**Nevada Indian Commission**

**Indian Education Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

***November 5, 2019***

5500 Snyder Avenue, Building #3, Carson City, NV 89701

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Committee Member** | Seat Filled | Present | Absent |
| Chair - Empty | University of Nevada, Reno |  | ✓ |
| Lori Pasqua, Vice Chair | Washoe Tribe of NV & CA | ✓ |  |
| Teresa Rowe | Washoe Tribe of NV & CA Head Start |  | ✓ |
| Fawn Hunter | Washoe County School District | ✓ |  |
| Miguel Martinez | Truckee Meadows Community College | ✓ |  |
| Priscilla Acosta | Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada | ✓ |  |
| Fredina Drye-Romero | Nevada Department of Education | ✓ |  |
| Della Frank | Clark County School District |  | ✓ |

NIC Staff Present: Stacey Montooth, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission; Diane Buckley, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Indian Commission

Others Present: Chairman Davis Gonzales, Elko Band Council; Mary Williams, Education Director, Yerington Paiute Tribe.

1. **Invocation**

Ms. Pasqua provided the invocation.

1. **Welcome and Introduction**

Ms. Pasqua called the meeting to order at 9:37a.m. and asked those present to introduce themselves.

1. **Initial Public Comments**

Chairman Davis Gonzalez relayed a message from the Elko Band Council tribal members asking what the Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) does for native people.

Ms. Pasqua answered and gave a brief explanation of the mission of the Indian Education Advisory Committee. She stated that the committee would like more participation from the tribes.

Mr. Martinez commented that Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) Welcome Center is located on the first floor of the student center.

Chairman Davis Gonzalez asked if anyone has come out to any of the eastern Nevada Tribes.

Ms. Hunter commented that there hadn’t been anyone from eastern Nevada that participated on this committee.

Ms. Pasqua commented that there hasn’t been anyone from eastern Nevada that participated on the committee. She would like to find someone in the communities to participate. The committee use to have Lynn Manning from the Elko County School District.

Chairman Davis Gonzalez asked to have some of this information sent to him.

Ms. Pasqua said that she would give Director Montooth the information to send to the Chairman to look over.

Director Montooth replied to Chairman Davis Gonzalez about an agenda item for today under new business. The committee will be discussing and updating the committee makeup and identify what vacancies it has. She gave him an historical overview of the Nevada Indian Commission and the Indian Education Committee’s educational involvement through the years.

1. **Approval of May 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Pasqua noted a correction from the May 7th meeting minutes under item seven, number B. To change her reporting to Marty Meeden, Education Director, Washoe Tribe of NV and CA. reporting. She said that the committee will wait on the approval of the May 7th meeting minutes until the next meeting as several members hadn’t seen the minutes.

1. **Unfinished Business**
2. Update on In-State Tuition Waiver Research

Director Montooth commented that in the last meeting, there was a discussion about an In-State Tuition Waiver. This was being done by Kari Emm at the University of Nevada. She asked if Ms. Emm was on the teleconferencing line. There was no reply.

Ms. Pasqua asked Mr. Martinez, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC) if he was aware of this waiver.

Mr. Martinez replied that he knew Ms. Emm had been working on a letter to present to the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) president for approval to advocate for this waiver at UNR. He was unaware of the progress of this happening anywhere in the State of Nevada.

Director Montooth said that she will follow-up on this matter for the next meeting.

1. Update on School District Fees Research

Ms. Drye-Romero made a brief comment about school district fees.

Mr. Martinez asked Ms. Pasqua for a reason for the tuition at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR).

Ms. Pasqua explained the in-state tuition waiver. She gave an example from the Washoe

Tribe. Some members are based in California. These students are charged the same

out-of-state fee. She is trying to get the “Good Neighbor” program back so some of these students can have lower tuition fees. The committee is going into UNR as a committee of the Nevada Indian Commission to get this fee back.

Director Montooth commented that the idea was to get any higher education institution in Nevada to have access to this waiver. There are citizens of Nevada Tribes that live outside of Nevada. The idea is that the natives are indigenous to this land. They shouldn’t have to pay out-of-state tuition.

Mr. Martinez commented that Truckee Meadows Community College has the same situation. He provided a comparison from the Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe where parts of the tribe are in Nevada and the other part of the tribe is in Idaho. The students that go to Idaho State University do not have to pay out-of-state tuition. Duck Valley does the same thing for Utah since that part of the state is in their territory.

Ms. Pasqua commented that this is why the committee wants to acquire the in-state tuition waiver. She continued to explain the comparison with the Great Basin native tribes.

