NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 14, 2017- 10:00am
Elko Band Tribal Office, Council Chambers, 1745 Silver Eagle Dr., Elko, NV

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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 Krollicki</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; and Bobbi Rahder, Museum Director

Others Present: David Decker, Elko Band Council Chairman; Virgil Johnson, Confederated Tribes of Goshute Tribal Chairman; Rupert Steele, Confederated Tribes of Goshute Tribal Member; Davis Gonzales, Elko Band Vice-Chairman

I. Convene Meeting & Roll Call

The meeting convened at 8:15am. The Executive Director took roll, determining a quorum of four Commissioners present.

II. Invocation

Mr. Rupert Steele provided the invocation.

III. Welcome and Introductions

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

IV. Initial Public Comment

Chairman Johnson said his intention in attending the meeting was to learn more about the Nevada Indian Commission (NIC). He is interested in knowing the purpose of the Commission, since the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN) already meets regularly with Nevada’s 27 tribes.

Rupert Steele commented that the Ute Tribe was invited to meet with the Governor of Utah, but Tribal Leaders didn’t actually get to meet with them. He did, however invite a non-elected official to meet with him and this act was offensive to the Tribe. Chairman Arnold stated that he doesn’t see Governor Sandoval doing anything like that as he is very personable and responsive to any issues that Tribes face.

Chairman Arnold stated the NIC was established in 1965 and is an integral part of the State of Nevada. The NIC’s Commissioners and Executive Director are appointed by the Governor, and Ms. Rupert has been on the Governor’s Cabinet since 2013. The NIC as well as Governor Sandoval understands the unique position the Tribes are in and its Government to Government relationship. Chairman Arnold stated that the NIC does not interfere with tribal sovereignty as it is not their responsibility to do so. Chairman Arnold commented that he has
been on the Commission Board for a number of years and said that the NIC has the best of intentions in its mission to develop and improve cooperation and communications with Tribes. While the NIC holds quarterly meetings and posts information on the NIC website for all to view, the ITCN does not. Chairman Arnold shared that the Executive Director of the ITCN often attends Nevada Indian Commission Board Meetings, and is unclear why information on the Commission and its activities is not communicated with the Tribal Chairmen during ITCN meetings.

Ms. Rupert commented that the ITCN is a non-profit organization and the NIC is a State agency with the Commissioners and Executive Director appointed by the Governor. Ms. Rupert mentioned that since she is on the Governor’s Cabinet, she meets with the Governor and his staff frequently.

Chairman Decker commented that he is now the Vice-President of the ITCN and reported to the Commission that he will be instrumental in turning the ITCN’s finances around by being proactive.

The Executive Director followed up on the Columbus Day incident and reported that no investigation was made as it was not reported to the FBI by the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office as a hate crime.

V. Approval of February 13, 2017 and May 22, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Krolicki made a motion to approve the February 13, 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Snyder. The motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (1 absent).

Commissioner Snyder commented that on Page 3 of the May 22, 2017 minutes, the vote reported was 4 to 0, but because he did not participate in that vote, the minutes should be corrected to reflect his absence.

Commissioner Snyder made a motion to approve the May 22, 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Krolicki. The motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (1 absent).

VI. Commissioner Reports and Announcements

Commissioner Snyder stated that he thought there would be more tribal presence, as the Commissioners and NIC Staff have traveled to Elko, NV to hold this meeting. Ms. Rupert replied that she believes so few tribal members are in attendance because a Shoshone Language Reunion was held in Idaho over the past weekend and people are just now returning.

Chairman Arnold reported that he and the Executive Director recently met with representatives from Truckee Meadows Mental Health, Inc., a for-profit organization that provides services to veterans. They misrepresented the NIC in a proposal that would administer programs at the Stewart Indian School campus. In addition, they distributed flyers to the public during the Stewart Father’s Day Powwow, June 16-18, 2017, stating that the NIC and Tribes were in full support. Chairman Arnold said that the Truckee Meadows Mental Health Chief Executive Officer (CEO) was surprised that the NIC was not in support of their proposal. The Executive Director and Chairman Arnold asked the CEO to remove their false and unauthorized information from their website at once. Ms. Rupert stated that the NIC will send a follow up letter to Truckee Meadows Mental Health Inc. with copies forwarded to the Attorney General’s Office and the Governor’s Office.

