

**NEVADA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Department of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation**

May 21, 2013
(Amended & Approved September 17, 2013)

DETR
500 E. Third St.
SAO Auditorium, 1st Floor
Carson City, NV 89713

DETR
2800 East St. Louis Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89104

Elko JobConnect
172 6th St.
Elko, NV 89801

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lisa Bonie
Maureen Cole
Jane Gruner
Ernest Hall
Virginia Howard
Jennifer Kane
Sheena Kaufman
Robin Kincaid
Jack Mayes
Kate Osti
Brian Patchett
Scott Youngs

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bob Beers
Steve Chartrand
Martin Florsheim
Kevin Hull

GUESTS:

Marcia Ferrell-Transcriber
Linda Bove-Certified Deaf Interpreter
Branton Stewart-Certified Deaf Interpreter
Stephanie Gardner- Certified Hearing Interpreter
Debra Scott-Certified Hearing Interpreter
Anita Franz, Client Assistance Program

STAFF:

Kim Okezie, Deputy Attorney General
Robert Whitney, Deputy Attorney General
Melaine Mason, Deputy Administrator, Operations
Janice John, Deputy Administrator, Program Services
Bill Boster, Rehabilitation District Manager
Melissa Starr, Management Analyst III
Kelli Quintero, Management Analyst II

EXHIBITS:

- Nevada State Rehabilitation Council (NSRC) February 26, 2013 meeting minutes
- Social Security Administration Ticket to Work Statistics
- Rehabilitation Performance Indicators
- Vocational Rehabilitation Hearing
- Rehabilitation Successful Closures report
- Breakdown of Bureau Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired/Bureau of Vocational Services Performance Indicators
- NSRC SFY 2012 Budget

I. ROLL CALL AND CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM

Melissa Starr called the roll and determined a quorum was present.

II. **VERIFICATION OF POSTING**

Melissa Starr verified that the posting was accomplished on time and per Open Meeting Law requirements.

III. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Youngs asked for all present to introduce themselves as there were two new Council members and interpreters in attendance.

All council members introduced themselves along with Melissa Starr who introduced herself and announced that she would no longer be the Nevada State Rehabilitation Council (NSRC) liaison.

Kelli Quintero introduced herself as the newest Management Analyst II and the new Council liaison.

Kim Okezie, Deputy Attorney General was attending along with Mr. Whitney.

IV. **FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION**

Mr. Daniel Halterman, a Rehabilitation client, wished to have his statement entered into the meeting minutes.

"In April, 2012, I developed a PASS plan with Social Security which required I have assigned IPE or individualized plan for employment, with vocational rehabilitation. After much evaluation testing and jumping through all the hoops set forth by vocational rehab, my counselor engaged in a phone conversation, illegally divulging private medical information to the PASS specialist without my permission. In her candid opinion she recommended that my PASS plan be rejected, as my counselor expressed her illegal opinion that I would not be a good candidate for employment goal due to my medical background.

After substantiating a historical background in computer medical technical systems with over 200 certificates, licenses and diplomas from numerous companies I've worked for in the past, a meeting was scheduled with deputy director Janice Johns, rehabilitation rehab division manager Sylvia Milburn, and my CAP advocate Robin Hall-Walker. An IPE was agreed to and signed and authorized. To date, my IPE has not been executed.

The counselor illegally violated my civil rights by divulging my private medical information without a release, and was found guilty of violating my civil rights to privacy in a hearing September 2012. The hearing decision further ordered my IPE be completed on November 23rd, 2012.

To date, VR is in violation of this order and my IPE has not been executed.

In April 2013 the hearing officer answered the clarification question with a lengthy order stating VR must formulate, finalize and execute my IPE, and assist with initiation of my PASS plan. Within 30 days of the order dated April 3rd, 2013. To date my IPE has not been executed and VR is in violation of two orders from the hearing office.

In the meantime, I represented myself in a hearing with Social Security whereupon a magistrate ordered that my PASS plan be redeveloped and initiated.

