

Joe Lombardo  
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS  
Director



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



Dena Schmidt  
Administrator

## DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

<i>Name of Organization:</i>	SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL Comprised of the Nevada Commission of Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NVCDHH), The Nevada Statewide Independent Living Council, (NV SILC) and The Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Executive Committee
<i>Date and Time of Meeting:</i>	Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:00AM
<i>Place of Meeting:</i>	Virtual: Zoom Meeting Materials can be found here: <a href="#">Home (nv.gov)</a>

**NOTE:** Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration. An item may be removed from this agenda or discussion relating to an item on this agenda may be delayed at any time.

Minutes of this meeting will be produced in summary format. Please provide the Commission administrative support with electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations if you wish to have complete versions included as exhibits with the minutes.

### 1. Roll Call:

Obioma Officer, Executive Director of NVCDHH  
Dawn Lyons, Executive Director of NV SILC  
Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director NGCDD Executive Committee

Members: Maureen Fradiani, Eli Schwartz, Eric Wilcox, Jaime Vitale, Susan Beckett, Laura Fink, Max Lowe, Santa Perez, Stacy Alaribe, Havander Davis, Jennifer Kane, Dee Dee Foremaster Ace Patrick, Linda Vejvoda

Guests: Marisol Rivas, Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Lori Lutu, Laura Thompson (LT), Jeff Jaech, Beth Jones, A. Marquez, Cody Butler, Araceli Pyper, Kalen Beck, Adrienne Navarro, Andrea Juillerat Olvera, Page Kirby, Dora Martinez, Steven Cohen, Jay Cafferata, Kelcy Meyer, Shelly Freed, 702.845.8800

Staff: Cheyenne Pasquale, Chief I; Dawn Lyons, Executive Director of NVSILC; Catherine Nielson, Executive Director NGCDD Executive Committee; Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Administrative Assistant III; Wendy Thornley, Administrative Assistant III; Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant

Accommodations: Sonya Stark, Interpreter; Bobbi Gravier, Interpreter; Becky Van Auken, Captions

### 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. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. Persons

making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the administrative assistant with written comments.)

- Catherine Nielsen stated that if anyone is available this afternoon there are two bill hearings on voting access for individuals with disabilities. AB242 and AB246 are going to be heard at 4 o'clock this afternoon in legislative operations and elections.
3. Discussion and Approval of Educational letter on behalf of the Commissions and Councils for AB133 and AB161 to be Endorsed and Approved by NV SILC, NGCDD's Executive Committee and NCPDHHSI: (For Possible Action)
- Obioma Officer, Executive Director of NVCDHH  
Dawn Lyons, Executive Director of NV SILC  
Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director NGCDD Executive Committee

- AB133 and AB161 which are being combined and they discuss putting a designation on the driver's license for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing and certain persons with autism.
  - AB133 was started by Susan Beckett who had a personal conversation with one of our representatives about her experience interacting with law enforcement. The concept was to put some sort of identification on the registration to allow police officers or first responders to know that the individual they are working with is Deaf or hard of hearing prior to approaching the vehicle. There was another bill AB161 that had the same concept of identifying a person's diagnosis prior to interacting with police officer or first responders and but for those with autism. So, they tried to combine both bills with them being the same concept but then they wanted to put it on the drivers license and right now it's voluntary but how long until it's mandatory?
  - The issue with putting it on the driver's license is that you must give your driver's license for so many things, and Nevada being an at will state means they can discriminate against you and refuse services but not say it's because of the disability but because they are refusing services. The other issue is what if the clerk puts the drivers license on the counter and walks away from it and now everyone has you information that you are disabled.
  - A letter was written and sent to the legislature, created and signed by Dawn Lyons of the Statewide Independent Living Council, Susan Beckett as a person who is Deaf, Obioma Officer, Executive Director of the Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director Nevada Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Executive Committee and we are hoping to get approval from these Commissions to send it on their behalf as well. This letter is available in the meeting materials.
  - The letter lists out all the concerns brought forward in the conversations that were had around it and that we would also like to see training to identify interacting with someone with a communication impairment as they have defined it, we look at it as a letter of education. Susan Beckett wanted to add that she attended the last meeting and the ACLU put in a request that it be optional to put on your registration and not have to have it on the drivers license as well, that is still an option but at this time not mandatory, the concern is that it may become mandatory.
  - As a public body we can only educate, we cannot tell the legislature what we want to see changed, but we are hoping that as individuals you write your own letters and let them know how you as an individual feel. Anyone who would like to write their own letter can forward that to Catherine and

she will send them on to the legislature for us. That information will be made available in an email after the meeting.

- Laura Fink made a motion to approve the signing of the letter for the Deaf Commission and Jaime Vitale seconded the motion carried.
- Dawn Lyons made a motion to approve the signing of the letter for the SILC executive team and Havander Davis seconded, motion carried.
- Max Lowe made a motion to approve the signing of the letter for the DD Council Executive Committee, Stacy Alaribe seconded, motion carried.

4. **Public Comment:** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the Administrative Assistant with written comments.)

- Eric Wilcox made the announcement that Deaf Day at the legislature is April 10, 2023, and we are running into some budget constraints to provide transportation from the South to Carson City, we are seeking donations for the transportation and other expenses.
- Beth Jones updated us that we are only a third of the way to covering our expenses with current donations including Las Vegas Deaf Seniors, we have fifty people ready to go.

5. **Adjournment:** 10:02 AM

Obioma Officer, Executive Director of NVCDHH

Dawn Lyons, Executive Director of NV SILC

Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director NGCDD Executive Committee

#### **Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:**

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Lorraine Belt-Dolan in writing at 3320 W. Sahara, Suite 100, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, email [lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov) 5 days prior to the meeting.

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at [www.adsd.nv.gov](http://www.adsd.nv.gov) and Nevada Public Notices website at [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov)

- Opportunity Village: 6300 W. Oakey BLVD, Las Vegas, NV 89146
- So. NV Center for Independent Living: 2950 S. Rainbow BLVD, STE 220, Las Vegas, NV 89146
- DHHS & Website: 400 W King Street, Suite 300, Carson City, NV 89703
- NGCDD: 808 West Nye Lane, Carson City, NV 89703
- NDALC: 2820 W. Charleston BLVD, #11, Las Vegas, NV 89102
- NDALC: 1875 Plumas St., #1, Reno, NV 89509
- NDALC: 905 Railroad St., #104B, Elko, NV 89801
- NCEP: 6375 W. Charleston BLVD, Las Vegas, NV 89146
- No. NV Center for Independent Living: 999 Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431
- Nevada State Library: 100 N. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89701
- Rural Regional Center: 1665 Old Hot Springs Rd., #157, Carson City, NV 89706
- Sierra Regional Center: 605 S. 21st St., Sparks, NV 89431
- Desert Regional Center: 1391 S. Jones BLVD, Las Vegas, NV 89146
- State of Nevada Website: <https://notice.nv.gov>
- NGCDD Website: [www.nevadaddcouncil.org](http://www.nevadaddcouncil.org)

And on the Internet: <https://www.nvsilc.com/meetings/> and <https://notice.nv.gov>

Supporting public material provided to Commission members for this meeting may be requested from Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Commission Administrative Support, ASD at [lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov) and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ASD website at [Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired \(nv.gov\)](http://Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired (nv.gov))

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