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.



# NEVADA COMMISSION FOR PERSONS WHO ARE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING – GENERAL MEETING

### **MEETING NOTICE**

**Date and Time of Meeting:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025

9:00 AM

Place of Meeting: TEAMS: Join the meeting now

Call-In number 1 775-321-6111 Conference ID: 850 845 488#

Interpreters will be provided for this meeting. CART will be accessible by following this link:

**Caption Link** 

This is a virtual meeting and there is no physical location.

## **AGENDA**

## 1. Roll Call and Opening Statement:

Eric Wilcox, Chair

**Members:** Angee Pompa; Dolores Parrish; Eli Schwartz; Eric Wilcox, Ph.D., Chair; Catherine Nielsen, Vice Chair; Kimberly Bauer-Schaub, Ph.D.; Laura Fussell; Susan Beckett

- 2. <u>Public Comment:</u> (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. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 1 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 850 845 488#. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. People making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)
- **3.** <u>Discussion and Possible Action:</u> Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Draft Minutes of May 28, 2025, meeting.

Eric Wilcox, Chair

**4.** For Information Only: Welcome and brief introduction of new Appointed Commissioners: Dr. Kimberly Bauer-Schaub Ph.D., Dolores Parrish, and Angee Pompa.

Eric Wilcox, Chair Obioma Officer, Executive Director

**5.** <u>For Discussion and Possible Action:</u> NV Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Annual Elections to discuss and possibly vote to elect the next Chair and Vice Chair of this Commission for FY26.

Obioma Officer, Executive Director

6. For Information, Discussion, and Possible Action: Information and Discussion on the NEW Deaf and Hard of Hearing travelers' support program launched by the Herry Reid International Airport. Outcomes of the recent vetting of Las Vegas Deaf Seniors (LVDS). 1. Discussion and possible vote to approve of Letter(s) of Gratitude from the NV Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing on letterhead to Community Partners that aided in these efforts. 2. Discussion and possible vote to approve the list of Community Partners, to be developed during the meeting. See article for additional details: <a href="https://www.8newsnow.com/news/local-news/las-vegas-airport-launches-new-program-to-support-hearing-impaired-travelers/">https://www.8newsnow.com/news/local-news/las-vegas-airport-launches-new-program-to-support-hearing-impaired-travelers/</a>.

Eric Wilcox, Chair Shelly Freed, LVDS Secretary Obioma Officer, Executive Director

7. <u>Presentation and Discussion:</u> Nevada Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Presentation on program updates and impact following cuts to Federal Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Perry Smtih, EHDI Program Coordinator

8. For Discussion and Possible Action: NV Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Annual Report Review of Outcomes and discussion and possible vote to approve Executive Director's Recommendations. Recommendations include:

1. Prioritizing the top three community-identified needs, 2. Empowering subcommittees to begin advocacy efforts aligned with regional feedback. 3. Additionally, including the 2025/26 Engagement Conference should reflect these priorities and include legislative initiatives, with a focus on transparency, collaboration, and addressing unmet needs, including those of the DeafBlind community.

Obioma Officer, Executive Director

**9. For Information and Discussion Only:** Legislative Outcomes and discuss 2025 Engagement Conference "Deaf and Hard of hearing CommUNITY based Resourcing towards Legislative Gains" Objective and Initiative and the CommUNITY impact over the last 2 years.

a. Outcomes/Gains on Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Related Bills:

Eric Wilcox, Chair Obioma Officer, Executive Director

- i. <u>AB247 Overview</u> **Died.** (No further action taken.)
- ii. AB367 Overview **Passed.** 1. This section and sections 41, 42 and 43 of this act become effective upon passage and approval. 2. Sections 1 to 40, inclusive, of this act become effective: (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and (b) On January 1, 2026, for all other purposes.
- iii. <u>AB368 Overview</u> **Passed.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval. 2. Sections 1 to 36, inclusive, of this act become effective: (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and (b) On or before October 1, 2025, for all other purposes.
- iv. <u>AB395 Overview</u> **Died.** (No further action taken.)
- v. <u>SB78 Overview</u> **Died.** (No further action taken.)
- vi. <u>SB188 Overview</u> **Passed.** Effective October 1, 2025.
- vii. <u>SB192 Overview</u> **Died.** (No further action taken.)
- viii. <u>SB352 Overview</u> **Vetoed by the Governor.** (Return to 84<sup>th</sup> Session)
  - ix. <u>SB400 Overview</u> **Passed.** Section 3 effective June 9, 2025. Section 1 effective July 1, 2025. Section 2 effective July 1, 2026.
- b. 2025 Engagement Conference "Deaf and Hard of hearing CommUNITY based Resourcing towards Legislative Gains" Objective and Initiative:

Obioma Officer, Executive Director Eric Wilcox, Chair

**Conference Objective:** This conference is a Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) Systems Navigation and Resource Development conference for stakeholders and Community Partners. This conference provides a safe space for gaining awareness of statewide resources, peer to peer resourcing, and legislative gains in the Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing CommUNITY. Expanding statewide awareness of Deaf and Hard of Hearing resources and systems navigation as a CommUNITY increases access, engagement, and advocacy statewide within our service provisions and legislative initiatives. These efforts highlight and

bring recognition of recent legislative gains and the positive outcomes of CommUNITY focused advocacy through the Commission's ongoing efforts to fulfill the state plan of Access, Engagement, and Advocacy.

