

Nevada Indian Commission

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, July 21, 2023

9:30 AM

Meeting Location: Hungry Valley

9075 Eagle Canyon Drive - Sparks, Nevada 89441

Hosted By: Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and Via Zoom

Commissioners Present:

Kostan Lathouris – Chair

Brian Wadsworth – Vice Chair

Kelly Krolicki – Commissioner

Staci Emm – Commissioner

Tammi Tiger – Commissioner

Staff Present:

Stacey Montooth Executive Director

Valerie Seukteoma Administrative Assistant

Janet Davis Management Analyst – ARPA Grant Funds

Bobbi Rahder Museum Director (Virtual)

Guests Present:

Chair Arlan Melendez Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

Chair Brian Mason Shoshone-Paiute Tribe of Duck Valley

Danena Ike Elko Band/Vice Chair Te-Moak

Andrea Martinez Chair Walker River Paiute Tribe

Deserea Quintana Executive Director, Inter-Tribal Counsel of Nevada

Bethany Sam Community Information Officer, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

Bucky Harjo Public Relations Assistant, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

Stacy Burns Language & Cultural Manager, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

Mervin Wright Director, Pyramid Lake Fisheries

Lance West Principal, Schurz Elementary / IEAC Interim Vice Chair

Marla Williams Deputy Director, Nevada Department of Health & Human Services

Steve Aichroth Tribal Liaison, Department of Business & Industry

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

Gabriel Di Chiara Tribal Liaison, Secretary of State's Office

Adam Ernst Tribal Liaison, Department of Health & Human Services

Kailey Musso Tribal Liaison, Department of Wildlife

Captain Bob Haigney	Tribal Liaison, Department of Public Safety
Evan Rush	Tribal Liaison, Department of Veteran Services
Monica Schiffer	Tribal Liaison, Medicaid
Harold Wickham	Tribal Liaison, Nevada Department of Corrections
Tonya Wolf	Tribal Liaison, Department of Agriculture
Amy Lucas	Health Program Specialist, Department of Health & Human Services
Allison Neswood	Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund (NARF)
Angel Benally	Tribal Affairs Specialist, FirstNet Program
Thurman Roberts	Tribal Career Navigator, NevadaWorks
Milt Stewart	CEO, NevadaWorks
Kelsey Freeman	Director of Investments, Nevada Clean Energy Fund
Richard Savage	Program Coordinator Indian Education Opportunities Program CCSD

The meeting was convened by Chairman Kostan Lathouris, and a quorum was established. Bucky Harjo provided the invocation, and a personalized land acknowledgment was given by the host, Bethany Sam, public information officer of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony.

Participants introduced themselves, and Elko Band Chairwoman Danena Ike requested agenda adjustments of which Chairman Lathouris accommodated.

New Business:

Approval of new members to the Indian Education Advisory Committee. New members are Margaret Gunshows, ITCN Head Start; Maria Warf, ITCN Childcare Development; Emily Navarro, Washoe TANF; and Richard Savage, Clark County School District.

**Motion: Approve applications for new Indian Education Advisory Committee 4
Voting Members**

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Commissioner Emm

Vote: Approved by acclamation

Establishment of Advisory Committee on Civic Engagement:

Commissioner Tiger initiated a discussion to establish this committee, emphasizing the importance of tribal participation in all levels of government and civic engagement. Various members contributed to the discussion, highlighting issues like voter rights, green energy transition, and the need for a unified Native voice.

Janet Davis, Chairman Melendez, Chairwoman Ike, Chairman Brian Mason, Gabriel Di Chiara, and Bethany Sam all spoke in favor of establishing the task force.

Motion: Establish an advisory committee on civic engagement

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Chair Lathouris

Vote: Approved by acclamation

ARPA Funds to Tribal Nations:

Janet Davis presented an overview of the distribution of ARPA funds to tribal nations, totaling \$20 million to be divided equally among 28 Tribes. The discussion focused on the application process, the need for simplifying it, and providing workshops and assistance for the tribes.

Initial Public Comment:

Various speakers, including Kelsey Freeman from the Nevada Clean Energy Fund and Clifford Banuelos, Tribal-State Environmental Liaison, addressed the Commission, discussing opportunities in clean energy and environmental concerns.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the February 13, 2023, meeting were unanimously approved.

Motion: Approve February 13, 2023, Commission Meeting Minutes

By: Commissioner Emm

Second: Commissioner Krolicki

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

Executive Director Report:

Executive Director Montooth referenced written reports and discussed Assembly Bill 516, which will make the NIC a standalone agency, transforming it into the Nevada Department of Native Affairs.

Motion: Approve Executive Director's Quarterly Report as presented

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Commissioner Emm

Vote: Approved by acclamation

Reports on Cultural Center, Museum and Stewart Father’s Day Powwow:

Updates were given on the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum, including traveling exhibits and fundraising efforts. The Stewart Father’s Day Powwow report was discussed, highlighting its success and financial outcome.

Motion: Approve Stewart Indian School Cultural Center as presented

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Commissioner Emm

Vote: Approved by acclamation

Motion: Approve Stewart Father’s Day Powwow Report as presented

By: Commissioner Emm

Second: Commissioner Krolicki

Vote: Approved by acclamation

Indian Education Advisory Committee Report:

The committee's efforts in conducting surveys to gather input were commended, and future plans were discussed.

Motion: Approve Indian Education Advisory Committee Report as presented

By: Commissioner Emm

Second: Commissioner Tiger

Vote: Approved by acclamation

Old Business - Consultation Policy and Tribal Water Rights:

The Commission reviewed and approved a consultation policy designed to guide interactions between state agencies and Tribal governments.

Position Paper on Tribal Water Rights was discussed. The focus will be on a collaborative process to address Tribal water rights effectively. Commissioner Emm will lead this project.

Presentations:

Gabriel Di Chiara outlined Senate Bills 216 and 327 related to elections and tribal voting rights.

Adam Ernst provided an update on health data for American Indian and Alaska Native populations in Nevada.

Milt Stewart and Thurman Roberts of Nevadaworks provided an overview of their organization focusing on workforce development.

Allison Neswood from Native American Rights Fund (NARF) discussed tribal voting rights and barriers faced by Native Americans in voting.

