

# **Nevada Department of Native American Affairs**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 17, 2025**

**9:00 AM**

**Meeting Location:**

**Nevada Department of Native American Affairs**

**5366 Snyder Avenue**

**Building #3**

**Carson City NV 89701**

### **Commissioners**

Staci Emm, Chair

Tammi Tiger, Vice Chair

Andrea Martinez

Dr. Art Martinez

Dr. Arlie Stops

### **Department of Native American Affairs**

Stacey Montooth, Executive Director

Joshua Bonde, SISCCM Director

Sarina Nez, Program Officer

Lawanda Jones, Opioid Program Specialist

Lori Arrive, Office Manager

Janet Davis, Management Analyst

### **Attendees Zoom**

Christy Jones Brady, Tribal Liaison, Office of the Attorney General

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

Patricia Olmstead, Tribal Liaison, Department of Taxation

Todd Weiss, Nevada Senior Deputy Attorney General (acting DAG)

Vanessa Justice, Tribal Liaison, Department of Health and Human Services

Clifford Banuelos, Tribal Liaison, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada

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

### **In Person Attendees**

Aaron Thacker, Tribal Liaison, Emergency Management

Josie Burnett, Regional Tribal Liaison, Federal Emergency Management Agency

#### **I. Convene meeting, roll call, and establish quorum**

Chair Emm called the meeting to order at 9:04 am. Director Montooth conducted a roll call and quorum was established.

## **II. Invocation**

Dr. Martinez gave an invocation

## **III. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**

Chair Emm welcomed everyone and provided a land acknowledgement.

## **IV. Introductions of Meeting Participants**

Meeting participants introduced themselves.

## **V. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## **VI. Strategic Planning Session, Items VII-IV**

(Note: The strategic planning session was a comprehensive undertaking. Brainstorming and discussions were fluid. Therefore, minutes for Agenda Items VII-IV are written as a whole.)

Dr. Bonde explained that Nevada Revised Statutes or NRS 233A is the informative legislation for the Department of Native American Affairs. Because it is vaguely written it gives the Commissioners latitude in establishing goals for the Department. Commissioners will plan in the context of opportunities and potential threats that are out there.

Dr. Bonde read DNAA's current mission statement and then shared examples of mission statements from UNR, the Nevada Museum of Art, Nevada State Historic Preservation Office and the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. He reminded Members that a vision statement describes an organization's long-term aspirations, while a mission statement outlines its current purpose and how it will achieve its vision.

Members brainstormed and discussed specific ideas they wanted included in DNAA's vision and mission statements. They parsed vocabulary for the most descriptive phrasing possible.

Issues discussed included equity in education, natural resource management, economic development, health, housing, cultural resiliency, civil engagement and remediation of past inequities.

There was a discussion about what language to use for describing Native Americans. Nevada Senior Deputy Attorney General Todd Weiss advised members that an exact match of the language used in the NRS was not required.

Dr. Bonde explained that a PESTEL analysis is a strategic management framework used to assess the macro environmental factors that can impact an organization. (PESTEL stands for political, economic, social, technological, environmental, and legal factors.) Members brainstormed

opportunities and threats facing them. In many cases, items were both opportunities and threats.

**Opportunities included:**

- Opportunity to influence the channeling of available state funds, federal funds
- Opportunity to tell accurate history and influence laws
- Opportunity to educate the legislature on state committees
- Opportunity to educate youth through classroom curriculum
- Opportunity to establish tribal enterprise zones
- Opportunity to educate legislature and tribal members
- Opportunity to increase cultural preservation
- Opportunity to increase tribal entrepreneurship

**Threats included:**

- Lack of knowledge at the political level
- Current federal status
- Sale of federal land
- Threats to access to justice/legal services
- Lack of business infrastructure and economic development profits
- Lack of housing, clean air and water, employment, education
- Lack of IT infrastructure
- Health disparities and opioid epidemic
- Lack of governing infrastructure
- Physical isolation/ geographic location/social isolation

Director Montooth stressed the importance of having an accurate expectation of what DNAA can do as advocacy from within the system. DNAA is not speaking for Tribes, and they are not speaking for communities. Instead, they are guiding and shepherding policy from within the state system to bring those together.

Dr. Bonde said they must use the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) for guidance as goals are set and refer to their mission statement and vision statement as they make the goals. Dr. Bonde asked the group what are measurable goals which pertain to education, natural resources, economic development, health and human services, sovereignty, and cultural resilience.

**Possible goals included:**

- An annual Governor's Summit
- Ongoing tribal training program(s) on consultation
- Communication plan with Tribes
- Annual brochures highlighting DNAA work
- Host Indian Education Summit
- Set a joint meeting with advisory committees to identify priorities with deliverables

Dr. Bonde said there are currently two formal advisory committees. He asked about establishing four working groups: natural resources, economic development, health and human services, and then a working group on NAGPRA and language resilience, cultural resilience? The group decided each commissioner would take a mission area and report out at the quarterly meetings.

**Overarching goals:**

Provide input and training on state consultation. DNAA needs to do better about educating people on what consultation is, teaching people how to do consultation, and coming up with metrics on how they're doing it.

Communication and marketing. Metrics there are annual surveys, increase of social media engagement, tracking email distributions, website hits.

Getting the word out about what DNAA is, what they do, and how they do it. Metrics similar to communication/marketing.

Advisory boards to follow the mission areas, the program areas, go out there and gather information which can be brought back and used as part of regular report.

**Stewart Campus**

Right now the main goal is to investigate what the NRS legal authority is that the department has over the campus.

**Next Steps**

Dr. Bonde will share a draft document of the vision, mission, and goals for Commissioners to review and give feedback. All Commissioners will have a couple weeks to review and return their comments to Dr. Bonde who will then incorporate those comments into another draft for the Commissions at their July 28 meeting. Following, another draft will go out to the public for more comments and review.

Commissioners can start drafting ideas about the work to be done in their mission areas and bring those to the next meeting.

**V. Final Public Comment**

There was no final public comment.

**VI. Adjournment**

Motion:	Adjourn June 17, 2025, DNAA Meeting
By:	Dr. Stops
Second:	Dr. Martinez
Vote:	Motion passed unanimously at 4:26 pm