NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 13, 2017- 9:00am
Nevada Indian Commission Office, 5500 Snyder Ave., Carson City, NV 89701

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<tr>
<th>Board Member</th>
<th>Seat Filled</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Absent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Arnold, Chairman</td>
<td>Native American Representative</td>
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<td>John Hansen, Vice-Chairman</td>
<td>Native American Representative</td>
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<td>Marla Williams</td>
<td>Native American Representative</td>
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<td>Kelly Krolicki</td>
<td>General Public Representative</td>
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<td>Richard Snyder</td>
<td>General Public Representative</td>
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NIC Staff Present: Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director; Denise M. Becker, Administrative Assistant III; Sean McConville, Program Officer I; and Chris Gibbons, Curator II

Others Present: Saundra Mitrovich, Outreach and Retention Coordinator, Center for Student Cultural Diversity, University of Nevada, Reno; Larry Burton, Photographer; Fran Maldanado, Tribal Liaison, Division of Child and Family Services; Julieta Mendoza, Tribal Liaison, Department of Health and Human Services; Rupert Steele, Tribal Council Member, Confederated Tribes of Goshute; Dwayne Young, Health Policy Analyst, Department of Health and Human Services; Richard Boland, Timbisha Shoshone Tribal Member; Constance Athayde, Childcare Director, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe

I. Convene Meeting & Roll Call

The meeting convened at 9:08am. The Executive Director took roll and confirmed all five Commissioners to be present, fulfilling the quorum requirement.

II. Invocation

Mr. Rupert Steele provided the invocation.

III. Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Arnold welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He asked all present to introduce themselves.

IV. Administration of the Oath of Office for New Commissioners

Chairman Arnold administered the Oath of Office to new Commissioners Krolicki and Snyder.

V. Initial Public Comment

Mr. Steele introduced himself, and explained that the road leading to their reservation (Ibapah Road) has not been maintained, and is in need of repair. The road is in both Utah and Nevada and the tribe is working with both states to resolve this issue. Mr. Steele urged the Commission to help in any way possible. The Tribe is currently maintaining the road, but the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) initially funded the road. In addition, the State of Nevada has refused to pay for the road that is approximately 10 miles long. The other issue brought up was that of water rights on the reservation. The Executive Director explained that she has attended meetings
with the Goshute Tribe, their attorney and the respective state agencies on both of these issues and will keep the Board informed, as there are developments.

Mr. Richard Boland (on the phone) submitted a letter dated February 10, 2017 to the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC) requesting the Commission consider participating with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Community Engagement Initiative to bring a tribal perspective to the group. The request will be reviewed and evaluated.

VI. Approval of November 21, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Vice-Chairman Hansen made a motion to table the November 21, 2016 meeting minutes to the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Krolicki. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent).

VII. Commissioner Reports and Announcements

Commissioner Williams reported that she appreciated the opportunity to participate on the selection panel for the Program Officer interviews and believed that the Commission had made a good choice.

VIII. Approval of Executive Director Report as Presented by Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission with a Discussion on What to Expect in the 79th Session of the Nevada Legislature

The Executive Director explained that the Department of Health and Human Services had some concern over the language in SB 83 and has requested an exemption to its provisions. And, a Tribal Leader had some concern in regard to the language regarding consultation, that tribal consultations would be convened by and through the NIC. The Commission discussed that the intent of the revision was not meant to circumvent tribal consultation required by a federal agency directly with a tribal government, and agreed that if consultation was working between a tribe and a state agency then the language in SB 83 would codify that relationship. The revision that the NIC has proposed is seeking to give tribes the option to request that the NIC assist if the consultations are not being held. The NIC agreed that there was no need for the exemption of the Department of Health and Human Services. In regard to the Tribal Leader’s concerns, the bill could be amended to clarify that the NIC would be a conduit for consultation when the need should arise and our role would be to assist state agencies in understanding who they are to be consulting with, and provide them with an understanding of the consultation process. The NIC is trying to make sure that everyone knows what is happening, and providing information to tribes and state agencies. The Executive Director offered to work with Commissioner Williams on amended language.

In regard to SB 105, there has been some concern by legislators that some of the testimony at the hearing last week was too political in nature. The Board acknowledged that the testimony they heard at an earlier meeting was a request to repeal Columbus Day.