Future Agenda Items and Meetings:

Future agenda items were proposed, including a resolution for consultation regarding Thacker Pass and the green energy transition.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by a motion from Commissioner Tiger.

Motion: Adjourn Nevada Indian Commission 7/21/23 Meeting

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Commissioner Krolicki

Vote: Approved by acclamation

Nevada Indian Commission

Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 21, 2023

9:30 AM

Meeting Location:

Hungry Valley

9075 Eagle Canyon Drive

Sparks NV 89441

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

And Virtual via Zoom

Commissioners Present:

Kostan Lathouris – Chair

Brian Wadsworth – Vice Chair

Kelly Krolicki – Commissioner

Staci Emm – Commissioner

Tammi Tiger – Commissioner

Staff Present:

Stacey Montooth Executive Director

Valerie Seukteoma Administrative Assistant Nevada Indian Commission

Janet Davis Management Analyst Nevada Indian Commission – ARPA Grant Funds

Bobbi Rahder Museum Director (Virtual)

Others Present:

Chair Arlan Melendez Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

Chair Brian Mason Shoshone-Paiute Tribe of Duck Valley

Danena Ike Elko Band/Vice Chair Te-Moak

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Deserea Quintana Executive Director, Inter-Tribal Counsel of Nevada

Bethany Sam Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Community Information Officer

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

Gabriel Di Chiara Tribal Liaison Secretary of State's Office

Adam Ernst Tribal Liaison DHHS

Kailey Musso Tribal Liaison Department of Wildlife

Captain Bob Haigney Tribal Liaison Department of Public Safety

Amy Lucas Department of Health & Human Services

Evan Rush Tribal Liaison Department of Veteran Services

Monica Schiffer Tribal Liaison Medicaid

Harold Wickham Tribal Liaison Nevada Department of Corrections

Tonya Wolf Tribal Liaison Department of Agriculture

Allison Neswood	Native American Rights Fund (NARF)
Angel Benally	Tribal Affairs Specialist, FirstNet Program
Thurman Roberts	NevadaWorks
Milt Stewart	CEO NevadaWorks
Kelsey Freeman	NV Clean Energy Fund
Richard Savage	Indian Education Opportunities Program Coordinator Clark County School District

I. Convene meeting, roll call, and establish quorum

Chairman Kostan Lathouris convened the meeting. Executive Director Montooth took roll call. Quorum was established.

II. Invocation

Bucky Harjo of Reno-Sparks Indian Colony provided the invocation.

III. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

Chairman Lathouris said since they had the privilege and honor to be hosted by the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, he would forego the standard land acknowledgement of the Nevada Indian Commission and let the acknowledgment be specific to the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony. Bethany Sam, Public Relations Officer for Reno-Sparks Indian Colony delivered a personalized acknowledgement.

IV. Introductions of Meeting Participants

Many participants introduced themselves in person and on Zoom. A complete list of attendees appears at the beginning of the meeting minutes.

After introductions, the Chair asked if any of the tribal leaders wanted to request a change in order on the agenda to accommodate their travel plans. If there were requests they could move items to the top of the agenda.

Chairwoman Danena Ike requested that Items 11A and B, New Business be moved.

Motion: Move Items 11A and B, New Business, to the next item on the agenda

By: Chair Lathouris

Second: Commissioner Emm

Vote: Approved by acclamation

XI. New Business (For Discussion & Possible Action)

A) Approval of New Indian Education Advisory Committee 4 Voting Members

Executive Director Montooth said that four completed and signed applications for Margaret Gunshows, ITCN Head Start; Maria Warf, ITCN Child Care Development; Emily Navarro, Washoe TANF; and Richard Savage (Clark County School District) were included in the meeting packet. The Executive Director respectfully requested that the NIC approve the applications.

Motion: Approve applications for new Indian Education Advisory Committee 4 Voting Members

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Commissioner Emm

Vote: Approved by acclamation

B) Establishing Advisory Committee on Civic Engagement

Commissioner Tiger initiated a discussion about establishing an Advisory Committee on Civic Engagement. She said, "Our democracy is based on the principles of participation. Our sovereignty is further strengthened when tribal citizens engage in all levels of government; tribal, federal, state, and local. Nevada Tribes have long led these efforts, including access to the ballot on tribal lands and legislation impacting Natives across our whole state. We know from the last Census that we have not only significantly increased our population, but there's a balance between Nevada tribal citizens and urban Native citizens who are here from all across Indian country. Working together to build an ecosystem of urban tribal leaders would be helpful in advocating for the different issues that affect all of us and how we can build our collective power as tribal citizens. NIC has always had priorities in legislation and supporting the Tribes on legislation with testimony and organizing comments and also helping with the Native vote. And so, I'd like to see if we can establish a committee that is comprised of tribal leaders and urban Native leaders who have a focus on civic engagement, like it's already part of what they do. They're committed to that, and that we work together to maximize our resources in getting out the vote statewide, working on legislation together, and all the things that we've already been starting in the last several years, actually, but maybe just putting this together in a more formal way so that we can have standing meetings and participation and coordinating."

Commissioner Tiger asked if there were any comments or questions and there were.

Janet Davis said she has been active with the Get Out the Vote and actively working for doing the Census. She thinks it is important to establish an advisory group to come together and serve all of the Tribes and have a strong, unified voice. Who should serve on this advisory group?

Commissioner Tiger said she thought each Tribe would designate a person. Some Tribes have an election office and staff. They would focus on those organizations and those people within the Tribes who already have this as part of the work that they do. They have a better understanding of the election work and civic engagement and legislation.

Chair Lathouris said they currently have several committees, the Indian Education Advisory Committee, the Stewart Cultural Advisory Committee, and the Stewart Advisory Committee. Those two last ones are underneath the Cultural Center & Museum, in addition to the Pow Wow Committee. So, there is precedent for this. The NIC does have authority to establish an advisory committee.

Chairman Melendez asked how broad and how narrow is this civic engagement? Are they just talking about Get Out the Native Vote or is this committee broadened out to other subjects, other issues leading up to legislation? Is this for education or is it with relationships with the cities and counties and beyond?

Commissioner Tiger said civic engagement is very broad and it does encompass everything from establishing polling sites to training polling workers, getting out the vote, and legislation, and participation in public meetings. Civic engagement is all the time. If they do it well, then they will always be working with the community, educating on candidates, educating on the issues, and just coordinating resources to make sure that people are aware of what's up in legislation or who the candidates are and why it matters to them. So, it would be very broad and ongoing.