In April of 2013 for the second time and in violation of the current order from the hearing officer, VR informed the PASS specialist that my IPE was not in effect. And the PASS plan was yet rejected again. Again, VR is in violation of an order from the hearings office.

Vocational rehabilitation is in violation of every stipulation of every order rendered by the hearings office to date involving my IPE and PASS plan. In their efforts to evade any compliance with these legal orders and provide services outlined in my IPE, VR has slandered and defamed my character by referring to me as a sexual deviate and a convicted felon with numerous prison sentences, all of which are false.

I exist on a limited income and live in HUD housing. I cannot afford legal representation to pursue these charges in district court at this particular moment.

Originally my CAP representative was Robin Hall-Walker, who was very responsive and effective in assisting with the development of my IPE last fall. Vocational rehab. Initiated the closure of the Nevada state client assistance program and quietly cut -- guided the CAP grant to be relocated with Nevada disability

advocacy and law center.

On three occasions I have requested and been denied representation from the NDALC CAP without even reviewing my file. I complained to the federal rehabilitation services administration, RSA, that funds their grant, and NDALC CAP was instructed to contact me. In my first conversation with Jack Mayes, director of NDALC CAP, he misinformed me, telling me that the previous CAP, Robin Hall-Walker, did not keep any files on me. Then he told me VR did not provide NDALC CAP with any files regarding my case during the transition of the CAP office to his care.

I know both statements are not true, because his office sent my file to me, nearly 500 pages, when they rejected my request for representation the first time.

Currently, after rescinding requested releases to NDALC CAP, I am still awaiting representation without any acknowledgment from NDALC CAP.

I'm a decorated Vietnam war veteran, I've recovered from heart attack and stroke. My employment goal is to complete college requirements to become a computer forensic specialist. I need to have the items and materials provided for within my IPE.

I request this document and the statement be included into the minutes of the meeting. Can you help me. Thank you for your time."

Brian Patchett asked for an update on this situation at the next NSRC meeting. Mr. Youngs replied that an update would be made available.

V. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION APPROVAL OF THE NEVADA STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL (NSRC) FEBRUARY 26, 2013, MEETING MINUTES**

The Council seeing no issues with the meeting minutes as presented;
Jane Gruner moved to approve the meeting minutes as submitted.
Jennifer Kane seconded. Motion passed.

VI. **DISCUSSION/REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THE NSRC SATISFACTION SURVEY REGARDING THE REHABILITATION DIVISION SUPPORT TO THE COUNCIL**

Mr. Youngs reported only six completed surveys were received and thanked those six for taking the time to fill out and submit the surveys. There was discussion between the Council members regarding who fills out the surveys and those missing. Was it the format or a time factor that kept others from responding?

VII. **DISCUSSION/REPORT ON THE ENTIRE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2014 STATE PLAN**

Maureen Cole stated the Division incorporated the suggestions that were made at the subcommittee meeting, in January for revisions to the state plan and to the goals and strategies and performance indicators. She said those are all written down, and if there is no objection, we can go over each one, or if you have had an opportunity to read them, have any questions or comments, anything that you might want to change at this late date.

It was discussed that the members had read their packet and had remember what transpired during this discussion at the February meeting. No further suggestions or revisions were suggested.

VIII. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ELECTIONS**

Maureen Cole opened the floor for nominations.

Jack Mayes nominated Scott Youngs to remain as the Chair of the Nevada State Rehabilitation Council (NSRC). No other nominations were given and a voted was taken. Mr. Youngs was unanimously re-elected.

Brian Patchett nominated Ernest Hall for Vice Chair. Mr. Hall accepted the nomination. With no other nominations, a vote was taken and Mr. Hall was unanimously elected to the post.

IX. FOR POSSIBLE ACTION PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2014

Melissa Starr presented the proposed 2014 meeting schedule for the Council to alter, or approve.

Lisa Bonie, asked who the members of the State Plan committee were, Melissa replied that the State Plan committee is a sub-committee and not all members serve on the State Plan committee at the same time.

Mr. Mayes asked what happens if we have a quorum issue or a conflict on a meeting date, how is that handled, since we have to meet a minimum of four times a year.