**Initiative:** The Nevada Commission for Person who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired is seeking to educate and empower individuals who are Deaf and/or Hard of Hearing on the state of Nevada's current resources and system navigation as it pertains to D/HH autonomy in the state of Nevada. This initiative is to promote D/HH communication access and support for the current gaps in knowledge and awareness of State, Non-Profit, and for-profit services and resources achieved through legislative gains. This initiative is to impact the legislative process for the 84<sup>th</sup> session in 2027 and aid in maintaining the momentum of CommUNITY engagement. As a CommUNITY, we must know what we have, to get where we want to be. **Maximizing legislative gains through D/HH CommUNITY resourcing.** 

**10.** <u>Presentation, Discussion, and For Possible Action:</u> Las Vegas Deaf Seniors (LVDS) Taskforce Updates and Deaf Medical Summit Collaboration August 28, 2025, Objective and Overview.

Kimberly Bauer-Schaub, Commissioner and Taskforce Commission Rep Obioma Officer, Executive Director

**11.** For Possible Action: Discussion and possible vote to approve recommendations regarding, 1. Director & Chair reports, 2. Budget updates, 3. Commission Seat details, 4. Community requests, 5. Communication Access Services Report, 6. Partner engagements and 7. Upcoming outreach.

Eric Wilcox, Chair Catherine Nielsen, Vice Chair Obioma Officer, Executive Director

**12.** <u>For Possible Action:</u> To review, discussion and possible vote to approve recommendations presented by each subcommittee as detailed in their respective reports, all reports are accessible in the meeting materials.

Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Chair of Accessibility Subcommittee Jaime Vitale, Chair of Interpreter Subcommittee Eli Schwartz, Chair of Legislative Subcommittee Eric Wilcox, Chair of Education Subcommittee Obioma Officer, Executive Director

**13.** <u>For Possible Action:</u> Discussion and possible vote to approve of Tentative Agenda Items for Next meeting November 12, 2025.

Eric Wilcox, Chair

**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. To provide public comment telephonically, dial 1 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 850 845 488#. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. People making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

#### 15. Adjournment:

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

- The following complete link for the meeting is included below:
- https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetupjoin/19%3ameeting ODMzODA0ODUtZTM0Mi00OTY4LTk5MWMtYmJmMmUzMmEzYzJm%40thr ead.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22475491ee-57c2-4886-a603-7652e6b96551%22%7d
- Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based on viewpoint.
- 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 Wendy Thornley in writing at 1550 E. College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89706, email wthornley@adsd.nv.gov as soon as possible.
- If at any time during the meeting an individual who has been named on the agenda or has an item specifically regarding them included on the agenda is unable to participate because of technical or other difficulties, please email Wendy Thornley at <a href="wthornley@adsd.nv.gov">wthornley@adsd.nv.gov</a> and note at what time the difficulty started so that matters pertaining specifically to their participation may be continued to a future agenda if needed or otherwise addressed.
- Please be cautious and do not click on links in the chat area of the meeting unless you have verified, they are safe. If you ever have questions about a link in a document purporting to be from ADSD, please do not hesitate to contact <a href="wthornley@adsd.nv.gov">wthornley@adsd.nv.gov</a> for verification. This meeting may be recorded to facilitate note-taking or other uses. By participating you consent to recording of your participation in this meeting.
- Supporting documents referenced above in the "for possible action" items may be requested from Wendy Thornley, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at <a href="wthornley@adsd.nv.gov">wthornley@adsd.nv.gov</a> and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at <a href="Mevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired">Mevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired (nv.gov)</a>
- To request document translation or interpreter please contact <a href="wthornley@adsd.nv.gov">wthornley@adsd.nv.gov</a>
  Si quiere este documento traducido, por favor escriba a <a href="wthornley@adsd.nv.gov">wthornley@adsd.nv.gov</a>

#### 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 <a href="https://notice.nv.gov">ADSD (nv.gov)</a> and Nevada Public Notices website at <a href="https://notice.nv.gov">https://notice.nv.gov</a>