Chairman Melendez said that it may lead to statewide or citywide committees that they don't really engage with, that they don't really sit on, but where they should have Native Americans participating.

Chairwoman Ike said that this is an excellent idea that they need to support. It's important that Native peoples' voices be heard and that their people need to be aware of what is out there and what is available to them. They need to "step out from behind the sagebrush." They need to be involved and make their voices heard, because that is going to be more powerful for them as a united Native voice. They need to be united and continue to fight for their lands and their clean air and their clean water. Native people need to start speaking because historically they've not used their voices. Now is the time!

Chair Lathouris asked Chairwoman Ike to repeat the expression about the sagebrush. Chairwoman Ike said it was something their spiritual leader used to say. He said it was time for them as Native people to step out from behind the sagebrush because they've always sat behind and looked and never questioned anything, never spoke their voice. They have a powerful voice. And if it's united, it's even more powerful. Chair Lathouris said that expression might actually be a really good way to market some of the civic engagement.

Chairman Mason of Duck Valley reminded everyone that the Shoshone-Paiute Tribe had to sue the State of Nevada and Elko County in order to establish in-person polling. They just sent a letter to Congressman Mark Amodei who is trying to get as many letters from Tribal leaders as he can so they can take care of it on not just a state level, but a national level for voting specific regulations.

Commissioner Tiger noted that the Red Road to D.C. was to advocate for the protection of sacred sites and urged the adoption of free prior, and informed consent in the United States, which is still an ongoing issue for tribal nations all across the country. She had the honor of carrying a message for Thacker Pass at that event that was held before the country's capital with Secretary Deb Holland. The advocates from Peehee Mu'huh were not able to attend, but they shared with him a message to read before the audience.

Gabriel Di Chiara, Nevada's Chief Deputy Secretary of State and Tribal Liaison for the Secretary of State's Office, said if this committee was to be established, it would have the full support of the Secretary of State's office. They would love to be involved to the extent that the committee would want and they are happy to help.

Bethany Sam, Chair for Nevada's Indian Territory, said her concern is the voter rights and discrimination. They're working with Native Organizers Alliance (NOA) and trying to prepare themselves for some of that discrimination in Nevada. She is also working with Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and Protect Thacker Pass Organization as they have their own lawsuit going against BLM, and that includes Burns Paiute Tribe, Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, and Reno-Sparks Indian Colony.

She said in terms of "green colonialism" or the "green rush," the transition into green energy is going to affect all of the Great Basin area. There are Tribes working all from different ends, different organizations from different ends, and it would be nice to see if the Nevada Indian Commission can pull everyone together to have a say so as far as what the green energy transition is going to bring to our Tribes. Along with consultation, maybe the state can help Tribes get the consultation needed from the Biden administration and Deb Holland.

Chair Lathouris asked if this committee would be modeled after existing committees? What would be the structure of this committee?

Commissioner Tiger said it would probably follow more closely to the Indian Education Advisory Committee. She would like to defer to the Tribes to nominate someone from their organization, and then maybe they work with Director Montooth on identifying those Native organizations that focus on civic engagement and asking for someone from their staff.

The Chair said a prudent course of action then would be to look at the Indian Education Advisory Committee bylaws, revise it and change it to address civic engagement and kind of use that as a launch point and then bring it back at the next meeting for approval after giving the Tribes in the state of Nevada time to review. They should have enough time to revise it and put it out for review. And they might be able to approve a policy or set up bylaws as soon as next meeting.

Motion: Establish an advisory committee on civic engagement

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Chair Lathouris

Vote: Approved by acclamation

Chairman Mason of Duck Valley requested that Item #12C (ARPA funds) be moved to the top of the agenda.

Motion: Move Item #12C to the top of the agenda

By: Chair Lathouris

Second: Unidentified speaker

Vote: Approved by acclamation

XII. Old Business (For Discussion & Possible Action)

C) ARPA Funds to Tribal Nations

Janet Davis presented an overview of Tribal nations' American Rescue Plan Act funding.

The Tribes were allocated \$20 million for each of the Tribes to be divided equally. Director Montooth's office has twice sent out a 20-page application to the Tribes and also a three-page application for their interest and their intent of spending the \$714,000 that will be given to each individual Tribe.

Next week Ms. Davis will be following up with each of the Tribes to find out what their intent is. They're on a timeline just as everyone is with the federal government for spending these funds. They will be reviewing applications with the State people and making recommendations to the Tribes if anything else is needed. She said her job is to help Tribes get and spend the money they have coming to them through ARPA. Right now, there are two Tribes that have already submitted, Reno-Sparks and South Fork. So, there are 26 more Tribes to get on board. Some of the Tribes haven't even applied to be a vendor yet to even receive the funds. So, they're following up with those Tribes as well.

Commissioner Emm asked about the 20-page application. Ms. Davis said it is the standard application used for all state ARPA funding. Other documents are required to accompany those applications. Funds must be obligated by December 2024.

Commissioner Emm said they need to make this as simplistic as possible to go through the process. And right now, it seems a little muddled. December is going to come before you know it and all of these tribal communities need the ability to apply for this funding and know what they can apply for. Their goal should be to get them out in the most efficient way so that Tribes have the opportunity to benefit programs that they really need.

Commissioner Tiger wondered if it would be appropriate for NIC to host a workshop and some technical assistance, maybe to kick it off.

Chairman Mason of Duck Valley said this needs to be fast-tracked. Tribes need guidance and support. Everyone has a spending plan, but not all Tribes have resources and staff needed to satisfy all the requirements and the timeline.

Chair Lathouris said it would be great if they could do workshops. They don't necessarily need to be done at the Commission level if they can just have workshops for Tribes within the State of Nevada to sign it. This is paperwork. This is what other Tribes are doing just to make sure that it's being addressed. Chair Lathouris had a request for the tribal leaders in attendance -- if they can reach out to the fellow tribal leaders from other Nations and tell them about the ARPA requirements, that would be very helpful.

The Chair said the funds have to be obligated by the end of 2024. But how are they defining obligated? This was an issue with the CARES Act. Does it have to be obligated from the State in the sense that it is now going to the Tribes, or do the Tribes have to obligate it to a project? Ms. Davis said they have to have a plan obligated to a project. By 2024 they have to have their applications in and decide where they want to spend their money. It does not have to be paid out by that time, just obligated so they can get a subcontract.

