

Nevada Indian Commission Indian Education Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

September 02, 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: Stacey Montooth, Executive Director Sari Nichols, Program Officer

I. Invocation

Vice Chair Frank gave the invocation.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Vice Chair Frank 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

Miguel Martinez report that he had a nice time in Mexico and is happy to be back working on this committee.

IV. Approval of June 29, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Della Frank moved to approve the July 29 2021 and August 12, 2021 meeting minutes with corrections. Lance West seconded. The motion passed.

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 fourth 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 agreed that the first three article’s proposed changes were ready for the Nevada Indian Commissioners approval. Fredina Drye-Romero led the group through the document’s proposed changes, and items that require continued discussion. The group discussed the mission and purpose language. The group decided to work on a strategic plan every 3 years. The group discussed membership. Fredina Drye-Romero led a decision on how people are chosen to become voting and non-voting members. It was agreed that the voting membership would consist of the first 9 people who apply when there is an opening. Rules of membership was discussed. It was agreed that attendance was a priority rule. Della pointed out that with a small voting group, attendance is key. Fredina Drye-Romero asked if the state had language about attendance.

Stacey Montooth said she would look into it. Further discussion went into officer duties and term-limits. There was discussion on how long a person could be an officer and if they could serve in other capacities once their term was up. The group agreed that a person can service two terms but cannot then serve as another officer. The group discussed having a third officer of Secretary. Fredina Drye-Romero asked Stacey Montooth to decide if the committee should have a third officer. Vice Chair Frank said she is confused as to why the committee does not include a Secretary. The new proposed language includes a Secretary. Lance West pointed out that the new language does not include terms of office. He asked for election dates. It was agreed that elections would be held in January. There was discussion on how long a voting member could serve. Some in the group thought voting membership should stop at four years, some agreed that there should be no term limit. It was agreed that the only term-limits should be for officers. There was a brief discussion again, on the role of Secretary, which led to a discussion on how officers are nominated. The group decided to continue looking at the document in a later meeting. Fredina Drye-Romero asked that any new suggested language be put into the Google Docs document.

VI. Agenda Items for Future Meetings (For Discussion)

Continue with a work session to update bylaws.

VII. Date and Location of Next Meeting

September 16, 1pm to 2pm via ZOOM.

VIII. Final Public Comment

Sari Nichols announced that this was her last IEAC meeting. She has taken a new position with NDOT. She reminded the group about the importance of adhering to Open Meeting laws and why they must be observed. She thanked the group for working so hard on Indian Education.

IX. Adjournment

Vice Chair Frank adjourned the meeting at 11:52pm.