Ms. Cole responded we would try to reschedule that meeting. That is why we try to poll beforehand to make sure that we do have a quorum before everyone assembles, if in the event we would not have a quorum we would try to reschedule to make sure we are in conformance with that requirement for the quarterly meetings.

Jane Gruner motioned to accept the proposed 2014 meeting schedule.

Lisa Bonie seconded. Motion carried.

X. DISCUSSION/REPORT ON CLIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Jack Mayes began in your packets you will see that there is the letter of re-designation, and then also our text version of our brochure. I wanted to give some feedback on how the Client Assistance Program (CAP) has been in the transition of the program from the state to a private nonprofit and into the community, so I asked staff to go through and come up with the numbers of how many clients have contacted us, how many service requests, etc.

Since taking over the program on November the ninth through May 20th, and since Monday, there have been 19 cases, and we have provided 71 Information and Referrals (I&R's) during this time period. Of these, 12 cases were closed and 60 I&Rs were closed. Of the closed cases, 4 have responded to client satisfaction questionnaires three were very satisfied and one was somewhat satisfied there has been one grievance filed. We have been learning some things and we are going to be meeting with Administrator Cole. We have been quite busy, and as we continue to learn "the lay of the land", related to VR and some of the concerns from the clients.

One of the things we try to do is utilize cases to address systemic issues, and in all honesty to look for opportunities to improve the program. There have been some struggles with different styles from the previous CAP agency, to the style that we utilize, in processing cases. So some individuals, who had relationships with past CAP advocates, have had difficulty with the change of style.

We have attorneys that supervise all of our cases and the way we address these cases must be more legal. We address; releases of information, before we can even get into a case, and so some people want immediate service right now, but of course we've got to get releases of information and things in place before that can happen.

There has been some frustration by a few clients, just from expectations based on past interactions with previous CAP advocates. We are working through that, educating clients, and addressing their needs. I believe that we have had some successful outcomes in addressing concerns, and are looking forward to meeting with Maureen.

Mr. Mayes asked if any of the Council members had any questions saying that Anita Franz was available. Anita Franz supplied an overall sense on how the new Client Assistance Program (CAP) was moving forward. She said the numbers are looking good, so we are happy from an administrator's point of view;

it was not the best time to take over the CAP agency, since immediately we got a 5.5 percent cut to federal allocations. So the grant went from roughly 125,000 down to 117,000 and then there was a delay in getting funds out related to the program, but we managed, things are going well.

Mr. Youngs asked if they knew how the complaints or the cases broke down with each of the Vocational programs. How many were Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) clients, Bureau Services to the Blind & Visually Impaired (BSBVI) clients, Native American rehab programs, or independent living programs.

Ms. Franz responded they have had a handful of requests for services, basically information referral from services supply. She recently opened two new cases. No cases with independent living center or the Native American VR program in Southern Nevada. We have had calls from the Native American VR program regarding some technical assistance, working with the counselors to get them hooked up with different resources available to them.

Ms. Cole added there has been some concern that records from previous CAP were not properly transmitted to current CAP. All she could say is everything that they found the Division turned over to the new CAP administrator.

Robin Kincaid asked for a breakdown between the north, south and rural. Ms. Franz replied "we can certainly get that to you."

XI. OTHER REPORTS

Lisa Bonie stated as the new Independent Living (IL) Council Chair we became aware that our State Plan was due this year, so the IL has met four times. The public meetings were held on May 20, 2013 with a meeting scheduled on June sixth to review the document before the final vote on June 13th before the July 1, 2013 delivery date. The State Independent Living Council is working towards getting some member training. We have a fairly new membership on the council, and a group of us feel that we could use some training and some additional direction. We are currently working with Melaine Mason and the Technical Assistance & Continuing Education (TACE) center to coordinate some training so we can become a better State Independent Living Council and contribute more to this group.

Virginia Howard asked Ms. Bonie for written information on what the Independent Living Council does. Ms. Bonie said she would provide the information requested.

