



NEVADA COMMISSION ON AGING (COA)

MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday, May 15, 2025
2:00pm

Location of Meeting: Microsoft Teams meeting

MINUTES

1. **Roll Call:**

- Members: Stacy York, Anna Ladao, Deanne O'Rear Cameron, Wendy Simons, Molly Walt, Courtney Warner, Dorothy Edwards, Cheyenne Pasquale,
- Staff and Guest: Rique Robb, Carole Hanley, Autumn Blattman, Lori Lutu, Robin Tejada, Shauna Brennan, Marie Coe, Adrienne Navarro, Arianna Morales-Ramos, Crystal Wren, Cecilia Alonso, Larry Weiss, Linda Anderson, Marcia Blake, Jaeron Mickle

2. **Public Comment:**

- No public comment made

3. **For Possible Action:** For Possible Vote Approval of Minutes of January 31, 2025, meeting.

- Wendy Simons motion to approve the minutes
- Molly Walt second the motion
- All approved

4. **Presentation and Discussion:** Aging Disability Service Division (ADSD) Rebranding Presentation and Review:

- ADSD has worked with an outside vendor called KPS3 to rebrand the agency to help increase awareness to the ADSD services and programs.
- New media logos have been launched including website updates.

5. **Presentation and Discussion:** Administrators Report –

- Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) updates.
- Dena Schmidt is transitioning to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) as the Administrator. That transition takes place at the beginning of June.

- Rique Robb has been appointed to Dena's role as the ADSD Administrator.
- Jeff Duncan is leaving state services his position will go out as a recruitment.
- The agency budget has had its budget closing. The waiver programs did not receive any increases in terms of caseload growth.
- Long Term Care Ombudsman and Adult Protective Services have a small increase for caseload growth that is lower than the governor requested.
- The Community Options Program for the Elderly (COPE) and Personal Assistance Services (PAS) additional funds were awarded but will not help caseload growth, just maintain existing utilization levels.
- Funding for the Taxi Assistant Program (TAP) has been reduced.
- The Medical Epidemiologist position was not funded.
- The Fund for Healthy Nevada was cut 12%. These funds are used for the Independent Living grants for transportation, in-home services, respite care and the Healthcare Assistance Program. These priorities overlap with OAA fund priorities.
- On the federal level leadership is following closely to the Administration for Community Living and the proposed reorganization that has started. A lot of unknowns regarding OAA future funds.

6. **Review and Discussion:** Update on Older Americans Day at the Legislature.

- Molly Walt attended and expressed how well organized the event was.
- Impactful meetings with the Legislators.
- Deanne O'Rear-Cameron reminded everyone to stay active and let the legislators know how important the Older Americans Act is.
- Cheyenne Pasquale was appreciative of the opportunity to meet with advocates in person.

7. **For Possible Action:** For Possible Vote ADSD evaluation of service and responsibilities for next session budget planning.

- This agenda item was tabled for the next meeting

8. **Review and Discussion:** COA Legislative and Policy Subcommittee Legislative Update report.

- SB78-Revises provisions relating to boards, commissions, councils and similar bodies.
 - Discussions can be found in the prior meeting minutes.
- AB519-Creates a separate chapter of the Nevada Revised Statutes governing agencies and organizations that provide services.
 - Has been heard and everyone is waiting on the outcome.
- AB461-Revises provisions governing health care.
 - Participants were encouraged to go to the Legislative site ([NELIS](#)) and review the exhibits.

- SB207-Requires the establishment of a program of all-inclusive care for the elderly.
 - This had a do pass as amended in the Senate Health and Human Services work session and no action was taken.
 - This looks to be moving favorably to be moved under DPBH.
- AB337- Creates programs related to dementia.
 - Has been amended and recommended to do pass as amended; declared exempt and referred to the money committee.
- SB329- Requires certain persons to complete training on dementia and cognitive impairments.
 - It was amended and Peace Officers were removed from the language.
- AB338 Revises provisions relating to health care for senior citizens - adding attendant care to the frail and elderly waiver. It will also create an online system that helps find care. Passed out of committee, declared exempt, and referred to the money committee.
- At the will of the Chair, other BDR's, AB's & SBs may be identified by the Chair or other members to discuss.
 - Northern Board AB60- Revises provisions relating to certain behavioral health services: Has passed both the Assembly and Senate.
 - Southern Board AB31- Provides for certain Medicaid reimbursement of providers of nonemergency secure behavioral health-transportation services. Was declared Exempt.
 - SB68- Revises provisions relating to behavioral health: Did not pass.
 - SB47- Provides for a study of certain issues relating to insurance. It was declared exempt.

