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## **Nevada Commission for Persons Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Legislative Subcommittee**

### **APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**Date and Time of Meeting:** **Tuesday, September 17, 2024  
2:30 PM**

**Location of Meeting:** **ZOOM**

### **AGENDA**

1. **Roll Call and Opening Statement:**

Members: Eli Schwartz, Beth Jones, Susan Beckett, Catherine Nielsen.

Guests: Jennifer Leyshon, Yadira Erives, Linda Anderson, Shauna Brennan, Cherrise Brown, Autumn Blattman, Sabrina Schnur, Belz & Case Government Affairs Scribe, Dolores Hauck, Doralee Martinez.

Accommodations: Becky Van Auken, Captioner; Kelly Bunting, Interpreter; Rebecca Major, Interpreter.

Staff: Obioma Officer, Executive Director; Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Administrative Assistant III.

2. **Public Comment:**

- No Public Comment

3. **For Possible Action:** Approval of Minutes of the July 30, 2024, meeting.

- Susan Beckett made a motion to approve the minutes, Beth Jones seconded the motion, motion carried.

4. **For Possible Action:** Nominations, Elections, and/or reappointment of subcommittee members.

- Susan Beckett made the motion to have everyone remain on the subcommittee and Catherine Nielsen seconded, motion carried.

5. **For Possible Action:** Commission Directive Topic(s): For Discussion and approval to bring to the Commission for final approval if needed.

- a) Updates from the subcommittee for Deaf Day at the Legislature 2025.
  - Obioma Officer we are confirmed for that day, the lobby and the room reserved, and we have the floor for the Senate and Assembly. Approved for a full legislative day on April 28, 2025. We need registration forms; we are partnering with LVDS (Las Vegas Deaf Seniors). We need to get hotels and transportation reserved.
- b) Discussion, creation and approval of position statements for the commission to use next legislative session.
  - Catherine Nielsen updated us on the Deaf Schools position statement. They are in process of scheduling a couple of trips to visit Deaf schools, scheduled meetings to discuss Deaf schools in neighboring states and looking at position statements from other states as well. It is started but not finished yet.
  - Catherine Nielsen volunteered to start the position statements and then we will build from there. In the past what has been done is describe what the issue is, give a little bit more background to those that may not necessarily understand what the concerns are. And then we provide some type of position. One of those would be that interpreters for schools that all students should have access to interpreters.
- c) Updates on Bill Draft Requests (BDR's).
  - Eli let us know they have drafted a BDR for the closed captioning that is being proposed.
  - Eli has a meeting with Tracy Brown-May a week from Friday to see if she can give us a BDR or if she knows someone who will give us a BDR.

6. **For Information and Discussion:** Legislative information: The 83rd (2025) Session of the Nevada Legislature will begin on February 3, 2025.

Here is the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS), link for the 2025, 83rd session of the Nevada Legislature:

[83rd \(2025\) Session \(state.nv.us\)](https://state.nv.us)

The Legislature's offices in Southern Nevada will be moving from the Grant Sawyer State Office Building to the McCarran Center in Las Vegas, starting July 18th.

[Click here to view upcoming legislative meetings](#) - [Click here to view more information about the move](#)

- This item was for information only. There was no discussion.

7. **For Possible Action:** Approval of tentative Agenda Items for Next meeting, Tentatively February 4, 2025, dates to be voted on at next General Commission meeting in November.

- Position Statement update
- Deaf Day at the legislature update
- Update on the BDR's that have been accepted
- Update on the Deaf School

8. **Public Comment:**

- The DD Council is having town halls this week in Southern Nevada, tonight is in Mesquite and tomorrow night is in Las Vegas from 5:30 to 7:30. In Mesquite it's at the public library and Las Vegas it's at CW Woodbury middle school. We're also having a town hall next week in Elko and a few virtual options in October, December, and January. So, if you're not available, please do not be concerned. We're still gathering a lot of input from the community. We also have our surveys in English, Spanish, and ASL, you can find it on our website. Thank you.

9. **Adjournment: 3:34 PM**

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

### **NOTE:**

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

## **AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

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 [ADSD \(nv.gov\)](#) and Nevada Public Notices website at <https://notice.nv.gov>