

Nevada Indian Commission Indian Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2021

Via ZOOM

Committee Member	Seat Filled	Present	Absent
Chair – Fawn Hunter	Washoe Tribe School District	X	
Theresa Rowe	Washoe Tribe of NV & CA Head Start	X	
Miguel Martinez	Truckee Meadows Community College		X
Fredina Drye-Romero	Nevada Department of Education	X	
Della Frank – Vice Chair	Clark County Department of Education Coordinator II	X	
Mary Williams	Yerington Paiute Tribe Education Director		X
Cassandra Stahlke	Elko School District		X
Kari Emm	Director of Transfer Admissions and Programs UNR	X	
Lance West	Principal Schurz Elementary School	X	
William Bauer	Professor of History and Program Director of Indigenous Studies UNLV	X	

NIC Staff Present: Sari Nichols, Program Officer, Nevada Indian Commission.

I. Invocation

Fredina Drye-Romero gave the invocation.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Chairwoman Hunter asked to skip introductions because this meeting was a work session and there was no one from the public in attendance.

III. Initial Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Approval of June 29, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were not ready for review and approval.

V. Unfinished Business (For Possible Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Discussion on current bylaws

The Nevada Indian Commission’s Board of Commissioners had previously requested that the IEAC go through its bylaws line by line in order to clarify its mission, revise membership qualifications, expand its offices, and update ambiguous language. This meeting is the third in a series of work sessions to work on this project. Before this meeting, each member of the committee was asked to review and make remarks/suggested changes to the bylaws using Google Docs. The mark-ups were collected by Fredina Drye-Romero and used as material for this work session. Fredina shared the collected proposed changes and led a discussion on them. The group discussed the language in the *Mission Statement*. Sari reminded the group that they previously discussed moving the *Mission Statement* and *Purpose* to the strategic plan. There was more discussion on what should be included and what should be moved to the strategic plan. Chairwoman Hunter shared the Washoe County Education Advisory Committee bylaws to show how they include the Committee’s purpose. The group agreed to make Article II the *Purpose* and move the *Mission Statement* to the strategic plan. The group also agreed to format the *Purpose* in bullet or number form. During the discussion Chairwoman Hunter left to attend another meeting and Vice-Chairwoman Frank took over. Theresa noted that there was strategic planning language throughout the document. She suggested keeping it in to be included later in an updated strategic plan. Vice-Chairwoman Frank suggested moving the language to another document for later use. The discussion moved to *Membership*. Kari suggested rewording the membership to a

more generalized group. Lance agreed with Kari and suggested the “rural/urban” wording is a good fit as one of the descriptors. There was discussion on student participation in the committee. Some members wanted to see a place holder for student membership. Sari reminded the group that the Nevada Indian Commission’s Deputy Attorney General (DAG) suggested that titles be stripped from committee member listing. Specific titles kept the membership from growing. Kari said leaving membership generic ensures that no one is left out. This would allow for approved student(s) to become members. There was discussion on terms of membership. Theresa reminded the group that they were to look at *Removal of Member* to determine how to define *Removal for Cause*. She also asked how *Transferability* works. Could, for instance, she transfer her membership to someone else in her office? Principal West asked how the solicitation of membership worked, and if was mentioned in the bylaws. Fredina pointed out that there is no process for submitting and approving an application written into the document, but there should be. There was discussion on what this language would look like. Kari volunteered to work on the language for committee’s approval at the next work session. Fredina asked for others to help clean up the language in other parts of the document that the committee has agreed to change. There was discussion on adding a third officer under the title *Secretary*. Sari explained that it was the Nevada Indian Commission’s DAG who suggested a third officer. This position would take the meeting notes and be a backup to the Chair and Vice-Chair. There was discussion on who should be responsible for meeting notes. Fredina suggested having a Secretary on the committee but not to take notes. Kari asked if one of her grad students could take notes. Fredina liked the idea. Fredina suggested that the Nevada Indian Commission Executive Director make the final decision on a third officer and who will take the meeting notes. Fredina and Kari volunteered to work on the bylaw language changes and format them in line with the Wisconsin example for review in the next work session.

VI. Agenda Items for Future Meetings (For Discussion)

Continue with a work session to update bylaws.

VII. Date and Location of Next Meeting

Sari to send Doodle Poll to see what works best for everyone.

VIII. Final Public Comment

There were not public comments.

IX. Adjournment

Vice Chair Frank adjourned the meeting at 2:43pm.