Chairman Davis Gonzalez said that Truckee Meadows Community College went to the board of regents and they changed it.

Ms. Acosta commented that if the committee wanted to move forward with this. They would have to go through the board of regents. She had been working on getting more information and status to back it up. Northern Arizona State University offers in-state tuition for all native students enrolled in federally recognized tribes.

Chairman Davis Gonzalez said that this will be beneficial to native students in Nevada. He mentioned that it would be better for him to have assistance from this committee instead of trying to obtain the waiver as a single entity.

Director Montooth agreed with Ms. Acosta. She believed that there is currently political favor for the tribes. She would like to work together with the tribes to put points together to include any Native American in a federally recognized tribe that could have in-state tuition fees. The committee will follow up with Ms. Emm to obtain further information for the next meeting.

1. Update on Research on Beaded Caps for High School Graduates for Legislative Recommendation

Director Montooth gave an overview about the beaded caps for high Schools. It would be beneficial to let the high schools and universities know that there has been controversy about any kind of regalia or traditional items that graduates can wear during their graduation ceremonies.

Ms. Drye-Romero reported that she had done some research through the Department of Education. After a meeting with other state directors, they compiled a list of states that have written legislation and the results. She forwarded this information to Director Montooth.

1. **New Business**
2. Appointing a Chair

Ms. Pasqua asked for nominations for chair.

**Ms. Drye-Romero made a motion to nominate Lori Pasqua for the seat of Chair. Seconded by Ms. Williams. The motion carried.**

Ms. Pasqua asked for nominations for vice-chair.

**Ms. Drye-Romero made a motion to nominate Priscilla Acosta for Vice-Chair. Seconded by Ms. Williams. The motion carried.**

1. Review of IEAC committee makeup; lists of vacancies

Director Montooth explained the list of open appointments. She explained the requirements for these open seats. She suggested having four representatives from other tribes in the north, south, western, and central tribes. She discussed the two versus the four representatives from Nevada tribes. She asked Ms. Williams for her input.

Ms. Pasqua asked Ms. Williams about the history for these representatives.

Ms. Williams said that she wasn’t aware of the history.

Ms. Hunter suggested that for the record the committee should have a vote. This way everything is documented.

Chairman Davis Gonzalez shared his previous experience when serving on the board of commissioners. He gave his opinion about a representative from each of the three main tribal groups; Washoe, Shoshone and Paiute.

Ms. Drye-Romero commented that although she is a Southern Paiute, she resides here in the north. Her idea is to make sure all the pockets are heard. There are also pockets of concerns. She wanted to justify the need for regions.

Director Montooth clarified the discussion to change the consistency of the advisory committee to change from four representatives for Nevada tribes to two representatives from the Paiute, Shoshone, and Washoe Tribes.

Ms. Pasqua explained that the committee would look at the tribes and the school districts as separate entities.

Director Montooth explained the current makeup of the committee and then discussed options. This included items A through L under the committee By-Laws article III, membership. She asked Mr. Martinez for his opinion on the representation for the colleges.

Mr. Martinez commented about the needs of different size colleges. Some may have the need for a different number of representations. He suggested two representatives from the larger colleges.

Ms. Drye-Romero suggested that the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) be considered.

Director Montooth commented that the committee has spots for twenty voting members. She asked the committee for their input on having regional representation from the north, south, east and central areas. There is also the option of going with the overall tribes; a Paiute, a Shoshone, and a Washoe representative. This could work in the categories for Nevada tribes in the school districts.

Ms. Pasqua asked for a vote for adding the four representatives for north, east, south and central regions for item A, two representatives from Nevada tribes.

**Ms. Drye-Romero made a motion to add the four representatives for north, east, south, and central regions from Nevada tribes. Seconded by Ms. Hunter. The motion carried.**

Ms. Pasqua asked the committee if they wanted to make changes on item number B, one representative from the Nevada Urban Indians. The committee did not want to make changes. She asked the committee if they wanted to make changes on item number C, one representative from the Las Vegas Indian Center. There were no changes. She asked the committee if they wanted to make changes to item number D, two representatives from the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada. There were no changes. She asked the committee if they wanted to make changes to item number E, the Nevada Department of Education, Education Programs Professional for Indian Education. There were no changes. She asked the committee for any changes to item number F, one representative from each Title VI program. There were no changes. She asked the committee for any changes to item number G, two members from each school district in Nevada. Ms. Pasqua added that this is where we want to change this to add north, east, south and west.

Ms. Acosta commented that originally the committee would have one Title I representative so there would be seven representatives.

Ms. Pasqua asked the committee to reword item number G to one member from each school district.

