

Nevada Department of Native American Affairs

Meeting Minutes

Friday, April 11, 2025

1:30 PM

Meeting Location:

Las Vegas Paiute Nation

Multipurpose Room

1399 Sackett St

Las Vegas, NV 89106

Commissioners

Tammi Tiger

Staci Emm

Andrea Martinez

Dr. Arlie Stops

Dr. Art Martinez

Department of Native American Affairs

Stacey Montooth

Lori Arrive

Dr. Joshua Bonde

Janet Davis

Chris Gibbons

Lawanda Jones

Sarina Nez

Melanie Smokey

Presenters

Shana Rhinehart, Executive Grant Analyst and Grant Matching Program Administrator

Brian Wadsworth, Chief Operating Officer, Native Public Media

Lori Thomas, Las Vegas Natural History Museum

Other Attendees

Autumn Blattman, Washoe Regional Coordinator, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Jason Molino, Tribal Liaison, Public Health Infrastructure and Improvement, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Monica Schiffer, Tribal Liaison, Health Care Financing and Policy, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Stephen Aichroth, Tribal Liaison, Nevada Department of Business and Industry

Tiffany Davis, Tribal Liaison, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange

Cal Boone, Tribal Liaison, Secretary of State's Office

Devon Pickles, Tribal Liaison, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Greg Ott, Deputy Attorney General, Nevada Attorney General's Office

Lori Lutu, Tribal Liaison, Aging and Disability Services Division, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

Melyssa Dolan, Tribal Liaison, Division of Forestry

Patricia Olmstead, Tribal Liaison, Department of Taxation

Letisha Yellowhawk, Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

Cecilia Alonso, Tribal Liaison, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

A'keia Sanders, Director, Governor's Office of Federal Assistance

Andrea Clustka, Program Director, Family Violence Prevention Program, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada

I. Invocation

Provided by Dr. Art Martinez

II. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Provided by Commissioner Staci Emm

III. Introductions of Meeting Participants

Meeting participants introduced themselves

IV. Introductions of New DNAA Staff

The two new DNAA staff members, Lawanda Jones and Dr. Josh Bonde introduce themselves.

V. Election of Commission Chair

Motion: Nominate Commissioner Staci Emm for Chairperson

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Dr. Art Martinez

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

Motion: Nominate Commissioner Tammi Tiger for Vice Chairperson

By: Commissioner Andrea Martinez

Second: Dr. Art Martinez

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

VI. Approval of February 10, 2025, Commission Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve February 10, 2025, Commission Meeting Minutes with small changes

By: Vice Chair Tiger

Second: Commissioner Andrea Martinez

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

VII: Executive Director Report – Stacey Montooth

Executive Director Montooth answered questions on items including the Governor Recovery Funds, their partnership with Health and Human Services, the response to the Tribal opioid epidemic and the development of culturally competent programming to go out to the Tribes.

The Director announced that there would be two additional screenings of the documentary, Remaining Native, which is about a Paiute student-athlete and his family's connections to the Stewart Indian Boarding School. In addition, the opening day of "Threads of Tradition" weaving classes and demonstrations orchestrated by the Great Basin Native Basket Weavers Association and hosted by the Nevada Museum of Art will be exclusively held for Tribal citizens. Director Montooth also said that the Secretary of State has announced that he is going on an active listening tour to all 28 Tribal nations.

Motion: Approve Executive Director's Report
By: Dr. Art Martinez
Second: Vice Chair Tiger
Vote: Motion passed unanimously

VIII: Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum Director's Report – Dr. Joshua Bonde

Dr. Bonde reported about the National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, gift shop sales, donations accepted, and exhibit news. He reported out volunteer hours, visitor numbers, and educational outreach. The BIA has agreed to hand over 55 boxes of archival records that are currently housed by the Nevada State Museum to come home to the Stewart. He said they had one project (redoing the school gym) that made it to the Governor's recommendation Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list for this biennium. There was a discussion about the gift shop not taking credit cards and Dr. Bonde said once their POS system is in place, that will be resolved and sales can be tracked. There was also discussion about the Stewart Traveling Art Exhibit going down to the UNLV Remembrance Day.