9. **Presentation and Discussion:** Program Updates.

A. Adult Protective Services Update and Caseload Information

Robin Tejada, Social Services Chief, Adult Protective Services, ADSD

- APS opened 741 cases statewide in March.
- 31% vacancies statewide
- Caseload average per worker is now 55 down from 74 in July 2024.
- Vulnerable Adult Fatality Review Committee (VAFRC) referrals have launched. Information is on the [ADSD website](#).

B. Ombudsman Report

Marie Coe, Manager, Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, ADSD

- 416 reported cases in March.
- 403 opened in April.
- All facilities are visited monthly, which allows for more advocacy.

- 7% vacancy rate down from 21%.
- Caseloads are high at 119 to 1 ratio normally 60-1.
- Memory care facilities have a 6-1 ratio during the waking hours but jump to as high as 30-1 at night.
- AB368- Revises provisions governing electronic communication devices in locations where certain services are provided. This bill expands the setting of electronic devices in assisted living areas.

C. Office of Community Living (OCL)– Intake and Operations

Arianna Ramos, Social Services Manager, Office of Community Living Intake and Operations, ADSD

- Effective June 1, 2025, the structured family caregiver waiver will be included in the OCL operations.
- Initially 100 slots will be available with 50 the following year.
- Presentation available on [ADSD website](#).
- The statewide front desk numbers for incoming calls were 2,049 in April with 976 requesting resources.
- 651 OCL applications were taken.

D. Planning Update

Cheyenne Pasquale, Social Services Chief, Office of Community Living Planning, ADSD

- Partnering with the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) to evaluate data to help inform a potential multi sector plan on aging (MPA).
 - Data is being gathered on existing aging services – either funded by ADSD or not.
 - State Plans are also being reviewed to identify overlapping themes to help inform a basic structure for an MPA.
- Fiscal year 2026 all the Community grants and sub awards had a shortfall of over \$1,000,000 in funding.
- The Dementia Support Specialist program being piloted through a federal grant is underway. Two dementia support specialists have been hired, working with partners to hire a 3rd person.
 - They are in Clark and Elko County and will focus on education and outreach related to dementia.
- The Veterans directed care program has tripled its participants and now has 30 veterans participating in the program.
- Two new projects using active lifespan respite grants projects. One is looking at ways to improve identification and data collected related to caregivers and respite services. The second is to deploy training programs for potential respite providers and then expand access to respite services.

10. **Review and Discussion:** COA Membership

- Waiting on the Governor to approve appointments
- Members to inform Carole Hanley of the intent to continue or not so vacancies can be filled.

- Dorothy Edwards will be retiring effective September 30th, 2025, but may apply for a person of experience in the future.
- Deanne O'Rear-Cameron did make a call to action on Older Americans Day.

11. **For Discussion Only:** Tentative Agenda Items for August 7, 2025.

- COA Legislative and Policy Subcommittee meeting date frequency
- Topics for the Subcommittee to bring forward next meeting
- Budget impacts
- Legislative Wrap Up
- Survey Grantees on budget cut impacts
- Agency call summary report including a breakdown

12. **Public Comment:** No public comment made

13. **Adjournment:** 3:23pm

Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:

NOTE:

- Supporting documents referenced above in the "for possible action" items may be requested from Carole Hanley, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at clhanley@adsd.nv.gov and are on the ADSD website at [COA \(nv.gov\)](http://COA.nv.gov)
- To request document translation or interpreter please contact clhanley@adsd.nv.gov
Si quiere este documento traducido, por favor escriba a clhanley@adsd.nv.gov

AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 1550 E. College Parkway, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at [ADSD \(nv.gov\)](http://ADSD.nv.gov) and Nevada Public Notices website at <https://notice.nv.gov>