Update
- EI Update
- Medicaid Update

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to have the following agenda items on May 25<sup>th</sup>'s meeting: Legislative Updates for SB96, SB217 and SB234 for discussion and possible draft of a letter as an action item and Review of the Current Community Strategic Report, to Include Discussion of Resources, and Finances in Preparation for Upcoming Strategic Report as an action item. For the two future meetings, to include the following on the agendas: Nevada Department of Education, ATAP Update, EI Update, Medicaid Update. Ms. Kryk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Adjourn**

Ms. Kryk motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Gratrix seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Lozano adjourned the meeting at 4:14 pm.