Ms. Hunter said that this should be left this way to include outreach to the title program to get more information and collaboration on this end. Since we currently are represented by just Washoe County and Clark County. It would be good to hear from the other title programs.

Ms. Acosta said that when this was recently discussed, these were elected and required positions to make up this board. The more people that we have on the board, the more people have to show up to meetings. We should have people for other programs but not elected positions. That will greatly hinder the amount of time we have to meet.

Ms. Hunter said that this is not necessarily the case. In the By-Laws we don’t have to have every person attend for a quorum. We can change it to a limited number of people to have a quorum.

Ms. Pasqua said that the committee could have this adjusted if need be. After being with this committee for a while, she sees that what is needed is to do outreach and get people active on the committee again. She continued on to item number F, does the committee want to make any changes. There were no changes.

Ms. Drye-Romero commented that the committee still has the two Tribal Title VI programs which are Yerington and Washoe.

Ms. Pasqua asked the committee if they wanted to make changes to item G, two members from each school district in Nevada which may include a Title I representative with high populations of AI/AN students. She asked for changes from the committee. The committee agreed to change the requirement to one representative from each school in Nevada which may include a Title I representative with high populations of AI/AN students from the north, west, east, and south regional districts.

**Ms. Hunter made a motion to change the wording to one representative from each school in Nevada which may include a Title I representative school with high populations of AI/AN students from the north, west, east, and south regional districts.** **Seconded by Ms. Acosta. The motion carried.**

Ms. Pasqua asked the committee if they wanted to make any changes on item number H, which states two members from each of Nevada’s Higher Education Institutions: UNR, UNLV, Nevada State College, Truckee Meadows Community College, College of Southern Nevada, Western Nevada College, Great Basin College, and Sierra Nevada College.

Ms. Drye-Romero suggested inviting Sierra Nevada College to become a member, but not a voting member. She went on to explain how the relationship with Sierra Nevada College began and suggested keeping them as part of this list.

Ms. Pasqua said that this would change the wording to two members from the Nevada Systems of Higher Education Institution: UNR, UNLV, Nevada State College, Truckee Meadows Community College, College of Southern Nevada, Western Nevada College, Great Basin College and to include Sierra Nevada College. She asked for a motion to approve the new wording in this category.

**Ms. Drye-Romero made a motion to change the wording to two members from the Nevada Systems of Higher Education Institution: UNR, UNLV, Nevada State College, Truckee Meadows Community College, College of Southern Nevada, Western Nevada College, and Great Basin College and to include Sierra Nevada College. Seconded by Ms. Hunter. The motion carried.**

Ms. Pasqua asked the committee if they wanted to make any changes to item number I, The Nevada Division of Child and Family Services, Indian Child Welfare Specialist. It will remain the same. She asked the committee if they would like to make any changes to item number J, One Representative from the Child Care Development Fund or Urban League or State of Nevada’s Children’s Fund.

Director Montooth suggested that the committee take a look at the balance left for numbers I, J, K, and L. these all have to do with state agencies. Do we need to request a representative from these agencies? She asked if these were duplicating any efforts.

Ms. Acosta commented about how these four seats came to be. She suggested having one representative from the Children’s Cabinet, Childhood Development Fund (CDF), and the Urban League. These could fall into the three representative’s category.

Director Montooth confirmed that item I will remain the same. Item J will read, one representative from the Children’s Cabinet or Urban League or State of Nevada Children’s Fund. Item numbers K and L will remain the same.

Ms. Pasqua asked for a motion to edit number J to read one representative from the Children’s Cabinet or Urban League or State of Nevada Children’s Fund.

**Ms. Drye-Romero made a motion to edit number J to one representative from the Children’s Cabinet or Urban League or State of Nevada Children’s Fund. Seconded by Ms. Acosta. The motion carried.**

1. Approval of Education Advisory Committee for American Indians and Alaskan Native Appointment of Representative Forms

Ms. Pasqua discussed the expired terms for reappointment for Theresa Rowe, Della Frank and Mary Williams. She said that her one concern is that Ms. Rowe hadn’t been showing up to recent meetings. She asked for a motion to reappoint Theresa Rowe and Della Frank.

Ms. Drye-Romero suggested that the committee table these reappointments and new appointments until the next meeting.

**Ms. Hunter made a motion to table the reappointments until the next meeting. Seconded by Ms. Drye-Romero. The motion carried.**

1. Transition Tribal Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee (TECAC) to Nevada

Ms. Drye-Romero asked Ms. Acosta if she had spoken to Director Montooth about transitioning to the Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee.