VII. Approval of Executive Director Report as Presented by Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director, Nevada Indian Commission

The Executive Director presented her report to the Board. The report can be found on the NIC website at www.nic.nv.gov.
Ms. Rupert reported that the Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs has created new stationery for the Commission and has provided letterhead, labels and envelopes. Ms. Rupert shared that the Commission’s Program Officer I position has been filled and that Ms. Sarena Nichols will start on August 21, 2017.

Gallagher & Associates has been working with Museum Management Consultants on the interpretive framework of the Master Plan. The group will be coming to the Nevada Indian Commission to present sometime in August. Once the interpretive piece is completed, they will move forward with doing a market study to see what types of attractions would draw more visits to the Campus.

The University of Utah has been chosen to write the National Historic Landmark nomination application for the Stewart Indian School. The project is still in its research phase and the primary researcher is Amanda Scheuerman from the America West Center. The goal is to have the application completed by the end of Fiscal Year 2018.

The Commission has eagerly been awaiting a fiber connection from Building #89 (Department of Corrections) so that Enterprise IT Services (EITS) can connect the Commission to the State backbone and then the NIC will be able to receive a brand new phone system.

The Executive Director commented that she and Museum Director Bobbi Rahder visited seven Tribes June 26-29, 2017. They shared about the initiatives the NIC is working on with Tribal Chairmen and Tribal Council members. In addition, Ms. Rupert stated that Ms. Rahder is updating the Tribes on how the development of the Stewart Indian School Cultural and Welcome Centers are progressing. Ms. Rupert stated that they will resume their tribal visits after this meeting in Elko and will visit with the Wells Band, the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation, the Ely Shoshone Tribe, the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, the Yomba Shoshone Tribe, the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe, the Walker River Paiute Tribe, and the Yerington Paiute Tribe.

The Bi-State Tribal Natural Resources Committee (BTNRC) met on May 22, 2017 and August 10, 2017. Representatives from both California and Nevada attended these meetings. On August 10, 2017, Paul Burow, a graduate student from Yale University was in attendance. He shared that he is writing his dissertation on pinion trees and commented that he was impressed by the quantity of federal agencies that were in attendance. Amongst other things, the BTNRC is working on obtaining information for Tribal people on how best to deal with commercial pine nut pickers. Committee members also discussed whether it would be feasible to hold another Traditional Ecological Knowledge Summit within the next year or so.

Ms. Rupert reported that the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) will hold its annual American Indian Tourism Conference (AITC), September 11-14, 2017 in Green Bay, WI. Both she and Ms. Rahder will attend. Ms. Rupert commented that there is momentum at the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania, as they are interested in also developing an Interpretive Center. Ms. Rupert stated that Ms. Rahder will be participating on a panel with representatives from Carlisle Indian School at AITC.

Commissioner Snyder made a motion to approve the Executive Director report, seconded by Commissioner Krolicki. The motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (1 absent).

VIII. Follow Up on Implementation of SB 244 Historic Preservation Bill and Discussion on Process for Recommending Candidates to fill Board Seats on the Board of Museums and History and the Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation

Executive Director Rupert reported that SB 244 is a bill that was passed during this last legislative session and the NIC is to recommend names for one Nevada tribal member to fulfill a seat on the Board of Museums and History and also one Nevada tribal member to fulfill a seat on the Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation. Ms. Rupert read the portion of the bill explaining what would be involved.
The Commission inquired of the process the Executive Director was planning to use for recruitment of the board seats. The only qualification is that the person is an enrolled member from a Nevada Tribe. Chairman Johnson added that while most tribal elders aren’t academically knowledgeable, they do have wisdom and understand the significance of protecting the Native American culture.