Chair Lathouris said he understands it has the ARPA guidelines. It's federal funds, it's going to have those federal requirements. Did the State of Nevada add anything to it or is it just what the federal requirements are? Ms. Davis said it's just what the federal requirements are.

Commissioner Emm said in addition to the workshops and one-on-one assistance, they need to hold a webinar that they can record that's uploaded too. It could go through the process, the guidance, give some examples of projects and then, you know, if they do need assistance, where to go? There are 26 applications that have got to go in, so leveraging with other entities to help get those applications in might help.

Ms. Davis said she will reach out to each Tribe to see who is interested and what their intent is. A lot of the Tribes still haven't spent the other ARPA funds they have received.

Commissioner Emm said another thing the Nevada Indian Commission and staff need to be aware of is if they don't have a Tribe that wants to apply, then you have those funds here. They want to make sure that all funds are spent on Nevada tribal lands. Are there high priority projects that may need to be prioritized for that money? What does that look like? They need to have discussions with tribal leaders on that.

Ms. Davis said that was part of their discussion with the State yesterday. There was legislation that had gone in that the ARPA funds that were spent by the State were going to go to other nonprofits. They

would have the ability to apply for those, but the discussion was that the \$20 million is spent on tribal funds.

Chair Lathouris wanted some more information about the letter of intent and the application. Is the letter of intent just saying do you plan on filing an application? Ms. Davis affirmed and said the letter of intent was sent out two times. The Chair asked if you don't get the letters of intent in by the deadline, what happens? Ms. Davis said they need to have the complete application in by the deadline.

Chairman Brian Mason suggested that there be a portal with Treasury so Tribes will know their progress through the application process. Chairman Mason said they have got to get better helping the rural Tribes on the eastern side of the state, in Northeast Nevada. Some of those Tribes are in bad shape, and they're relying on help.

An unidentified speaker had a question regarding reporting requirements. When the Tribes accept these funds, what are their reporting requirements going to be to the State? At the State, the GFO, they have their own ARPA audit team where they're going to go in and audit all the ARPA funds. Are the Tribes going to be part of that audit, and what is going to be the requirements for those audits or reporting to GFO?

Ms. Davis said they are basically an extension of the State. The state is actually going to be helping to review the applications as they come in. Ms. Davis' office will be doing monthly reports to the State as well to see how much money is spent, to see where they're at with the funding. There will be monthly/quarterly reports from her office and the Tourism office is handling the funding. They are making sure to cover the audits by working very closely with the State Financial Office and their ARPA team.

Chair Lathouris assured the group that the Executive Director tried to make the application as short and straightforward as possible, but there are some unfortunate guidelines and restrictions that could not be worked around. This process is as simple as it can get, unfortunately.

Deserea Quintana said she had not seen the information that was sent to Tribes, but she's more than happy to meet with Ms. Davis. And if there's any assistance that ITCN can provide in submission of the letter intent or the applications for some of the Tribes that may not have the staffing or the resources, she would be more than happy to follow up on a conversation with Ms. Davis and see how they can assist.

Ms. Davis said they will have a meeting with the State in September to go over the applications that have been received up until then. As of now, there are only two. The sooner Tribes get them in, the better.

V. Initial Public Comment

There were several initial public comments:

Kelsey Freeman from the Nevada Clean Energy Fund and Community Engagement Fellow shared a couple resources that NSF has when it comes to thinking about taking advantage of the federal funding. Navigating the complicated federal systems and grant funding is something that NSF and the Nevada Clean Energy Fund really wants to help with.

Ms. Freeman's mission in this work is thinking about prioritizing tribal sovereignty when it comes to clean energy transition. That isn't always the case, and it certainly is not a guarantee in this transition. So, how do they make equity a reality?

When it comes to federal funding, there's a lot of opportunities for Tribes in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. They want to help kind of take advantage of that funding for Tribes, or help Tribes take advantage of that funding if they want to. There's a new system called Direct Pay, which basically makes it so that entities that don't carry a tax burden, like Tribes, can be eligible for tax credits through direct pay mechanisms. So, instead of not being able to take advantage of the tax credits for renewable energy, Tribes can receive tax credits directly through a direct pay. That changes the financial calculus of some of these projects.

And then there's the funding kind of various grants. Ms. Freeman is working on developing a digestible one-page overview about funding opportunities for Tribes under the IRA. She will follow up with them on that; maybe they can send that out on a listserv.

NSF on the Nevada Clean Energy Fund can help with identifying and applying for federal funds. Kind of synthesizing all the information, they work closely with the Office of Financial Assistance at the State, who has a grant writer who really wants to help Tribes that want to apply. And then they also work with the Nevada Grant Lab, who also has grant writers. So, they want to help with that kind of complicated, all these long applications, because the money is rolling out quickly.

Their experts can also assist with technical and financial assistance models. Their experts figure out how does this add up financially? How do they stack different rebates and federal funding opportunities? How do you develop a solar and storage project for energy resilience? How would you get a clean school bus for a tribally run school? How do these things work out in practice?

Nevada Clean Energy Fund does financing as well. They can help cover the gaps to the extent that a project can't be fully funded by grants, rebates, etc. They can help cover that extra cost.

Nevada Clean Energy Fund has some big federal opportunities. They are the statewide applicant for the Solar for All Fund, which is under the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds, which is basically about making solar more readily available and accessible. So, they love to talk more about what funding kind of projects through Solar for All could look like.

They are also applying for Renew America's Nonprofits Grant, which is about nonprofit entities, energy efficiency upgrades, solar, etc. for nonprofits. They are rolling out a Green Home Loans program, which is for folks to do things like replace air conditioning units, things like that, that like can be really key when it comes to resiliency, especially as we see greater and greater heat waves.

And then finally, they are working with school districts across the State to apply for a clean school bus program, which is taking advantage of federal funds for school bus electrification.

Ms. Freeman said she just found out that the Stanford Law School is working with a law firm to offer pro bono legal services for Tribes who want to take advantage of IRA funding. She will send out particulars soon.

