

NEVADA FINANCIAL LITERACY ADVISORY COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025
4:00 PM

Office	Address	City	Meeting
Department of Education	Virtual	Virtual	Virtual Teams Link

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBERS' PRESENT

1. Ray Specht (via videoconference)
2. Scott Arkills (via videoconference)
3. Sarah Brown (via videoconference)
4. Armand Iorgulescu (via videoconference)
5. Kristin Reagan (via videoconference)
6. Nadya Rousseau (via videoconference)
7. Ana Sanchez (via videoconference)
8. Stacy Watkins (via videoconference)
9. Michelle Wheatfill (via videoconference)

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

In Las Vegas

In Carson City

- Amanda Hughes (via videoconference)

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE (via videoconference)

- Shelia Salehian NGPF
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AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by Chair Ray Specht. Quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

There was no public comment.

3. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

Member Watkins asked for clarification on open law rules and if she is the secretary moving forward since that was recommended in previous meeting. There was not available clarification.

Member Rousseau raised a question regarding formal documentation of her appointment.

Member Watkins clarified that appointees typically receive a certificate from the governor's office, complete with an oath that must be notarized.

Amanda Hughes noted differences in the appointment process based on the appointing authority (Governor, Senate Majority Leader, etc.).

Chair Specht mentioned delays in receiving formal letters due to bureaucracy, offering reassurance.

Member Watkins moved to accept the minutes from the previous meeting with a possible correction.

Member Wheatfill seconded the motion.

Chair Specht called for a vote. All in favor responded affirmatively, none opposed.

Motion carried; minutes were approved.

4. INTRODUCTIONS AND DISCUSSION REGARDING NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Recently added NSHE representative Ashley Salisbury introduced herself to the council

5. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GROUP REPORTS

a. Fundraising

Chair Specht and Member Watkins stated that they are in need of some additional information prior to this committee taking off and requested an outline of a proposed budget for upcoming years to get an idea of what level of funding is needed.

b. Website and Social Media

Member Rousseau provided an overview of actions to update the website and that she has created a creative brief to share with KMJ. Ray Specht acknowledged Nadya Rousseau's efforts and expressed comfort and satisfaction following a recent call. Member Watkins complimented Member Rousseau on her work.

c. PL and Curriculum

d. Outreach and Education

Member Hughes provided a brief update on two additional working groups, clarifying they were not formal committees to avoid unnecessary paperwork. She mentioned technical issues at NDE, including website downtime, and technological disruptions, which impacted meeting frequency. Despite these challenges, both groups successfully met once to initiate their planning process which consisted specifically of planning for Financial Literacy Month.

6. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Member Hughes summarized activities planned by the two working groups. Key Points included:

Member Hughes shared that planning is complete, flyers have been distributed via email, flyers are also accessible via NDE website on the Council page. As of the meeting 10 parents from multiple districts have registered. For the parent event we are in need of headshots for our student panelists and entrepreneur panelist. Member Iorgulescu stated that he would be unavailable due to college visit. Member Hughes requested a suggested replacement from his student organization.

The date was restated as April 26th from 10-11am virtually.

Member Hughes shared the items for prizes and drawings had arrived and Member Watkins is working to donate gift cards.

Member Watkins asked about the availability of flyers on our website. Member Hughes clarified that due to current restrictions only minimal maintenance is possible on our site. Discussion around social media pages for the council was discussed. Members agreed that waiting until our website is solidified prior to starting those would be best.

Member Hughes shared that the Governor would be making a proclamation on April 14th designating Financial Literacy Day. For details see Joyce Woodhouse. All are welcome.

Member Salisbury offered additional panelist from UNR if needed.

Member Brown asked about collaboration with family engagement representatives from NDE. Member Hughes explained the process was lengthy and not feasible this year based on time constraints but would be utilized in the future. Member Hughes mentioned the active building of connections for broader distribution and has established communication channels with the Indian Education Department. Member Sanchez stated that she had received the flyers from her principal and was sending them home with parents.

7. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING FY25 BUDGET

Member Hughes gave an overview of the budget. The NDE budget does have to be spent by June 30. The PEF account does not have that timeline.

Based on the amount of the budget an in-person teacher PD Day is not feasible, so we are looking at a virtual event in June.

Chair Specht stated that the fundraising group requests a proposed plan so that they have an idea of what our goal is on funding and how to approach donors. Member Watkins added that we need clear objectives and strategies as well as the type of organization we are filed. Chair Specht gave a background of why we have an account with PEF and requested our contact which is Natasha Garcia.

8. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CURRENT LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES.

Member Hughes reviewed the current legislation being considered, AB 289 and SB 229. Member Watkins requested the sponsor for each bill which are Assemblyman Ngyuen and Senator Dondero Loop.

Member Iorgulescu shared that he traveled to Carson City to advocate for some of these bills. Many had concerns about the GPA requirement and creating mandates and standards on educators without providing any resources. He stated these were the main reasons for pushback.

Member Brown asked if information on a comparative analysis with other states was provided. Both member Hughes and Member Iorgulescu shared that they both provided some guidance, but official analysis has not been done. Member Brown state that from the district perspective the barrier is that there isn't an understanding of what it means and why it matters. Making a comparison would encourage students to work towards the seal. Additionally, Member Brown expressed concern that changes were not made using data, and that there isn't data currently because the processes have not been established by NDE.

Chair Specht asked about clarification on the GPA and suggested we prepare a one pager showing some specifics by comparing other states with Nevada to provide to legislators. Member Hughes agreed to work with Member Iorgulescu to create a document. Concerns about deadlines was also mentioned.

Member Sanchez requested to include the fact that we only have a .5 credit requirement, and the seal requires 3.

Member Salishan stated that access to the test was also a barrier in the past. Member Hughes stated that there is a test, we do not intend on vetting it at this time with an outside contractor based on funding.

Member Brown suggested a guidance document for districts as there are multiple interpretations of the NRS
Member Hughes stated the intended plan to meet with stakeholders this summer to create that document.

9. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MISSION, GOALS, AND INITIATIVES

This item was tabled until June 2 meeting based on the need to gather a proposed outline of activities and budget.

10. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Items mentioned for the next agenda were:

- Review of proposed plan and budget for short- and long-term goals
- Legislation around graduation requirements
- Thorough review of current legislation

11. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

There was no public comment

12. ADJOURNMENT

Member Wheatfill moved to adjourn. Member Brown seconded. Motion carried

Meeting was adjourned at 5:03