XII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Maureen Cole reported the Martin Florsheim was absent because he was in route to Elko for the last of the town hall meetings on Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) out there in Elko. That will be tomorrow morning. The Division has had two meetings in Reno and two meetings in Las Vegas. The Las Vegas ones were reasonably well attended altogether maybe a dozen to 15 people came. They provided some very good feedback to us, and we will be compiling all of the comments and presenting them to the council after tomorrow's meeting. In Reno we got less participation, two or three people showed up to the afternoon meeting, unfortunately no one came to the evening meeting. So we are hopeful there will be some in attendance in Elko.

It has been a busy legislative session our budgets closed a couple of weeks ago. Not much changed from what the governor had recommended, except that we will be unable to reimburse our professional staff, our counseling staff, for their DRCC certification examination, that had been our practice in the past because we do require all of our counselors be at least eligible to sit for the examination for certification.

If they choose to go forward and pass the test, then we reimburse them, she said she believed the renewal fee 385 dollars after five years. The legislature decided that was not an expense that we could continue to support, so that will be missing from our budget.

Ms. Cole explained the Legislature said it is the State's policy not to pay for professional licensure, and they see a similarity in certification, and licensure, they were afraid to open the floodgates. Mr. Mayes stated he listened in on the hearing, and basically the legislature was afraid that the social workers that work for the state are going to come forward and argue that the State should pay for their licensure, as well. So that was their argument, he didn't know how valid their perspective was, and they did not want to set precedence, even though it has been covered in the past.

Ms. Cole said the Division tried to make the argument that there is a qualitative difference between licensure as a requirement, prerequisite for a position, and certification, which is a quality, a quality that indicates a commitment to the profession.

The legislature opted not to consolidate the budgets for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired and general VR, and so we will continue to do business as we have done for many years, duplicating bookkeeping entry, but operating as a combined agency. We had an interesting conversation and provided some education and information to legislators that are not familiar with VR.

Ms. Cole continued the Division is also waiting to hear on a couple of bills that have an effect on our Business Enterprise Network (B.E.N.) program. We may be successful on SB 54 which clarifies the statute about rent for the blind vendors. AB 447 has been amended or is in the process of being amended to take out the "products -- the goods and -- or services and products" language, and just concentrate on advertising at roadside rest stops as a means of generating revenue for the maintenance of those areas. The Division was concerned that the language, as it was first proposed, seemed to leave the door open for private entities it overrode the priority of private blind vendors.

SB 349, which was the bill to move Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program into Ms. Jane Gruner's program of Aging and Disability Services, has died. Ms. Gruner said it has not come forward again. It is exempt, so it still could be heard. But we have not had any additional inquiries.

Ms. Cole responded the Division had hoped and what Ms. Gruner, Director Woodbeck and myself had proposed to a number of legislators and submitted a joint amendment to this bill was to establish a task force or an advisory board that could take a look at the situation for individuals with sensory disabilities, assess what that population, assess what resources are currently in place to serve those needs, and help us identify where the lack of services are. To assess on a statewide basis the geographical differences, then project the dollar amount necessary to serve the needs of that population. She was hopeful that this may come to pass. They hope to receive enough funding to make the advisory board a very viable entity for a defined period of time.

Jane Gruner said with the intent of making sure that there is a viable budget item put into the next budget.

Ms. Cole interjected to ask the State to make a commitment to meeting those needs, whatever those needs are, which have not been defined very well. The Divisions are taking a lesson from the methodology that the advocates for the autism spectrum community were very effectively employed. They went through that same process and identified what the needs were, and came together around that issue and were very successful in finding funding to serve that population. So we know that can be done.