Ms. Freeman said she hopes to bring together all these key pieces to prioritize tribal sovereignty in this

clean energy transition and make sure that Tribes who want to take advantage of these opportunities are able to do so.

Chair Lathouris said Ms. Freeman was a wealth of valuable information and if she wants to, she should try to schedule a presentation as part of the next meeting, and that way they can agendaize it, including materials for the packet.

Clifford Banuelos, Tribal-State Environmental Liaison with the Intertribal Council of Nevada had a few comments. In regard to cultural committees, there are two existing ones in Nevada. The BTNRC, the Bi-State Natural Resources Committee meets quarterly and that goes over cultural issues in the Sierra Nevada Bi-State area. There's also the newly formed Great Basin Tribal Alliance Beach regarding the other areas of Nevada going all the way to Utah and Idaho. It's a challenge to get the TPPLs together and talk so they're going this route to talk about these important cultural items. There are a lot of existing environmental committees, and to avoid duplication of efforts it would be good to coordinate with Mr. Banuelos' office. There are several committees that are discussing the same key items in the Tribes' interests.

Angel Benally, Tribal Affairs Specialist with the First Step Program built with AT&T, lives and works on the Navajo Nation in Utah. FirstNet is Public Safety's network that works closely with law enforcement agencies, emergency managers, tribal law enforcement agencies, EMS, ambulance and hospitals, and fire. There's such a great need for communication on tribal lands, First Step wants to fill that need. Ms. Benally plans to do a presentation at an upcoming NIC meeting in the near future, so stay tuned.

VI. Approval of February 13, 2023 Commission Meeting Minutes (For Discussion & Possible Action)

Motion: Approve February 13, 2023 Commission Meeting Minutes

By: Commissioner Emm

Second: Commissioner Krolicki

Vote: Motion passed unanimously

VII. Executive Director Report (For Discussion & Possible Action)

Executive Director Montooth referred the Commissioners and participants to the written reports that were submitted for Agenda Items 7, 8, 9, and 10. She said she was open to questions on the Executive Director Report.

Vice Chair Wadsworth asked if there was a budget printout from the budget. Director Montooth said not yet.

Commissioner Tiger asked about the bill to establish the Indian Commission as a new department. Director Montooth said this is AB 516, now in law signed by Governor Lombardo. It calls for the establishment of the NIC to become independent. If you look at the current org chart for the State of Nevada, the Indian Commission is under the purview of Tourism. This new law will uncouple the NIC. The NIC will be considered a standalone agency. And per the NRS, that transition will take place over the next year. As of July 1, 2024 the NIC will become the Nevada Department of Native Affairs (DNA).

According to the new law, they can hire three new employees as of October 1 of this year.

Chair Lathouris said this is a huge development for the Commission. It sends a good message, too. Tourism is incredibly important in the State of Nevada, but in terms of having government to government relations

having NIC as a standalone agency, this is great.

Motion: Approve Executive Director's Quarterly Report as presented
By: Commissioner Tiger
Second: Commissioner Emm
Vote: Approved by acclamation

VIII. Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum Report (For Discussion & Possible Action)

Bobbi Rahder said the Museum has two traveling exhibits on display telling Stewart's story. One of those is at the Washoe Tribal Health Center, and the other is at the Truckee Parks and Recreation Community Center in Truckee, California. And on July 22nd, the Brewery Arts Center is featuring a Native band called Indigenous. They've invited the Museum to be their non-profit organization that they will feature. They're going to display pictures of the Cultural Center Museum and have an information table with donations going to the Museum.

Commissioner Tiger asked could the get the traveling exhibit down in Southern Nevada? Director Rahder said yes. Commissioner Tiger said she would put Director Rahder in touch with the Clark County Department of Aviation.

Motion: Approve Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum Report as presented
By: Commissioner Tiger
Second: Commissioner Emm
Vote: Approved by acclamation

IX. Program Officer and Stewart Father's Day Powwow Report (For Discussion and Possible Action)

Chair Lathouris said the Stewart Father's Day Pow Wow Report was included in the meeting packet. Were there any questions?

Vice Chair Wadsworth asked how did the Powwow go? What was the final outcome, the final bottom line for the financials of the Powwow?

Executive Director Montooth said they broke even, which was awesome. The Powwow is not hosted to make money.

Commissioner Emm said she wanted to give a big shout out and thank you to the committee. It was a great turnout and a great event.

Commissioner Krolicki said she thought the Powwow was fantastic. She liked that the vendors were over to the side so that the area of the Powwow was really dedicated to the Powwow. Seating was all the way around the actual area and acted as a stage.

Commissioner Wadsworth agreed with the sentiments expressed. It was a really great event with a lot of vendors, dancers, and spectators. He commended the committee for planning this very successful Powwow.

Motion: Approve Stewart Father's Day Powwow Report as presented
By: Commissioner Emm
Second: Commissioner Krolicki

Vote: Approved by acclamation

X. Indian Education Advisory Committee Report (For Discussion & Possible Action)

Chair Lathouris said the Education Advisory Committee Report was included in the meeting packet. Were there any questions?

Commissioner Tiger said she had no questions, but she wanted to commend the Committee for their hard work on this survey. Using that qualitative methodology is going to be very productive in collecting input. So many thanks for all efforts.

Lance West, Vice Chair of IEAC said it is through the efforts of the Committee that there is an end in sight. They are going to hold themselves to that timeline. They are anticipating the time when they can look at the survey results and then analyze the data so that they can form and structure a strategic plan that they can roll out at the scheduled March 2024 Indian Education Summit.

In terms of the community survey, the information they are looking for is how academic systems, educational systems, value or recognize and acknowledge their own knowledge of their people. They see the value in seeing Native students represented, if not in personnel, students or educators that look like them, but in the curriculum. So, they are looking to see what the responses will look like.

Chair Lathouris said he appreciates the timeline, kind of laying out different action items and what the Commission can expect going forward. He also appreciates the identification of goals, the type of responses that they're hoping to get, and how many responses. He looks forward to hearing from them again in October.

Commissioner Emm asked when did they release the original surveys? Vice Chair West said the original surveys were released at an ITCN meeting that was held in December. The plan is to have members send out weekly reminders to the folks who they are looking for feedback on. The survey itself should take no more than 5-20 minutes to complete.

