

Nevada Department of Native American Affairs

Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2025

4:00 PM

Meeting Location:

Stewart Indian School

5366 Snyder Avenue Building #3

Carson City, NV 89701

And Virtual via Zoom

Commissioner's Present:

Dr. Art Martinez

Andrea Martinez

Kelly Krolicki

Staci Emm

Tammi Tiger

Dr. Arlie Stops

Staff Present:

Stacey Montooth – Executive Director

Sarina Nez – Program Specialist

Lori Arrive, Office Coordinator

Others Present:

Alberto Jasso, Director Strategic Philanthropy San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

The meeting was convened by Director Montooth at 4:10 PM

I. Invocation

Sarina Nez provided the invocation.

II. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Commissioner Tiger read the land acknowledgement.

III. Introductions of Meeting Participants

Meeting participants introduced themselves

IV. Initial Public Comment

Director Montooth said that because of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Giving Program that NDNA was recipient of \$10,000, which is currently in the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance account. That money was a grant that Commissioner Tiger successfully wrote to do strategic planning. July 1 is the deadline to do that strategic planning.

Director Montooth commended Commissioner Krolicki for her eight years of dedicated service to

DNAA. She said that Commissioner Krolicki was steadfast in her quest to establish the Stewart School Cultural Center & Museum, otherwise known as “the heart of the campus.” Commissioner Krolicki will be remembered for her work to get legislation passed two sessions ago to silence the sundowner siren.

Director Montooth said Commissioner Krolicki’s guidance was invaluable during the transition to becoming a standalone department, and that the Commissioner still serves as the secretary-treasurer for the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (SISPA).

Director Montooth presented Commissioner Krolicki with a beaded horsehair medallion made by a Walker River Paiute elder, Cindy Benjamin. Commissioner Krolicki thanked everyone and said she “loved every minute.”

Commissioner Krolicki said our agency is unique in that we get input and feedback from others. For example, every single department within the State of Nevada has a Tribal liaison. She noted the success of the Native Fee Waiver and the Indigenous relations person at UNR. She said that we have been successful in keeping capital funding for at least some part of the campus each legislative cycle. Commissioner Krolicki said going forward, “the NDNAA has much work to do but has ‘phenomenal’ leadership.”

Commissioner Emm said they have a contract to do emergency management training with all the Tribes in Nevada. The first training course will be held in March, in Fallon. Expenses for two individuals from each Tribe in Nevada will be covered.

Commissioner Tiger had two UNLV announcements. President Whitfield has committed to three years of sponsoring the UNLV Powwow for the Planet as the title sponsor, plus he is covering all the costs to move the powwow into the Cox Pavilion. He also made a personal contribution of \$3,000. They are establishing a Rebel Give funding match in the community. The dates are April 12 through 13. The UNLV summer camp is scheduled for June 22 through the 26.

Commissioner Emm said they have hired Gaylene Williams from the Pyramid Lake Tribe to do development across all the Tribal programs. The UNR Lake Tahoe Camp is booked for June 9 and 10.

Alberto Jasso, Director of Philanthropy with the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians announced their grant cycle for 2025 is open. Between February 1 and March 15, they are accepting applications for up to \$100,000 for grant that align with the Tribe's approved giving pillars. If there are any Native nonprofits or other respective Tribal governments that are interested in submitting a grant application, see <https://www.sanmanuelcares.org/>.

V. Approval of April 22, 2024 and January 31, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes (For Discussion & Possible Action)

Motion: Approve April 22, 2024, Commission Meeting Minutes
By: Dr. Stops
Second: Dr. Martinez

Vote: Motion passed unanimously with one abstention

Motion: Approve January 31, 2025, Commission Meeting Minutes

By: Dr. Stops

Second: Dr. Martinez

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

VI: Executive Director Report – Stacey Montooth (For Discussion & Possible Action)

Director Montooth reminded everyone that they are at the halfway point in dispersing the \$20 of discretionary funds allocated to Tribal nations. Only \$10 million of the \$20 million has been dispersed. The Winnemucca Paiutes are the only Tribe who have used all their money by building sidewalks and gutters for their community center. The Director urged Tribes to spend the funds and spend now. Commissioners discussed various ways these funds could be used.

The Director shared the Nevada Department of Native American Affairs official logo.

She shared that the Washoe County School District offers Paiute Language classes. In Nevada, a licensed teacher can work with a Tribal elder or any fluent Native speaker who is recommended by the nearest federally recognized Tribal government. The class is an elective course.

Director Montooth said the National Native American Boarding School Training Coalition (NABS) has been hosting “listening sessions” in Indian Country after the former Secretary of Interior, Deb Haaland, issued her directive to her staff to “learn everything they could about Indian boarding schools.” The result was two volumes of information. NABS partnered with the National Endowment of the Arts and the National Library of Congress. NABS has professional Native oral historians who collect stories from elders. NABS will be coming to the Reno/Carson area in late April. DNAA will partner with them to ensure that they leave with at least 26 elder interviews. These recordings will eventually be archived at the National Library of Congress.

All Nevada state agencies related to natural resources, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Lands, Office of Minerals, Nuclear Projects and some federal agencies including Forestry and BLM, have resumed quarterly meetings in which the DNAA will participate.

The State of Nevada has been picked to provide the National Christmas Tree this year. It will be coming from the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. The tree must be decorated with 10,000 handmade ornaments from the state. More to follow.

The University of Nevada held a leadership summit, and the Governor made a brief appearance. All Tribal leaders in attendance had an opportunity to share their concerns with the Governor. The top issue is public safety. The Department of Public Safety has announced that it will have a new Tribal liaison starting later this month.

Director Montooth said the DNAA has secured an opioid prevention coordinator. Her start date is February 18. There was a discussion about opioid services and the need to make certain that those programs are culturally competent. Different 988 system and crisis response systems were

compared. Online access connected to tribal health was discussed.

The DNAA is interviewing for at least three management analyst positions to help with Tribal consultation. The priorities for Tribal leaders, Tribal communities, and Tribal elders are education, health and human services, economic development, and the environment.

The budget was discussed and how various staff members were being paid with paper checks rather than electronically. The Director announced that the State is upgrading its accounting system.

Motion: Approve Executive Director's Quarterly Report as presented
By: Chairman Emm
Second: Commissioner Tiger
Vote: Motion passed unanimously

V. Planning – Planning Future Topics (For Discussion & Possible Action)

The Commissioners discussed dates for upcoming meetings and how to best insert them in an already busy year. There was much back and forth. But tentative meeting dates are:

April 11 South
June 30 North
October 13 & 14 South

Director Montooth told Commissioners that she would get these and other important dates down on paper and they would get them in a few days.

VI. Final Public Comment

Commissioner Emm said she would be getting more information on the Nevada Food and Ag event in Elko.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by a motion from Commissioner Andrea Martinez.

Motion: Adjourn NDNAA 2/10/2025 Meeting at 5:35 PM
By: Commissioner Andrea Martinez
Second: Dr. Stops
Vote: Motion passed unanimously