In talking to the proponents of SB349, her impression was there was a misunderstanding about VR dollars, they were thinking that the \$6 million the Division was unable to match or a portion of those funds might be matched, there would be funding for this additional program. That is not the case. Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) dollars can only be attached to those individuals who are seeking employment at the end of their Individual Plan for Employment (IPE), and independent living and life skills services can be provided to those VR clients as part of that journey toward employment, but what the proponents were saying is there are many people who are either prevocational or post vocational, who suffer sensory impairment, sometimes suddenly,

and really need the life skills and the independent living skills before they can even consider what would happen beyond that. She believes all can agree these needs are not met well in Nevada. Moving VR into Aging and Disabilities Division would not free up any funding. It would move an employment based program out of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation which is our labor department, where we have the ability to easily tap into other employment activities. It would not solve the problem as it was stated by the proponents of the bill, hopefully we will get the task force. If the Division does not have any state funds we are going to see if we can find some other kinds of funding that that will allow that committee to meet on a regular basis to do the census that they need to do, to provide the involvement of this community of individuals who are not currently being served, and get their input into the process.

Ms. Cole then formally introduced Kelli Quintero, as the Rehabilitation's new Management Analyst two, and Council Liaison.

Melissa Starr took a promotion to our Management Analyst 3 position she will be involved in other types of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and Rehabilitation Division activities.

Brian Sotomayor has been hired as the new Business Enterprise Network (BEN) Chief. We'll have him come in and you can meet him at one of our future meetings.

Ms. Cole asked the Council members if they had any questions regarding the remaining exhibits. Jennifer Kane replied regarding Exhibit B, she said every time she receives the exhibits for the Administrator's report she is interested in the Transition Student numbers. She has been hearing frustration from some of her partners across the state related to these numbers. One of the ways that Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) has worked in conjunction with other partners to kind of address this issue of transition age youth and increasing outcomes for that population is through a camp called Careers Recreation and Vocational Education (CRAVE) summer camp.

In the first two years the program was in place, there was a week long summer camp held at UNLV. The students actually stayed in the dorms, they chose either employment or career focused path, it was an amazing best practices kind of program. About the third year of the camp she attended an Interagency Transition Advisory board meeting where Sylvia Milburn from Vocational Rehabilitation and Reggie Bennett from Rebuilding All Goals Efficiently (RAGE) reported students from southern Nevada were benefiting from this program. She had asked the board if the Department of Education could bring some funding forward that could open the program to students from rural and northern Nevada communities. They said yes. So since that time the Department of Education has not been in developing and facilitating the camp as much as recruiting and bringing students from the rural areas and Washoe County school district to the CRAVE. We did some really good work a few years ago especially within the Washoe County school district.

Last year we had 16 applicants for 10 spots and we ended up with waiting list. This year we recruited and expanded it to juniors with additional weeks for the recruiting process and we ended up filling only seven out of 10 spots. She shared with the council, the hopes that maybe the Division and Department of Education can do some of the same good work that took place a few years ago when improvements were being made.

I've spoken with Washoe County school district staff at length. They would be thrilled to reopen this discussion, the conversation. And back in the day what happened was we actually had a vocational rehabilitation person assigned to transition who moved into the office with the transition specialist in Washoe County. And through that kind of collaboration we saw some forward movement really rapidly when that happened.

I'm not suggesting that proximity is the solution, but what I am suggesting is that maybe we need to get the Rehabilitation Administration to look at the situation. It made sense for those individuals to be housed together,

it was what led to the good work of improving the numbers for students with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) within the Washoe County school district.

The rural areas are a totally different issue the Vocational Rehabilitation has struggled to keep counselors out in the rural areas, then the Department of Education struggles with having consistency in recruiting students to vocational rehabilitation transition services.

Ms. Kane continued, in the recruiting process; the potentially led to us not having as many candidates come forward, is in the past recruiting materials specified a student had to be a junior or senior in high school, student with disability, either had an open case for vocational rehabilitation or that would qualify, and we would be able to open that case in the couple months leading up to the camp. This year because of staffing issues the "or be able to open a case" part went away. The Department of Education is only recruiting seniors as first preference, as it is their last chance to come to the camp. This year the materials changed to state it was students who only already had an open case with vocational rehabilitation which just made the number of students we were looking to have come to the camp decrease at such a rate that we cannot fill the spots. We have been unable to fill the spots.