In the last legislative session AB 15 was passed and provided for 100% of proceeds from the sale of two parcels of state land on Clear Creek Rd. to go into a fund within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to benefit the maintenance and preservation of the Stewart Indian School. BDR 704 looks to take 50% of the proceeds of the sale of those two parcels and use it to repair Clear Creek Rd. for private citizens who live along the road. The NIC has yet to see the bill language and will closely monitor its release.

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams to approve the Executive Director report as presented, seconded by Commissioner Krolicki. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent).
IX. Update on Bi-State Tribal Natural Resources Committee Meeting, February 8, 2017

Sherry reported that the Bi-State Tribal Natural Resources Committee (BTNRC) met on February 8, 2017 at the Nevada Indian Commission office and by teleconference and are in the process of organizing themselves. The NIC is currently the lead coordinator for this group. The group is also working on the commercial harvesting issue with the federal agencies as well as requesting more information on the new State Park by Walker Lake.

The Commissioners had concerns on the NIC’s role and level of commitment with the BTNRC. They wanted to know what the role and expectation of the NIC is concerning the BTNRC. This topic needs additional discussion. The Commission would be open to a presentation from the BTNRC when they have more details.

X. Report on Nevada’s Indian Territory Projects and Activities – Chris Gibbons, Secretary/Treasurer, Indian Territory

Chris made the report on behalf of the Indian Territory. The report can be found on the NIC website at www.nic.nv.gov.

The Commission suggested that the Reno-Tahoe International Airport exhibit include additional signage to include the Southern Paiutes and that the NIC logo should also be made visible in the exhibit. The Commission would also like to see the Territory work to establish an exhibit in the McCarran International Airport in Southern Nevada.

A ten minute break was taken at this time.

XI. Indian Education

A. Approval of Appointment of Representative Forms for the Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC)

The Executive Director presented one Appointment of Representative Form for approval on the IEAC. The approval request was for Jonathan Lowery, JOM Advisory, Nevada Urban Indians, Inc.

Commissioner Hansen motioned to approve an Appointment of Representative Form for Jonathan Lowery, seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent).

B. Written Report on IEAC Activities

Mrs. Saundra Mitrovich is the new Chair of the IEAC and is the Outreach and Retention Coordinator for The Center Every Student, Every Story. She reported that Lori Pasqua will remain the Vice Chair of the IEAC. The Committee is working on a revision to the by-laws, increasing the number of representatives from higher education institutions to two among others. The IEAC is participating in Nevada Tribes Legislative Day and encouraging tribes to bring their students. More tribes and tribal education departments are preparing their strategic plans and the IEAC would like the tribes to have the support of the IEAC. The next meetings will discuss the IEAC by-laws, Indian Education strategic plan, and the Nevada Department of Education strategic plan for Indian Education.

Mrs. Mitrovich shared how the University of Nevada, Reno collaborates with Mr. Patrick Naranjo at UNLV. They are working to create chapters of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) at both campuses. She and the IEAC are also interested in data that would help to understand where native students are going to study, why they left, along with data on freshman retention, how they’re doing the first year, and if they participate in work study programs. The data for work study programs show that the students that participate were more often to persist, retain and graduate.
UNR currently does not have a native studies program, but has enough courses to have a minor. UNLV has an approved a minor concentration course of study and a research center. A recent assessment identified how these courses could be integrated into other fields of study at the university, using qualified native faculty to teach these courses. UNR has funding to hire new faculty this summer through their Diversity Program. Pressure to hire more faculty needs to continue. Another issue of importance being discussed is the fact that, currently, tribal members living out of state have to pay out of state tuition if they want to attend a Nevada institution. The IEAC supports this effort and plans to gather additional tribal support. The IEAC is looking to provide more data and reporting on collaborations to the NIC board.

Commissioners would like to be noticed when the in-state tuition request goes to the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE).

Commissioner Williams motioned to approve the IEAC report as presented, seconded by Commissioner Krolicki. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent).