Chairman Arnold stated that the NIC’s role is to submit names to the Governor for consideration. The Executive Director commented that before any discussion can be made, an ITCN meeting has to take place as the statute says that the NIC will submit candidates after consultation with the ITCN. Once that happens, the Executive Director will bring the findings back the NIC Board so they can approve three candidates for each of the board seats to forward on to the Governor for his appointment. When going to the ITCN meetings, the Executive Director has a dual purpose — she reports to the Governor and she reports to the NIC Board of Commissioners. Chairman Arnold stated that because of this, the NIC needs to have a standing agenda item at the ITCN because of the things that often don’t get addressed during their meetings.

Commissioner Williams made a motion that the Executive Director contact the ITCN by phone about the statute and the need to fill the board seats, also to follow up with a letter and notify the Tribes that the nomination process has begun, seconded by Commissioner Snyder. The motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (1 absent).

The group took a 10-minute break.

IX. Report on Indian Territory Projects and Activities — Chris Gibbons, Secretary/Treasurer, Indian Territory

Ms. Gibbons was unable to attend and submitted her written report. Ms. Rupert commented that the next Tribal Tourism Conference will be held April 23-25, 2018 in Lake Tahoe.

There were no questions from the board.

X. Indian Education

A. Ratification of the Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) By-law Revisions

Several items of concern and edits need to be made. The Executive Director will speak to the IEAC to discuss the concerns and will update the Board at the next meeting.

B. Approval of Written Report on IEAC Activities

Mrs. Saundra Mitrovich was unable to attend and submitted her written report.

Commissioner Snyder motioned to approve the IEAC report as written, seconded by Commissioner Krollki. The motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (1 absent).

C. Written Report on Current Indian Education Program Activities

Mrs. Drye-Romero was unable to attend and submitted her written report.

Mr. Gonzales asked about the purpose of the Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) and how it assists the Tribes. The Executive Director responded that the IEAC is made up of tribal education directors, school district representatives, higher education representatives and early childhood representatives, among other stakeholders and they work together on common issues that affect their students and communities. One of the current issues that the IEAC is working on is changing policy for those students and members of Nevada tribes that reside out of state, but want to come back to Nevada to pursue their education. Currently they have to pay out-of-state tuition, and the IEAC would like to have policy changed to where Nevada Tribal Members
whether they reside in state or out of state, pay in-state tuition. The IEAC is creating a survey to go out to tribal education directors so they can see whether they have students going on to higher education and if they are, to find out where the students are going. If it turns out that students are going out of state, it’s because they can’t get in-state tuition in their own state. The IEAC will gather all information and present it to the Board of Regents to have the policy changed. Mr. Gonzales recommended that the Executive Director contact Antoinette Cavanaugh to collaborate with the NIC and the IEAC on this issue as she is currently working on similar issues and legislation in Utah.

Chairman Johnson asked if videoconference was the only way to attend IEAC meetings and Executive Director Rupert replied that other avenues like UberConference are currently being explored.

Commissioner Krolicki motioned to approve the Nevada Department of Education, Indian Education Program Professional’s report as written, seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried with a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (1 absent).

XI. Stewart Indian School

A. Approval of Report on Stewart Indian School Living Legacy Related Projects

The Executive Director reported that Terri McBride has completed 15 oral history interviews with alumni and former employees of the Stewart Indian School. Those interviewed were Joanne Nevers, Ruth Abbie, Robey Willis, Rolf Brown, Beatrice Allen, Bill Turner, Delbert Holley, Carlene Burton, Evelyn Cook, Ron Wopsock, Reynece Peterson, Rudy Clark, Rupert Steele, Thomas D. Benjamin, and Roger Sam. Copies of the oral histories have been delivered to the Nevada State Library and Archives, the NIC, and the University of Nevada, Reno, Special Collections.