The good news is we are still actively recruiting and we are hoping to fill the additional spots with students from southern Nevada. So the camp will go on, the spots will be filled. Ms. Kane wanted to share this information with Council, especially with the new members present, so they can develop an understanding of CRAVE summer camp and work together to continue to improve recruiting. Thank you.

Ms. Cole thanked Ms. Kane for the information adding the Division agrees services for Transition Students needs improvement. She said the Division has an opportunity for approval of a third party cooperative agreement with the Washoe County school district to allow them to contribute some in-kind match, some certified match, to draw down part of that \$6 million federal funding. To serve initially 60 students every year for a four year pilot program. The staff with the certified match would move into the Vocational Rehabilitation office on Corporate Boulevard in Reno. The students will have classrooms with their Washoe County school district teachers, and then coordinate their education in an employment-focused agenda. They will work closely with their VR counselor on work experience, resumes, and paid jobs. The Division's goal is to integrate the students last year in school with working one-on-one with their VR counselor to prepare them for the world of work. To give them experience then to move them into competitive employment. This would be a very close association between the school district and VR, working with the defined number of kids over an extended period of time, is going to really prepare those students to get jobs, to start careers, to go on to post-secondary education, whatever it takes to get them launched into their adult life in a way that incorporates work to the best of their abilities and interests, and capacity.

Ms. Bonie added last year while attending the Interwork Transition Advocacy Board (ITAB) meetings it became clear there was not going to be a summer camp. She called Mr. Scott Harrington and result of working with him was a community based career exploration summer camp, forty students attended. This year we have great dynamic relations with herself, Mechelle Merrill, Rehabilitation Chief, Sherry Manning and Kelli Wells from the school district, they expect 60 students to attend.

Where we differ is our camp is a day camp not a residential experience. The students come to the center for independent living, we do an interest inventory prior to their experience then they go out to their different job sites and try to place them in a job experience that will match what their interests are. They actually ride public transportation, so my mobility trainer from the center works with the students that are in the camp, and does travel training with them, and understanding how to read a bus book, and purchasing your tickets. This gets them a required disabled pass if they do not already have one. They come back to the center for lunch, and then they have classes that afternoon on how to build resumes, interview skills, hygiene, and what the proper decorum is in the workplace. We are adding a financial component this year, where somebody is going to

teach them what to do with your paycheck when you get it, and banking, etc. We have one of our groups is a culinary group, their job requires them to do all the shopping, and then they make the daily lunches.

Ms. Kane replied she was aware of this new camp. What the northern Nevada summer camp is all about so is the CRAVE summer camp and there are other initiatives that we all do in collaboration with other students around transition age and improving the outcomes. She offered to send the council members links to the CRAVE and Nevada Student Leadership Transition Summit, through the support staff.

Mr. Scott Youngs asked Ms. Kane is there any need that the Rehabilitation Division should identify students earlier. Ms. Kane replied part of the issue with why only juniors and seniors have been identified as individuals who are at a level of maturity that can be away from home and stay in dorms overnight.

Ms. Sylvia Milburn said one of the reasons the Division decided to go with the juniors and seniors we found working with freshman was not as in tune with going to college as it was to just get through the first year of High School. We found that the forward movement of going to college is much greater if the Division got to them in their senior year.

Mr. Youngs asked the district has responsibility to start the transition process at age fourteen.

Ms. Kane replied to the affirmative, due to Nevada laws, there are pieces of transition that begin at fourteen. That is mostly related to having an adjusted diploma.

Ms. Cole interjected one of the reasons that Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) focuses on the older students is that they have the ability to work. Both fourteen and fifteen year olds are very difficult to find a paid work experience that is both legal and appropriate for them.

Mr. Brian Patchett commented both his children made their decisions about going to college when they were fourteen and fifteen. As a sophomore you take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test or Scholastic Assessment Test (PSAT) and that gets you started on the path towards college, CRAVE would make sense for this age as well.