C. Written Report on Current Indian Education Program Activities

Mrs. Fredina Drye-Romero was unable to attend and submitted her written report. Mrs. Mitrovich has been working with Mrs. Drye-Romero on the consultation policy that is required under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A meeting was organized to bring in school principals that have a high population of native students. They discussed many items, including cultural competency, ESSA provisions and plans on how they will be consulting with tribes. Some of the principals were hearing about the ESSA requirements for the first time. The forum was meant to bring awareness to the new requirements and to let the principals know that they are not alone and that they have other partners throughout the state. They are asking that tribes stress the importance of education within their communities. The Executive Director was also invited and shared information on the Indian boarding schools, the effect of that institution on Indian people and how that has affected their perspective of education.

The board requested information on the school districts in Nevada that fall under ESSA Section 8538 for the next NIC meeting.

Commissioner Hansen motioned to approve the Nevada Department of Education, Indian Education Program Professional’s report as written, seconded by Commissioner Krolicki. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent).

XII. Update on Planning for Nevada Tribes Legislative Day, February 14, 2017

The Executive Director briefly shared changes in the program agenda for Nevada Tribes Legislative Day. The most notable change being the time change for the Stewart tour starting off the day. The tour was now scheduled from 9:00am-10:30am allowing legislators and participants to get back down to the Legislature in time for the 11:00am floor session. She noted that the Director for the Department of Veterans Services would be in attendance to proclaim this year as the Year of the Native American Veteran.

The board was gratified to see the evolution of Nevada Tribes Legislative Day through the years. The day was intended to ensure the Nevada Tribes were recognized and had access to fully participate in the legislative process at the state level.

XIII. Stewart Indian School

A. Approval of Report on Stewart History and Preservation Project as Presented by Chris Gibbons, Curator II, Nevada Indian Commission
Chris made the report on behalf of the Stewart History and Preservation Project. The report can be found on the NIC website at [www.nic.nv.gov](http://www.nic.nv.gov).

**Commissioner Hansen motioned to approve the Stewart History and Preservation Project report as presented and submitted by Chris Ann Gibbons, seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent).**

### XIV. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Suggestions for future agenda items included: Support letter from the NIC on in-state tuition for tribal members; information on the school districts that fall under ESSA; strategic plan (pending tribal input); biennial report; discussion on marijuana (tribes and state agencies); update on Columbus Day incident; and an update on the NIC budget and bills being tracked.

It was suggested that the Executive Director also provide a report at the end of the session on the legislative bills that were tracked and their outcome.

It was also suggested that the NIC find out if the Millennium Scholarship program allows out of state tribal members to participate in their program. The IEAC can take up this topic and may have to look at any statutory changes that may need to be made.

Any other requests for agenda items should be forwarded to the Executive Director.

### XV. Scheduling and Location of Next NIC Meeting

The next Nevada Indian Commission Board Meeting was tentatively scheduled for May 11, 2017 at 9:00am. It was recommended that the Executive Director schedule this meeting in a local tribal community (i.e. Washoe Tribe, Walker River Paiute Tribe, Yerington Paiute Tribe, the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony or the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe). This may be difficult since the legislative session is in.

### XVI. Final Public Comment

Mr. Burton offered to take a photo of the full new commission after the meeting.

Mr. Steele shared his concern about the new administration and their review of the new national monuments. He also commented that pine nut harvesting areas usually have sacred areas. Tribes have the opportunity to have areas designated as Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP’s). This takes a lot of time, but it can be done. Also, Newmont Mine in Goshute Valley has been taking artifacts without tribal consultation. A task force has been created to mitigate. There is nothing in Nevada law that prevents this from happening. Mr. Steele would like the Commission to consider a meeting in Elko.

The Executive Director mentioned that NIC contributed two articles and three photos to the premiere edition of the First Nations Focus, a new publication of Sierra Nevada Media Group as well as drafted and coordinated the inclusion of a congratulatory letter from Governor Sandoval for this first edition. The Commission acknowledged that the publication is a good opportunity for tribes.

### XVII. Adjournment

**Commissioner Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hansen. The motion carried with a vote of 5 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (0 absent). Meeting was adjourned at 11:50am.**
CERTIFICATION

It is hereby certified that these Meeting Minutes were approved at a meeting of the Nevada Indian Commission with a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions, 1 absent, at a meeting duly held on August 14, 2017.

Certified by:

[Signature]

Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director
Nevada Indian Commission