Ms. Acosta replied and said that she spoke with Director Montooth and that the director would need to speak with the Attorney General’s office to see what steps the commission would need to take in order to move the Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee back under the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN).

Director Montooth asked committee members to join in and address this. She mentioned that Ms. Acosta and the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN) would like to restore this committee.

Ms. Acosta said that there are local (E-Caps) Early Childhood Advisory Councils. She explained how these councils were broken up within the northern area. The Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN) would like to revitalize the Tribal Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee. They have been working with the Childcare Association in California. They want to model it with what California is doing. They will create membership that will be open to all childcare development fund grantees and anyone that would be a stakeholder in early childhood development. They would then report the committee activities to the Indian Education Advisory Committee and other Tribal entities.

Director Montooth asked the committee for a motion to have Ms. Acosta move forward with a draft or an organization chart for a Nevada model for the Tribal Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee.

**Ms. Drye-Romero made a motion to have Ms. Acosta move forward with a draft or an organization chart for a Nevada model for the Tribal Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee. Seconded by Ms. Hunter. The motion carried.**

Ms. Acosta asked the committee if they would let her know if they knew of anyone interested in joining this committee to send their information to her.

1. **Indian Education Updates**
2. Nevada Department of Education

Ms. Drye-Romero reported on her Indian Education Summit dates. The other date that is significant is June 10th -13th which is the second annual summer youth camp in Lake Tahoe. The Department of Education is partnering with the Native Youth Committee Project Grant. She discussed a partnership with the Washoe Tribe and is waiting to hear back from them. She informed the committee about her move from the Office of Student School Support to the Office of the Inclusive Education.

1. Tribal Education Programs

Ms. Williams reported about setting her student event to a one-day event. She wanted to have more students and not have to worry about staying the night. She wanted her staff to be able to attend this event. Her staff is working on having colleges attend in order to expose the students to as many tribal college representatives as possible. There is a new principal at the high school this year. The staff is still working on the vaping issue.

Ms. Pasqua said that at the next meeting she will have Marty McDeen, Education Director here to report on what the K through 12 students are doing. She is getting letters and applications out to those students that are currently enrolled under their higher education program. She is looking at new ideas for college fairs and outreach opportunities in the communities. There is new staff in her education departments.

1. Tribal Early Childhood Education Programs

Ms. Acosta reported that the Inter-Tribal Council Office (ITCN) is working with the state on the Pritzker grant. On November 19th she will have a representative attend a meeting with the state and United Way in southern Nevada. During her last meeting with Ms. Drye-Romero, she asked to look at applying for 21st Century grants under the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN) for tribes that are small. She commented that the Department of Education Director, Patty Oea and Stacey Joyner will be attending the Inter-Tribal Council (ITCN) executive board meeting Friday, November 8th to present on pre-K ready seats to try to obtain tribal communities enrolled in the program.

1. County School District Programs

Ms. Hunter gave an overview of her program and informed the committee on a couple of upcoming dates of importance. Her department is now under the umbrella of the Family School Partnership. There are two language instructors, Jenny Berg and Contilla Norwell. There are three Paiute language classes at Reed High School, North Valley High School, and Spanish Springs High School. The Paiute language is in the school district as a word language credit. There are the three cooperating teachers, John Bottom-Evershaw and Anthony Abbey participating in those programs. There are three Student Graduation Advocates (SGA) in the school district under the Title VI program that will be working with native students in middle school and high school. The district did the back-to-school back packs in their two main areas. There will be a tribal consultation meeting coming up with the school district and two local tribes in the area. The advisory committee meeting at Natchez Elementary School is coming up.

Director Montooth asked Ms. Hunter if the Washoe County School District had sent out a press release to the media so they would have this information.

Ms. Hunter replied that Washoe County School District had not sent out any information. This was a move by their Parent Advisory Committee.

1. Universities & Community Colleges

There were no comments or reports.

1. Other Indian Education Programs

There were no comments or reports.

1. **Agenda Items for Future Meeting**
2. Update on In-State Tuition Waiver Research.
3. Update on School District Fees Research.
4. Update on Research on Beaded Caps for High School Graduates for Legislative Recommendation.
5. Review of IEAC committee makeup; lists of vacancies.
6. Approval of Indian Education Advisory Committee for American Indians and Alaskan Native Appointment of Representative Forms.
7. **Scheduling and Location of Next Meeting**

The meeting is scheduled for January 7, 2020 at 9:30am. The location TBA.

1. **Final Public Comment**

There were no final public comments.

1. **Adjournment**

**Ms. Pasqua made a made to adjourn the IEAC meeting. Seconded by Ms. Drye-Romero. The meeting adjourned at 12:04pm.**