XIII. REPORT ON THE COUNCIL'S STATE FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET AND SUGGESTED ADJUSTMENTS

Melissa Starr presented the last budget report for this state fiscal year (SFY) to the Council. The Division has completed the printing of the 2012 annual report we do anticipate that we will receive all invoices for the Statewide Community Needs Assessment that is currently being conducted prior to the end of June, so those pieces will come out. Exhibit A is the format that everyone is used to seeing, and it just shows where the Council is at as of May 6th with actual expenditures and what we anticipate on paying out for the remainder of this fiscal year. We do have enough funding to cover all of our anticipated expenses, with a little bit we are projecting to have left over due to some travel funds that were not utilized, a small portion of which will be used by our Council Chair, Scott Youngs, as he will be attending the state quorum for rehabilitation council members. The National State Rehabilitation Council (SRC) does pay the majority of that, but we do pay just a little bit of per diem, that is why you see such a small amount for out of state travel.

Mr. Youngs asked if the Council budget has enough money to cover interpreters under contracts or professional services. Ms. Starr responded, Yes, Mr. Chairman, those do generally now come out of contracts just due to the changes the division has, and just monitoring our relationships with vendors better and having a contract for all of those services, where previously we would sometimes purchase interpreting services through a purchase order, we no longer do that. We do have enough funds in that area. Ms. Starr said both she and the

Department's financial management division monitors these expenditures regularly.

Mr. Mayes asked why the in-state travel is going to have a significant negative projected balance, is that a significant difference from what has been planned.

Ms. Starr replied it is just how the budgets are built or authorities given, and so we do not really receive a lot of those funds if you notice, the out of state, and the in state, they offset that. So it zero's out.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Mayes asked the Council Chair how to get items onto future agendas suggesting a separate agenda line at the end of all agenda's should someone wish to add items to be presented in the future.

Mr. Youngs thought that was a good suggestion.

Mr. Mayes said he would be interested in hearing more about specifically people with psychiatric disabilities and the services being provided. Mental illness has been a real hot topic in the legislature and he thought Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) counselors were once placed at the mental health campuses.

Mr. Patchett and Mr. Youngs both thanked Melissa Starr for all her service as the Council Liaison and welcomed Ms. Kelli Quintero. They also recognized Ms. Sheena Kaufman for her service as the Rehabilitation Counselor representative.

Ms. Kane stated a few updates from the Transition Student world. She said she has a flier regarding the first Nevada Transition Conference, specifically as a professional development opportunity for educators, families and individuals specific to transition. The location will be rotated with Reno beginning this year in Las Vegas.

The lead individual at the Department of Education, Mr. Mark Hinson and many of the NSRC members agencies statewide have been a part of planning this event. It is going to be an outstanding professional development opportunity. National speakers, locals and some of the action planning and moving forward with that will be presenting, youth in transition along with adults. The amazing sessions that will be offered are going to be youth in transition showing off their talents, everything from magic to music. Mr. Hinson is working with students in transition, by teaching students about employment through doing small businesses at the high school. We are trying to have some small businesses come in and be able to sell their wares as part of the conference.

Different school districts have put forth moneys to allow a certain amount of teachers to attend. Clark County school district alone will send 200 teachers, there may be between 350 to 450 individuals in attendance.

Ms. Kane said another first will be held on July 19, 2013 at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) at the Joe Crowley student union third floor theater for the Strike-Out Stigma Tour. The tour will be starting the day before in San Francisco on their cross country tour. There is an organization called project Eye To Eye,

that is individuals with learning disabilities and attention deficit issues, it is all about striking out the stigma, finding your voice. This will take place from 5:30 to 6:30. There will be the two young adults who just recently graduated from Gonzaga University will spend an hour sharing their stories of transition, and how

they found their voices. This is open to anyone who wants to attend, it is free. The reason we picked the slot of 5:30 to 6:30 is because parking at UNR on Friday is free starting at 5:00, we did not want anyone to have parking issues. A flier will come out shortly.

Nevada student leadership transition summit. For those of you who are new, that is an event that will be our 7th in six years. We bring teams of high school students with disabilities and their adult allies (that are usually special education teachers and counselors), from high schools across the State of Nevada together for a day and a half of community building, self-advocacy. They hear from national and Nevada young adults in transition and attend a vendor fair where many of the agencies around the Nevada State Rehabilitation Council (NSRC) table share what their organizations do.