Vice Chair West said there are two options under the community survey. They can designate two members of the IEAC committee to gather tribal community surveys through back-to-school event nights. Or they can do four focus groups and identify five tribal communities to get five participants from each group. They do have a volunteer who's willing to do the focus surveys.

Motion: Approve Indian Education Advisory Committee Report as presented

By: Commissioner Emm

Second: Commissioner Tiger

Vote: Approved by acclamation

XII. Old Business (For Discussion & Possible Action)

A) Adoption of Consultation Policy

Chair Lathouris gave a brief summary of drafting the consultation policy. The drafting of the policy wasn't taken lightly; it started years ago. They had multiple meetings on it. They had a very in-depth, compassionate meeting in person down in Fort Mojave, which resulted in some big rewrites to make it as straightforward as possible without being redundant.

The proposed policy incorporates the most recent policies and procedures and uniform standards that have

been put out by the White House and the Department of the Interior as a result of consultation with Tribes nationwide. These really are kind of best practices. In addition, they incorporated some language from the Bureau of Land Management's handbook and manual, which includes a lot more information on successful consultation. The proposed policy includes the background, the purpose, the scope, key definitions and what is required in consultation. It designates points of contact, determines whether consultation is appropriate, what is required as part of a notice of consultation and how to conduct the consultation including the opportunity to enter into a protocol.

If state agencies and Tribes want to agree in writing that something would satisfy the consultation requirements, they're not bound by the policy. Each Tribe can make that decision. There are general guiding principles regarding how to have a record of consultation or considerations for it, how to implement the final state agency action, what needs to happen at that point that the state agency decides to do something, how to report consultation in accordance with the NRS, dispute resolution, and where the Commission could be called upon to provide review and guidance to the state agency. It also includes additional consultation considerations, including if you're going to enter into a protocol between the state agency and the Tribes and what are some common questions you might want to consider.

There was discussion that perhaps additional consultation considerations like the protocol considerations and best practices might be best for training. But the information included in the policy has been requested from federal agencies in terms of training. The policy is very straightforward and encourages people to work with Indian organizations to ensure successful consultation. Best practice considerations are included to end out the document. There is standard language about how to disseminate the policy.

The current amendment and review of policy language states that the Commission will meet periodically with state agencies and the Tribes at least once every two years to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy, including the state agency's promotion of cultural competence. The policy is a working document and may be revised as needed by the Commission. As a safeguard, the Commission, if it wants to make any changes, has to give 60 days' notice of the proposed changes and the opportunity for state agencies and Tribes and the Deputy Attorney General's Office to comment on the proposed changes.

Commissioner Emm proposed some changes that she and Chair discussed, and the Commission agreed upon. These included language choices, terminology, definitions, organizational points, and general edits. To shorten up the policy, it was suggested that some sections be broken down into separate exhibits that could then be used for training purposes. The Commission discussed best practices and what would be required to satisfy state and national mandates.

Motion: Approve Consultation Policy based on discussions

By: Commissioner Emm

Second: Vice Chair Wadsworth

Vote: Approved by acclamation

XII. Old Business (For Discussion & Possible Action)

B) Position Paper on Tribal Water Rights

Commissioner Emm said they took a break on the Position Paper for Tribal Water Rights to get through the state legislative session as there were some water bills in that legislative process. In the meantime, they met with water resource advocates to work on a "whole needs" assessment for Tribes focusing on water uses and tribal water rights.

Now that they're out of the legislative process, they should meet with some of the state agencies that deal with tribal water rights and get feedback if this is something that will move forward. The Commissioner's biggest fear is putting together a tribal water rights white paper that really isn't effective. So, they need to work through a collaborative process to find out what that looks like between Nevada Tribes and state agencies that deal with water rights.

Chair Lathouris said the topic of water rights is incredibly important. He was disappointed that the NIC and the Tribes in the State of Nevada were not consulted or talked with about whether the State was going to take a position regarding the Navajo Nation versus Arizona water rights case. The State of Nevada came out against Navajo Nation regarding water rights in the Colorado River. But that case did implicate questions about the federal government's trust responsibility and could have impacts on all Tribes. When it comes to those types of issues, Tribes should be talked with about it. And the Nevada Indian Commission is a state agency, and those issues should be discussed with them.

Marla McDade Williams said before the last legislative session, the Supreme Court had convened a group to discuss water law, and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe had a representative on that group and they ended up with a paper. That paper might have some valuable information.

Clifford Banuelos said Chris Nix, was the Tribal Rep, the lawyer for Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. And also, there's a National Tribal Water Council that meets. He said Pyramid Lake is very active in that national committee, and they do discuss tribal water rights. Mr. Banuelos urged NIC members to communicate with Mervin Wright Jr., the Fish Hatchery's Director, Dan Mosley, and Aaron Beale from the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

Commissioner Emm said they didn't need any action at this time, but they should set up some meetings with some state departments, find the white paper and contact Mervin Wright and the Pyramid Lake water people.

XIII. Presentations

There were four in-depth presentations given to the Commission. Brief summaries of those presentations follow.

Presentation #1: Senate Bill 216 and Senate Bill 327

Gabriel Di Chiara, Chief Deputy from the Secretary of State, gave a presentation on two important elections bills that passed in this most recent legislative session, Senate Bill 216 and Senate Bill 327.

Senate Bill 216 requires City and County Clerks to schedule meetings with Tribes that are located in whole or in part in their county or city, no later than August 1st of odd number years to discuss details for the next year's election. The language of the bill makes very clear that it is incumbent on the Clerk to conduct that outreach. If a Tribe does not respond, whether by choice or inability, the clerk must notify the Secretary of State's Office so we are aware.

Senate Bill 216 requires meetings to be scheduled. The topics of this meeting must include establishment of polling places on reservations and colonies, dates and times of operations for these polling places, deadlines, recruitment of poll workers at tribal polling locations and any other topics related to elections as necessary. Meetings are required through the election year and if a Clerk is unable to contact the Tribe, they must notify our office.

Another element of Senate Bill 216 allows EASE, the Effective Absentee System for Elections. EASE was developed for members of the Armed Forces and their dependents, as well as Nevadans with a disability. Now Nevada Tribal Nations are included. EASE allows for voter registration as well as voting. Tribal IDs are a valid form of identification for when you are registering to vote. EASE is turned on when it's mandated by statute, 90 or so days in advance of an election. The Secretary of State's office is looking at keeping it on year-round specifically for that voter registration element.

