**NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Policy Committee Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2024**

**\* \* \* DRAFT \* \* \***

Zoom [https://zoom.us/j/](https://zoom.us/j/8)87493919504

Meeting ID: 874 9391 9504

NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities  
406 East Second Street, Carson City 89701

# Special Notes

* All items reviewed during this meeting are available for view on the NGCDD website; under the event created for this meeting: [www.nevadaddcouncil.org](http://www.nevadaddcouncil.org/)
* Bolded text under a heading indicates an action taken by the NGCDD.

# Introductions

Committee Members Present: Stacy Alaribe, Committee Chair; Jennifer Frischmann; Max Lowe; Dora Martinez; Renee Portnell; Christine Riggi; Cindi Swanson; Vivian Turner

Committee Members Absent: Heather Lafferty; Santa Perez; Jodi Thornley

NGCDD Staff Present: Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director; Alysa Marquez, Intern; Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant; Marisol Rivas, Projects Manager

NGCDD Staff Absent: Ellen Marquez, Self-Advocacy Coordinator; Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Public Health Liaison

Public Present: Shauna Brennan; Steven Cohen; Shannon Litz; Elyse Monroy; Sabrina Schnur

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by NGCDD Policy Committee Vice-Chair, Max Lowe, at 10:02 a.m.

Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant verified the agenda for this meeting was posted to the proper locations on September 23, 2024.

# Land Acknowledgment

Max Lowe, Council Vice-Chair, provided the land acknowledgement as follows: The Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities, as a program whose designated state agency is the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, acknowledges, honors, and respects the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this land and recognize the State of Nevada is situated on the traditional homelands of the Nuwu, Newe, Numu and Wa She Shu. We offer gratitude for the land itself, for those who have stewarded it for generations, and for the opportunity to work alongside our Tribal partners. We encourage everyone in this space to engage in acknowledgement and continued learning about the Indigenous peoples who work and live on this land since time immemorial, and about the historical and present realities of colonialism.

# Public Comment

Mr. Lowe asked if there was any public comment, verified meeting information, and stated how to submit public comments telephonically.

* Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, stated the in-person town halls have wrapped up and will be moving on to virtual engagement. The virtual town halls will be held in October, December, and January. She encouraged those that were available to attend. She restated they will be held October 3rd, December 18th, and January 16th. She then stated the Partners in Policymaking program application in open for 2025. She encouraged members to share the information with anyone interested. The application can be found on the council website.
* Steven Cohen stated that that regional center has chosen to administratively reorganize their caseloads by case type. Once they figure out what to do with those that are still being held by an existing service coordinator, they will be transferred. That'll be a traumatic transition. He has have known his existing service Coordinator for many years. He was unsure if it's statewide or how they came up with the methodology to do it by case type versus disability type. He is trying to figure out if there's appeal rights. The second item that a friend of his has asked was as Southwest is the primary airline that is used to fly, are they required to provide a disability specific lane for check in and/ or TSA?
* Dora Martinez stated that stated she wanted to thank Max, and anyone who had time to write a letter to the Public Utility Commission and/or called in person to testify against the increase of 175% for the basics charge fee. Instead of doing that, they went for 12% which is okay. They wish that there was no increase but that's just life.

# Approval of Minutes from the June 2024 Meeting

Mr. Lowe asked if there was a motion to approve the June 20, 2024 Committee meeting minutes. He opened this item for discussion.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to approve the June 20, 2024 Committee meeting minutes as written. Cindi Swanson seconded the motion. The motion carried with Jennifer Frischmann abstaining.**

# Review of Current Position Statements

Mr. Lowe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director, for conversation on six of the current position statements.

Ms. Nielsen gave a brief background on the position statements that were up for review. She referred to the documents titled “Position on Ableism”, “Position on Accessibility”, “Position on Housing”, “Position on Informed Choice”, “Position on Mental Health Care”, and “position on Voting”. She opened the discussion to committee members for their input on the different position statements. Committee members then requested a summary on the “Position on Housing” and opened this item for discussion. Committee members then requested a summary on the “Position on Accessibility” and opened this item for discussion.

# Discussion of Potential Position Statement on Restraints and Seclusion

Mr. Lowe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director, for conversation on the potential position statement on restraints and seclusion for people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD).

Ms. Nielsen gave an in-depth overview and discussed the background of the document’s creation. She referred to the document title “DRAFT Position Statement on Restraints and Seclusion”. She opened this item for discussion.

# Discussion of Topics for Potential Position Statements

Mr. Lowe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director for conversation on potential position statements for People with I/DD.

Ms. Nielsen discussed current position statements and discussed the background for this agenda item. She opened this item for discussion.

# Review of Current Bill Draft Requests

Mr. Lowe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director for further conversation.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the list of currently available bill draft requests on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS) and reviewed how to access the NELIS system for the upcoming 83rd legislative session. She opened this item for discussion.

# Next Meeting Date

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on October 17, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. via ZOOM.

# Public Comment

Mr. Lowe asked if there is any public comment, verified meeting information, and stated how to submit public comments telephonically.

* Ms. Martinez wanted to remind everyone that early voting for Nevada starts on October 19th to November 1st. She encouraged everyone to take advantage of that and then she thanked Mr. Lowe and everyone again that took part in the Public Utility Commission.
* Mr. Cohen stated Nevada's Effective Absentee System for Elections (NV EASE) voting opened last Saturday. He also stated there is a potential BDR relative to the rental of housing by providers versus individuals because of the three times rent type requirements. He also asked why the common interest community person/ombudsman is the one that gets notified along with the Aging and Disability Services Division?

# Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.