

# Nevada Department of Native American Affairs

## Tribal Health Authority Council Introductory Second Meeting Summary

June 23, 2026

| Time                         | Location                                               | Format                      |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Approx. 10:12 AM to 10:39 AM | Virtual meeting (Microsoft Teams recording/transcript) | Online introductory session |

### Attendance

| Tribal Health / Voting-Member Participants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | DNAA / Commission Participants                                                                                                                                    | State, IHS, and Other Participants / Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fabian Solis, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe Health and Human Services<br>Fergus Loughridge, Fort McDermott Paiute-Shoshone Tribe Wellness Center<br>Teri Gilbert-Eisenga, Washoe Tribal Health Center<br>Andrea Johnson Harper, Yerington Paiute Tribe<br>Jon Pishion, Fallon Tribal Health Center (joined after adjournment and planned to attend the third session) | Stacey Montooth, Executive Director<br>Kaitlynne Romero, DNAA Program Coordinator<br>Savena Rogers, DNAA Program Officer<br>Kadie Zeller, DNAA Management Analyst | Adam Patch, IHS Colorado River Service Unit<br>Robin Tahbo, IHS Colorado River Service Unit<br>Tiffany Davis, Nevada Health Authority<br>Lori Lutu and Autumn Blattman, Aging and Disability Services Division<br>Devon Pickles and Vanessa Justice, Department of Human Services<br>Monica Schiffer, Nevada Health Authority<br>Connie Martinez, Nevada Medicaid<br>Nahayvee Flores-Rosiles and Carissa Pierce, Nevada Health Authority / Nevada Medicaid<br>Edwin Centeno and Jason Molino, state tribal liaisons |

### Executive Director Stacey Montooth - Leadership Highlights

- Supported the second introductory session as part of DNAA's three-session effort to reach all voting-member health directors before regular Council business begins.
- Affirmed that the Council has authority to develop bylaws or a charter and suggested using existing DNAA committee bylaws as templates.
- Responded to concerns about legislative timing by explaining the state hiring and funding steps required to staff the Council, including DNAA's use of a contract position to bring Kaitlynne Romero on quickly.
- Reinforced the importance of a positive, action-oriented launch because the Council has unusual authority to help generate bill draft requests for tribal health policy.
- Confirmed that DNAA was taking seriously the recommendation for written participation letters so quorum and membership could be handled more nimbly.

### Meeting Overview

The second introductory session continued the orientation process for the new Tribal Health Authority Council. The recording began with a discussion of written participation letters and then moved into introductions, survey planning, future meeting dates, future agenda items, public comment, and adjournment.

Much of the discussion focused on moving from orientation into operational structure. Participants supported creating bylaws or a charter, developing a participation letter, distributing a survey, identifying Council priorities, and planning the first substantive meeting no later than August.

## **Participation Letters and Membership Confirmation**

Fergus Loughridge recommended that participating health centers submit a letter confirming that they want to participate in the Tribal Health Authority Council. He explained that this could help DNAA determine quorum based on participating members rather than an all-encompassing statewide list of eligible entities.

Kaitlynne Romero confirmed the concept as a letter of participation. Stacey later said DNAA had taken the opt-in letter idea seriously and would use it to help keep the Council nimble if any health centers or tribal governments did not want to join immediately.

## **Introductions and Partner Network**

The meeting included introductions from tribal health directors and representatives, IHS representatives, DNAA staff, Nevada Health Authority staff, Department of Human Services liaisons, Aging and Disability Services liaisons, and Nevada Medicaid tribal liaisons.

The introductions reflected the broad partner network supporting the Council: tribal health directors, IHS service unit representatives, state Medicaid and health policy staff, behavioral health partners, social services staff, aging and disability services liaisons, and DNAA administrative and program staff.

## **Survey and Strategic Framework**

Kaitlynne Romero described the forthcoming council member survey, which would ask health directors about community priorities, areas needing improvement, community goals, and information needed to begin identifying shared work areas. She also noted Dr. Martinez's suggestion of a goal strategy or strategic model to accompany the survey.

Stacey stated that DNAA expected to send the survey within approximately 30 days and give participants about two weeks to complete it. She explained that the survey should identify areas of mutual interest, crossover in goals, and future regional or statewide needs raised during the first introductory session.

## **Future Agenda Items and Governance**

Monica Schiffer suggested that a future agenda include a charter or bylaws for the Council to frame its goals, processes, and operating structure. Stacey agreed and said DNAA could use bylaws from other DNAA standing committees, including Indian Education, Civic Engagement, or nonprofit examples, as templates.

Fergus Loughridge urged the group to move quickly from introductory meetings into substantive Council work because the next legislative session begins in February and bill draft requests must be developed well before session. He also noted that the statute contemplates governance elements such as a chair and formal processes.

Andrea Johnson Harper echoed the desire to understand when the Council would begin getting into the substance of its work, while also agreeing that foundational steps should be completed first. Kaitlynne responded that after the third introductory meeting, she would combine notes from all three sessions and prepare for the next meeting no later than August.

## Public Comment and FMAP Reinvestment Update

During final public comment, Monica Schiffer reminded participants that Nevada Health Authority would present to the interim Health and Human Services Committee on June 30 regarding the FMAP reinvestment plan called for by SB 312. She explained that Nevada Health Authority had coordinated with DNAA and tribal health directors while the Council was still being stood up.

Monica credited Nahayvee Flores-Rosiles, Carissa Pierce, and Edwin Centeno for work on the report and encouraged participants to attend, provide comment, ask questions, or send feedback if the reinvestment plan could benefit their communities and health care facilities.

## Next Steps

- DNAA will finish the third introductory session and combine notes from all three June sessions.
- DNAA will prepare a letter of participation for health centers that want to join the Council.
- Kaitlynne Romero will distribute the survey and develop a strategic framework or model for future discussion.
- DNAA will send Doodle polls for future dates rather than trying to select dates during the meeting.
- Future agenda items should include bylaws or charter development, Council officer structure, legislative BDR timing, survey results, and FMAP reinvestment follow-up.