

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

## MEETING NOTICE

**Date:** February 11, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 AM

Pursuant to NRS 241.020(3)(a), as amended by Assembly Bill 253 of the 81st Legislative Session, this meeting will be held using remote technology only. The meeting can be listened to via telephone or viewed live over the internet.

### Join Online:

Meeting Link: [https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NzEzODc3MjktNGlzMjY0NjdLLTkxODgtMTNjODkyODBiOWNj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22157f631c-fd22-4bba-83d3-611190917517%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NzEzODc3MjktNGlzMjY0NjdLLTkxODgtMTNjODkyODBiOWNj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22157f631c-fd22-4bba-83d3-611190917517%22%7d)

### Join By Phone

Phone Number: +1 775 321-6111

Phone Conference ID: 588 096 405#

## AGENDA

Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion.

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

Eric Wilcox, Chair

**Members:** Angee Pompa; Eric Wilcox, Ph.D., Chair; Catherine Nielsen, Vice Chair; Carol Helou – Newly appointed 1/1/2026; David Kelsey, Ph.D. – Newly appointed 1/1/2026; Jaime Vitale; Kimberly Bauer-Schaub, Ph.D.; Lee Bullock – Newly appointed 1/1/2026; Lora Turner – Newly appointed 1/1/2026; and Paula Koerwitz – Newly appointed 1/1/2026.

**Excused Abs.:** David Kelsey, Ph.D., Member; Eli Schwartz, Member; and Lee Bullock, Member.

**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. To provide public comment telephonically, dial +1 775-

321-6111. When prompted to provide the phone conference ID, enter 941 550 670# 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 secretary with written comments.)

3. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Minutes of December 17, 2025, meeting.  
Eric Wilcox, Chair
4. **For Information Only:** Review and discuss Office of Advocacy Rights Attorney (OARA), and NV AB461 – the implementation program to educate residents about long-term care planning. [AB461 Overview](#)  
Shauna Brennan, ADSD Advocacy Rights Attorney
5. **For Information Only:** Report on activities of the ADSD Communication Access Services (CAS) Program.  
Jennifer Montoya, Social Services Program Specialist III
6. **For Possible Action:** Review of 2025 Engagement Conference Outcomes and Possible Vote to Approve proposed changes to 2026 Calendar for the Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing Engagement Conference.  
Obioma Officer, Executive Director
7. **For Possible Action:** Discuss accepted Presentation Request to the Legislative Committee on Senior Citizens, Veterans and Adults with Special Needs on Monday, February 23, 2026. Possible Vote to Approve topics for the NV Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing to present in accordance with Legislative Needs of the Commission and all barriers to access for the Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing, and Speech Impaired community. Presentation and collaboration with the Las Vegas Deaf Seniors (LVDS).  
Obioma Officer, Executive Director  
Eric Wilcox, Chair
8. **For Possible Action:** Review, Discuss and Possible Vote to Approve Director & Chair Report Recommendations: Budget updates, seat details, community requests, partner engagements and upcoming outreach.  
Eric Wilcox, Chair  
Catherine Nielsen, Vice-chair  
Obioma Officer, Executive Director
9. **For Possible Action:** 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

**Recommendation/ Request:** To take recommendations from the 2025 Engagement Conference and Townhalls on accessibility issues especially strategies to support community providers for DeafBlind individuals and report back to the commission. Recommendation to pursue advocacy for DeafBlind Support Services (i.e., SSPs and/or CNs) per Community Feedback.  
Jaime Vitale, Chair of Interpreter Subcommittee

**Recommendation/ Request:** Recommendations to further research of National standards and Nevada state law to find areas of alignment and make recommendations for changes to the NRS. Along with research of National Grievance process and make recommendations to bring Nevada's registry grievance process into closer alignment with National Practices. Requests are to add Revisions to the NRS 656A and NAC in the upcoming 2027 Legislative Session advocacy efforts in accordance with Community Feedback and/or Concerns while seeking community-initiated Sponsors for potential BDR. With emphasis on the Grievance process as outlined in the NAC 656A.

Catherine Nielsen, Legislative Subcommittee Member

**Recommendation/Request:** To pursue and advocate for the following Legislative topics while seeking community-initiated Sponsors for potential BDRs:

- Closed Captions in Public Spaces
- ASL as a Foreign Language Credit
- Nevada School for the Deaf (NVSD) – an Inclusive/Bicultural Approach
- D/HH Community Living – in support of Las Vegas Deaf Seniors (LVDS) Efforts
- DeafBlind Support Services (i.e., SSPs and/or CNs) – in support of Community Feedback and/or Concerns from 2025 Engagement Conference outcomes and the D/HH Community Living Initiative.

Eric Wilcox, Chair of Education Subcommittee

**Recommendation/Request:** Request to agendize Nevada Deaf School (NVSD) as an Education Subcommittee workgroup in efforts to support Legislative Advocacy and further research.

Obioma Officer, Executive Director

**10. For Possible Action:** Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Tentative Agenda Items for the Next meeting, tentatively planned for May 13, 2026.

Eric Wilcox, Chair

**11. 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. To provide public comment telephonically, dial +1 (775) 321-6111. When prompted to provide the Phone Conference ID, enter 588 096 405# Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person. People making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record, spelling their last name, and providing the Administrative Support Staff with any written comments.

## 12. Adjournment:

### PLEASE NOTE:

**Supporting Materials:** Supporting public materials for this meeting will be available during the meeting, and on the ADSD website:

[https://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/NCPWADHHSI/Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired/](https://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/NCPWADHHSI/Nevada_Commission_for_Persons_Who_Are_Deaf_Hard_of_Hearing_or_Speech_Impaired/) . Meeting materials can also be obtained via the Administrative Support Staff listed below.

**Translation Requests:** To request document translation or interpreter, please contact the Administrative Support Staff listed below. Si quiere este documento traducido, por favor escriba a [wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov)

**Accommodation Requests:** ADSD program applicants, participants, and board/committee members who require an accommodation may make a request for an ADA accommodation to:

- ADSD Administrative Support in writing (listed below); or,
- Via the [ADSD ADA Inquiry Form](#) located on the ADSD webpage at [ADSD.nv.gov](https://adsd.nv.gov).

To acquire necessary aids or services, ADSD requires reasonable advance notice, based on the time needed to arrange the requested accommodation (e.g., scheduling interpreters).

### Administrative Support Staff Contact:

Wendy Thornley  
1550 East College Parkway  
Carson City, NV 89706  
[wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov)

### AGENDA POSTING LOCATIONS:

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following locations:

- 1550 E College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89706
- Aging and Disability Services Division webpage: [Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired](#)
- Nevada Public Notices webpage: <https://notice.nv.gov/>