Senate Bill 327 establishes an opt-out process for polling places. In the 2021 legislative session, a bill was passed that required counties and cities, if a Tribe requested a polling place or ballot drop box, it required the county and city to comply with that request. It was an opt-in process. In some cases the counties felt they were unable to logistically comply with those requests which resulted in lawsuits.

This bill changes it from an opt-in process to an opt-out process. So, as of right now in state law for the next election cycle, every County and City Clerk, if there is a Tribe or band located within their boundaries, they must establish a polling place unless the Tribe chooses to opt out.

If there are concerns about having enough election workers to maintain a polling place, Tribes can opt to have a ballot drop box instead. It is still incumbent on the County to provide election workers for all of their polling places. The Secretary of State's Office will be stepping in and purchasing any additional materials as necessary for compliance with this law and establishment of tribal polling places.

The Secretary's office has an opening for a tribal outreach coordinator. It is an Administrative Assistant II, entry level. They will continue to work to get a tribal liaison at a senior position role established. But until they have that, having a full-time staff member dedicated to outreach to Tribes is really important. At the advice of Director Montooth, as part of the requirements for applying for the position, they made interacting with a tribal government a requirement.

Allison Neswood the Native American Rights Fund asked about the elements required on the Tribal ID cards. If any Native person has a tribal ID but it doesn't have all of these elements, should it still be accepted for voter registration?

Mr. Di Chiara affirmed that that is the way it's written in statute. A tribal ID must be accepted regardless of whether or not all of those items are present. The ID can be used for voter registration, voting, and is EASE-accepted. The EASE system is built to comply with Nevada statute which is broader than the federal law to Nevadans with disabilities and to members of Nevada Tribes.

Commissioner Tiger thanked Mr. Di Chiara for the time and effort that his office has made on behalf of Nevada Tribes.

Presentation #2: Update to the Nevada American Indian Alaska Native Health Data Summary

Adam Ernst, Health Program Specialist, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Analytics provided an update to the Nevada American Indian Alaska Native Health Data Summary. Health data was based upon the following three surveys:

BRFSS (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System) is a state-based system of health surveys that collects information on health risk behaviors, preventative health practices, and healthcare access primarily related to chronic disease and injury.

HIB (Hospital Inpatient Billing) is data gathered from patients discharged from Nevada's non-federal hospitals.

YRBS (Youth Risk Behavioral Health Survey) provides Nevada data to assess trends in priority health risk behaviors among high school students.

There were four categories of data:

Tobacco Use and Smoking: American Indian and Alaska Native Nevadans self-report the highest prevalence of smoking where more than 1 in 4 reported that they were current smokers, with the overall percentages being similar to the previous years. Only 16% of AI/AN high school students report never having smoked.

Substance Use During Pregnancy: rates for American Indian and Alaska Native Nevadans are significantly higher than other groups.

Poor Mental Health: In rural counties, over one-half of the AI/AN youth reported feeling sad or hopeless for two or more weeks. One-fifth of AI high school students in Clark County and one-third in Washoe and rural counties reported ever living with someone who is depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal. AI/AN adults self-report the highest prevalence of experiencing difficulties due to physical, mental, or emotional conditions. The AI/AN population had a higher suicide rate than the Nevada average.

Alcohol and/or Substance-related Deaths and Suicide Attempts: AI/AN populations had a significantly higher rate of alcohol and or drug related deaths in 2021 compared to other groups. AI/AN Nevadans are in the top three populations with negative opioid-related outcomes. In 2022, AI/AN had the third highest rate of opioid-related emergency department inpatient encounters and opioid-related deaths. AI/AN Nevadans are consistently in the top three populations with negative methamphetamine-related outcomes.

There's more detailed information on the Office of Analytics website including specifics about survey administration, data thresholds, and data sources.

Presentation #3: Nevada Works and Nevada Good Jobs, Northern Nevada Initiative

Milt Stewart, CEO, Nevadaworks and Thurman Roberts, Tribal Navigator, provided an overview of Nevada Works and Nevada Good Jobs, Northern Nevada Initiative.

Mr. Stewart explained Nevadaworks is a local workforce development board for 13 counties in Northern Nevada. The Local Workforce Development Board is created through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, W-I-O-A, or WIOA. And part of WIOA is funding for Tribes.

Two years ago, the US Department of Commerce and Economic Development Administration put out a Notice of Funding Opportunity for what was called the Good Jobs Challenge. The Good Jobs Challenge was meant to create employer-driven regional workforce training systems. Nevadaworks applied. From day one, the mindset was to include a plan in the grant specifically for Tribes. The way that that funding is designed is it allows for the space to develop that plan and to develop that system development inside the grant.

When Nevadaworks got one of 32 awards, they immediately hired Mr. Roberts as a dedicated tribal navigator. It is he who will be the point person, the real person, who will establish and maintain tribal relations going forward. Nevadaworks wants to either build upon the good work from a workforce

development perspective that's already happening or help to administer those programs in whatever way that's needed. So, while this grant is time-limited because these are Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act dollars, Nevadaworks is anticipating the tribal relationships will sustain for the longer term.

Tribal Navigator Thurman Roberts explained the Nevadaworks program will result in a full-on comprehensive workforce system change. They are a Workforce Development Board ready to engage with Tribes, but also the system that houses the workforce development of the community colleges or the Nevada System of Higher Education. There are tribal and rural subsystem plans that are going to feed directly into Nevadaworks' five-year strategic plan.

Another goal is setting up an integrated education and training program within the context of an industry specific job and then tying it into a technical credential that's nationally and industry based that's recognized nationally. This system is going to be employer driven and based upon actual qualifications, job descriptions and work-based opportunities. Nevadaworks is seeking to develop 12 non-degree awards and certificates within the Nevada System of Higher Ed. If they are able to have common sets of objectives and goals tied with an Indian education, workforce development, those common goals will show how the collaboration between each agency and each committee that could be maximized, you know, those opportunities that are available to tribal members.

Mr. Thurman has been crossing Nevada getting to know his constituents. He's met with 15 Tribes so far, speaking with Tribal Councils, youth groups, and community members serving the Tribes. He said he's been warmly welcomed, and Tribes can relate to his own personal experiences. In terms of longevity and housing these relationships, they are also looking at standing up an Indian Workforce Development Committee within Nevadaworks.