The Executive Director commented that filmmaker JoAnne Peden has been working on the Stewart Indian School Documentary. The documentary has been reviewed several times and edits have been recommended. The documentary is an hour long and the first 17 minutes is a history of the Boarding School era. In addition, there was no Native presence in the first half of the documentary. Twenty to thirty hours of additional editing needs to be done and the funding will need to come out of the NIC Gift Account as the grant funding for the project has been depleted. After the completion of the documentary and prior to its release, there will be a viewing to include the alumni shown in the video.

The Executive Director mentioned the issue of ghost hunting at Stewart. The NIC does not condone these activities because this goes against everything Native people believe in. The Executive Director commented that the NIC is working with the permit section of State Buildings and Grounds to develop a policy that prohibits this kind of activity at the Stewart Indian School. Commissioner Williams suggested making this issue an agenda item at the next meeting.

Commissioner Snyder left the meeting at 11:50am.

Commissioner Krolicki motioned to approve the Report on Stewart Indian School Living Legacy Related Projects seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried with a vote of 3 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (2 absent).

B. Approval of Report on Stewart Indian School Cultural Center as Presented by Bobbi Rahder, Museum Director

Ms. Rahder introduced herself to the Board and commented that she is honored to be working at the Stewart Indian School. Ms. Rahder stated that she is in the process of organizing the operations of the museum in order to be accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM). Ms. Rahder shared some of the projects she and Chris Ann Gibbons, Curator, have been working on. They have organized a Cultural Center
Subcommittee made up of Stewart Indian School alumni to assist in developing values and a mission statement for the Museum. Ms. Rahder stated that she and the Curator are participating in meetings regarding the Stewart Indian School Master Plan. They have met with the State Public Works Division and State Buildings and Grounds to discuss rent and maintenance of the Cultural and Welcome Centers. Ms. Rahder stated that she and the Curator have created a comprehensive Bureau of Indian Affairs Stewart Indian School Collection timeline and are scheduling times to review the collection as well as surveying collections at seven other repositories with Stewart Indian School materials. Ms. Rahder and Ms. Gibbons are in the process of assembling images and information for the Heard Museum Boarding School exhibit, which currently does not include any information on the Stewart Indian School.

In addition, Ms. Rahder mentioned that they are working on organizing a blessing of the Cultural Center prior to construction commencing.

Commissioner Krollicki motioned to approve the Stewart History and Preservation Project report as presented and submitted by Ms. Rahder, seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried with a vote of 3 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (2 absent).

XII. Discussion on Planning for the American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction

The Executive Director reported that the date for this year’s American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction will be held at the Governor’s Mansion on Saturday, November 18, 2017 from 4:30 – 7:30pm. The Banquet is a fundraiser for the Stewart Indian School Living Legacy and presents awards in the following categories: American Indian Community Leader of the Year, American Indian Youth Ambassador of the Year, American Indian Youth Services/Role Model of the Year, and Community/Supporter of the Year. Ms. Rupert commented that tickets to this year’s banquet have been increased to $60.00 per person or $750 for a table of ten.

Commissioners agreed that they would participate at the same level as in past years: For themselves and a guest to attend, along with a business card size ad in the event program would be $150 per Commissioner. The Executive Director is to notify Commissioners not in attendance of the level of support expected.

XIII. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

Topics of discussion for the next NIC Board Meeting will include updates on the forthcoming paranormal activities policy at the Stewart Indian School, Indian Education Advisory Committee By-law revision, an update on the Stewart Indian School Master Plan and a report on the American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet. Commissioner Williams also suggested the Commission discuss Senate Bill 511 and how it will affect the Tribes.

XIV. Scheduling and Location of Next NIC Meeting

The next NIC Meeting will be on November 20, 2017 to be held at the Yerington Paiute Tribe.

XV. Final Public Comment

Chairman Johnson commented that the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute will be organizing a Dark Sky event that will allow visitors to come to the reservation to engage in stargazing.

XVI. Adjournment

Commissioner Krollicki motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried with a vote of 3 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions (2 absent). The meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.
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, 0 absent, at a meeting duly held on November 20, 2017.

Certified by:

[Signature]
Sherry L. Rupert, Executive Director
Nevada Indian Commission