We go on a campus tour, this year they are going to get to see the inside of the dorms, is going to be a wonderful day and a half experience.

There are so many wonderful successes going on that it would be easier for me to compile some of this information and provide it to you instead of trying to go through it all now. The seventh annual Nevada student leadership transition summit will occur in Reno on November 13th and 14. In addition to that, one of the out branches of that work that is happening for the first time this week, May 23rd, which is this Thursday Clark County school district brings 6 teams to the event each year. They want to expand that work to other more school sites across Clark County school district. So they are utilizing the six teams who will attend the Transition Summit in Reno host their first ever Student Leadership Transition Initiative here in Clark County led by those six teams who will attend the bigger event in Reno.

Ms. Kane addressed the new attendees you have heard the Council members talk about the Interagency Transition Advisory Board. That board will be sun-setting in June of 2013. I am sharing more of that information with this council in hopes that we continue to share the work that we are doing, so we can look for ways to partner. Like we did through these meetings with CRAVE camp.

Her final announcement was for those who were familiar with some of the work we do for the state, for the last five years we have implemented Nevada Department of Education's first ever vision for transition as part of that work we have created two statewide transition training modules. A team of people called the Nevada Transition Advisory Committee, core team. Folks representing vocational rehabilitation, post-secondary education, Nevada PEP, etc. The first two, number one was really focused on transition compliance, making sure that students, teachers, parents, all those related, all those folks who sit at an IEP meeting for transition age youth are aware of what needs to be happening, to be compliant with the law.

It is a huge transition for families, and what we are beginning to recognize is if we are not preparing families and students for that transition, we are seeing that even if we get them to begin post-secondary education, at far too high a rate they are dropping out that first year.

Ms. Kane announced we are working directly with the Nevada system for higher education as she had recently met with the southern entities, UNLV, Nevada State College, and College of Southern Nevada. The University of Nevada Reno and Truckee Meadows Community College, have also agreed to come into the work and they are actually going to meet and work with us to create the training mode, ultimately the IEP accommodations page from an IEP in high school are not available to you in the post-secondary world.

We can be helping students understand they have accommodations throughout high school does not mean that that it is necessarily something that is available in the world beyond. If we start to recognize that, then what we need to do is to work with students to get them ready to use those accommodations that are available in the post-secondary world.

Ms. Kane excitedly exclaimed she was so excited, beginning that phase of work. Where we are right now is the Department of Education has a commitment from the post-secondary education institutions who ultimately understand that it would benefit them to help us create the training if they want to have students and families who are truly prepared for their institution.

Ms. Kate Osti said she would like the Nevada State Rehabilitation Council members to have Open Meeting Law training.

Ms. Starr said the last Open Meeting Law training for NSRC members was held in 2010. We do provide all new members with a copy of the current Open Meeting Law for their review. She said the State does hold yearly trainings attendance would be what the individual has time to attend.

Mr. Mayes added the attorney general's office has a training session for boards and council members, once or twice a year.

Ms. Robin Kincaid from Nevada PEP mentioned Jennifer gave us lots of great exciting events that are happening, and (PEP) also has parent training for a class that was coming up on May 30th, 5:30 p.m. on Jones St., entitled "Getting a First Job and Keeping It". We do provide other training statewide, but just wanted to let all council members know that please feel free to check our website, because statewide we're offering transition training. And again these are trainings for parents, and students are welcome to attend as well. The other training that NVPEP does on a fairly frequent basis is called "You Can Do It", which is a training to help families and their young adults learn more about the transition change from high school to college.

Mr. Youngs thanked those who provided public comment, then asked for a motion to adjourn.

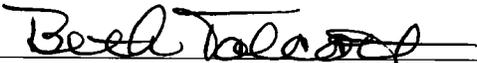
XV. **ADJOURNMENT**

Lisa Bonie moved to adjourn.

Brian Patchett seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Edited By:



Beth Talcott, AAIL, NSRC Support Staff

Approved By:



Scott Youngs, Chair

9/23/13