Motion: Approve Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum Director's Report
By:
: Vice Chair Tiger
Second: Dr. Art Martinez
Vote: Motion passed unanimously

IX. Stewart Father's Day Powwow Report – Program Officer, Sarina Nez

Sarina Nez gave an update on the powwow including details about staff, food, activities, stage changes, vendors, and volunteers from Unity Groups and Touro University.

Motion: Approve Stewart Father's Day Powwow Report
By: Commissioner Andrea Martinez
Second: Dr. Art Martinez
Vote: Motion passed unanimously

X. American Rescue Program Act Subgrants Report – Management Analyst, Janet Davis

Janet Davis gave an update on the Tribal ARPA Program. She reported what Tribes received and what they have spent. She detailed what Tribes were missing in terms of documentation and emphasized the importance of spending grant funds. Some Tribes have not spent any of their money. Some Tribes have new leadership, and they need to get their projects started and completed to take advantage of the ARPA funding.

XI. Presentation – Governor's Office of Federal Assistance, Shana Rhinehart, Executive Grant Analyst and Grant Matching Program Administrator

Shana Rhinehart gave a thorough overview about the full grant lifecycle, including the training and support that the Governor's Office of Federal Assistance (OFA) offers all free of charge. She outlined the Nevada Federal Grant Finder Tool and the eligibility checker. She explained various grant training opportunities including full grant lifecycle technical assistance. This year, OFA will host a Tribal only training with a national organization that specializes in professional training and education, Feldsman Leifer LLC. The Nevada Grant Lab also is interested in providing grant writing training and other support so that OFA can do grant writing and grant management training, too.

XII. Presentation – Brian Wadsworth, COO, Native Public Media; Federal Communications Commission's Missing and Endangered Persons (MEP) Event Code

Brian Wadsworth addressed the mission of Native Public Media and provided an update on the Missing and Endangered Persons Event Code. He outlined different state alert systems and presented an overview of the Integrated Public Alert Warning System and the Missing and Endangered Persons Working Group. He asked the Commissioners for guidance in working with the State of Nevada and Sarina Nez agreed to be his point of contact.

XIII. Goal Setting and Scheduling for Strategic Plan

Director Montooth reminded the leadership that the DNAA does not have a strategic plan. She reminded the Commissions about their \$10,000 grant from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians (now known as the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation) to create a strategic plan and the July 1 deadline to report back with a completed plan.

Members talked about hiring consultants, budget, RFPs, Tribal consultation, and Dr. Bonde's experience creating strategic plans. Vice Chair Tiger said that working together, we can compile and produce a document by July 1.

Deputy Attorney General, Greg Ott, said since the group would be setting out goals and their vision for everything that's under their jurisdiction, it would qualify as an open meeting.

After the discussion, the Commissioners decided to meet on Monday, June 16 and possibly through the 18 to develop a strategic plan. To meet the open meeting laws, an agenda will be developed and posted. That agenda will include a regular meeting.

XIV. Future Agenda Items

Besides planning for strategic planning, it was suggested that a civic engagement committee update on the legislative session be included.

There was a discussion about whether Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) should have a tribal liaison. Mr. Ott said he would put in some research and also reach out to NSHE. This topic could also be included on the next meeting agenda.

XV. Final Public Comment

Lori Thomas from the Las Vegas Natural History Museum told Members about their 40,000 square foot History Museum. She wants Indian Country to be accurately represented in their programs at the Museum including weekly weekend exhibits, standing exhibits, and/or their traveling exhibits.

Director Montooth told Commissioners that there are almost 50 bills making their way through the Nevada Legislature that the DNAA is following. She reported that yesterday was the first opportunity for a call to action as two amendments were introduced to adjust the Native American Fee Waiver. She noted the show of strength as elders, youth and Native American professionals all came together in one voice.

XVI. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn April 11, 2025 NDNAAC Commissioners Meeting
By: Commissioner Andrea Martinez
Second: Dr. Art Martinez
Vote: Motion passed unanimously