Mr. Stewart said as a local workforce development board, they have creative relationships with other workforce stakeholders. They have relationships with the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation, with the Governor's Office of Economic Development, with DETR. They have these conversations from a Good Jobs Northern Nevada perspective.

Chair Lathouris asked about the source of their funding. Mr. Stewart said it's primarily federal funding. They have WIOA funding from the Department of Commerce. They have some funding from DETR, and they're also able to leverage some of that DETR funding.

Chair Lathouris asked if Nevadaworks works with the Indian Employment Training and Related Services Act, PUC Law 477? Mr. Stewart said not directly, but they can help Tribes administer funds from that source.

Commissioner Tiger asked if Nevadaworks is organized as a nonprofit? Mr. Stewart said they are what's called a quasi-governmental organization or more specifically, a political subdivision of the state. They are the equivalent of a county government because they are made up of county governments, but they don't have to act like a county government.

Commissioner Tiger asked how many tribal leaders who serve on your board are Native Americans? Mr. Stewart said zero. Commissioner Tiger asked how many Native Americans are in leadership roles besides Mr. Thurman? Mr. Stewart said zero.

Commissioner Tiger asked are their services free to tribal members and the Native American population that they serve? Is that the only population that they are targeting to work with? Mr. Stewart said their services

are at no cost and their target population is any who are underserved or unrepresented.

Commissioner Emm said with the fee waiver in place with all NSHE institutions and the changes, one of the needed supports for tribal students is going to be housing. Can Nevadaworks provide housing stipends or housing support? Mr. Stewart said that's really not what their funding is designed for. Their funding, generally speaking, is for rapid acquisition of skills certificates and credentials.

Commissioner Tiger said Nevadaworks is not delivering training and education; they're just like qualifying them for the program in an accredited institution or program, right? Mr. Stewart affirmed. He said they do not want tribal members to get certificates – they want them to get jobs.

Chair Lathouris asked if there were further questions or comments and there were none.

Presentation #4: Native American Rights Fund

Allison Neswood, staff attorney at the Native American Rights Fund, provided an overview of NARF and tribal voting rights. NARF is a non-profit law firm and advocacy organization that has been working for over 50 years to protect and advance Native American rights nationwide.

Ms. Neswood said there's a lot of historical momentum against this work. Even though Natives were the first people of this land, they were the last group of citizens to gain the right to vote. And even after Congress unilaterally declared that Native Americans were citizens, many states continued to deny Native Americans the right to vote if they maintained any ties to their tribal lands and communities.

There are a lot of contemporary barriers to voting that Native Americans face. Structural barriers include long distances to polling locations, lack of internet access, unpaved/undeveloped roads, and lack of resources to overcome these barriers. Bias and racism towards Native people in the context of voting still exists.

In terms of resolving barriers, there are many things Tribes can do to help. They can make sure polling locations are in tribal communities where they're needed most and where they will really increase access. They can recruit tribal members to be poll workers. They can identify language needs and enforce language assistance rights of tribal members, especially elders. They can identify transportation needs and organize rides to the polls. They can push for those state resources to get tribal IDs updated. And they must educate tribal members on how and why to vote.

NARF has a growing focus on poll monitoring. This involves recruiting volunteers with a legal background, training them on election laws, voting rights, and the common issues Natives run into, and stationing them at key polling locations Native voters use to observe the voting process and help Native voters troubleshoot issues and stand up for their rights to cast the ballot if someone is trying to turn them away. They want to partner with Tribes or people who know the circumstances locally to identify where these poll monitors or poll watchers are needed so we can start recruiting and training for the 2024 elections.

Ms. Neswood gave an overview of the Native American Voting Rights Act, federal legislation in need of tribal support. NAVRA will bring voter services to tribal communities or tribal lands. NAVRA requires:

- One polling location for every precinct that's on tribal land.
- Tribally designated buildings to serve as pickup and drop off locations for people's ballots.
- All polling locations must have equal resources, equal staffing, equal machines.
- Tribal IDs will be accepted for registration and for voting.

- Elevated language assistance rights to bring them more on par with language assistance rights of other language minority groups.
- A consultation on all aspects of NAVRA's implementation.

If a Tribe needs to get involved in litigating or in advocating, NAVRA really supports that. And it would also create a cause of action or the ability for a Tribe to bring litigation and federal court to enforce the rights that are in the Voting Rights Act.

Ms. Neswood said NARF is working hard to navigate the politics involved to get NAVRA introduced and passed. She outlined the various players and permutations on the road to legislation.

There are three ways to help with NAVRA:

1. Endorse the legislation. If Tribes decide to endorse, there's a form to fill out on the NARF website.
2. Ask your congressperson to support NAVRA.
3. Dedicate lobbying support.

Ms. Neswood asked if there were any questions and there weren't. She thanked everyone for their attention and support.

Commissioner Emm said that Chair Lathouris had to leave the meeting so she would be taking over to lead them to the end of this meeting.

XIV. Future Agenda Items

Executive Director Montooth said the future agenda items on her list are the position paper on water, a report back from Indian Education, and a discussion about the advancement of the Civic Engagement Committee.

Commissioner Emm asked about location for the next meeting. Director Montooth said they had an invite from Elko, the Elko Band Council and everyone thought that would be great for their October meeting.

Bethany Sam said a future agenda item possibly would be a resolution to support getting consultation for Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and the Great Basin Tribes regarding Thacker Pass and the green energy transition.

XV. Future Required Quarterly Meetings

Monday, October 16 -- 9:30 AM -- Elko

XVI. Final Public Comment

Bethany Sam, RSIC Public /Community Information Officer, gave the Commission many details about Thacker Pass and the massacre site and how Reno-Sparks Indian Colony ended up getting involved in a lawsuit up there. Please refer to the transcript of the meeting to see the timelines, the specifics of findings, environmental impacts, and efforts to get a consultation process started.

Someone named Monica asked when the consultation policy is going to be available to the state agencies? Commissioner Emm said that it will be available within a couple weeks and they will put the policy and policy training on the next meeting agenda.

There were no further public comments.

XVII. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn Nevada Indian Commission 7/21/23 Meeting

By: Commissioner Tiger

Second: Commissioner Krolicki

Vote: Approved by acclamation