



**STATE OF NEVADA
COMMISSION ON ETHICS**
<http://ethics.nv.gov>

**MINUTES
of the meeting of the
NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS**

The Commission on Ethics held a public meeting on
Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.
Virtually via Zoom as follows:

Zoom Meeting Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88086571877?pwd=NFdhZGFibUxzYW01VVpEUVdYMmx6UT09>

Zoom Meeting Telephone Number: 669-900-9128

Meeting ID: 880 8657 1877

Passcode: 859136

These minutes constitute a summary of the above proceedings of the Nevada Commission on Ethics. A recording of the meeting is available for public inspection at the Commission's office.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Kim Wallin, CPA, CMA, CFM appeared via videoconference and called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Also appearing via videoconference were Vice-Chair Brian Duffrin and Commissioners Barbara Gruenewald, Esq., Teresa Lowry, Esq., and James Oscarson. Commissioners Thoran Towler, Esq. and Amanda Yen, Esq. were excused from the meeting. Commissioner Damian R. Sheets, Esq. was absent from the meeting. Present for Commission staff via videoconference were Executive Director Ross E. Armstrong, Esq., Commission Counsel Tracy L. Chase, Esq., Associate Counsel Elizabeth J. Bassett, Esq., Investigator Erron Terry, Senior Legal Researcher Darci Hayden and Executive Assistant Kari Pedroza.

The pledge of allegiance was conducted.

2. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes of the February 16, 2022 Commission Meeting.

Chair Wallin stated that all Commissioners were present for the February Commission Meeting, except for Commissioner Lowry who was excused from that meeting and would abstain from participating on this item.

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Commissioner Oscarson moved to approve the February 16, 2022 Commission Meeting Minutes as presented. Vice-Chair Duffrin seconded the motion. The Motion was put to a vote and carried as follows:

Chair Wallin:	Aye.
Vice-Chair Duffrin:	Aye.
Commissioner Gruenewald:	Aye.
Commissioner Lowry:	Abstain.
Commissioner Oscarson:	Aye.

4. Report by Executive Director on agency status and operations and possible direction thereon. Items to be discussed include, without limitation:
- Outreach and Education
 - Quarterly Case Log Status
 - FY22 Budget Status
 - Budget Kick Off (Fiscal Years 2024 – 2025)
 - Commission Meeting Status

Social Media and other Outreach: Executive Director Armstrong reported that the Commission's social media platforms have seen continued growth in the number of followers on Twitter and LinkedIn since the beginning of the calendar year. He provided information on upcoming training commitments including a virtual Ethics Training presentation to the University Medical Center Governing Board at the end of March and in-person presentations to the Boulder City Council and Nye County Commission the first week of April.

Quarterly Case Log Status: Executive Director Armstrong referenced the Quarterly Case Log provided in the meeting materials emphasizing the decrease in the case backlog.

FY22 Budget Status: Executive Director Armstrong reiterated that the Commission continues to be on track to expend allocated fiscal year 2022 funds in most budget categories. He reported that the local government cost share assessments were not calculated accurately and that the Commission's liaison at the State Administrative Services Division was currently working to correct the assessments.

Budget Kick Off (Fiscal Years 2024 – 2025): Executive Director Armstrong informed that Commission that he and Executive Assistant Pedroza attended the virtual Budget Kick Off meeting on March 9th and the takeaway was that there would be no surprises in the upcoming biennial budget building process. The FY24 – 25 budget requests would be flat two times cap as previously established.

Commission Meeting Status: Executive Director Armstrong provided that the Commission is set to hold its April 20 meeting in Las Vegas depending on COVID conditions. He confirmed that the Legislative Subcommittee would also meet that day following the Open Meeting.

Commissioner Gruenewald moved to accept the Executive Director's agency status report as presented. Vice-Chair Duffrin seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

5. Presentation by the Executive Director regarding the Commission's Jurisdiction over Public Officers and Public Employees under NRS Chapter 281A, Nevada's Ethics in Government Law.

Executive Director Armstrong provided his presentation regarding the Commission's Jurisdiction over Public Officers and Public Employees.

Vice-Chair Duffrin thanked Executive Director Armstrong for his presentation and shared he particularly appreciated the slide which included examples of complaints and the emphasis that the Commission's jurisdiction is determined on a case-by-case basis.

Commissioner Oscarson echoed Vice-Chair Duffrin's comments and added that he felt the presentation was extremely thorough and concise. He requested that the recording of the presentation be posted on the Commission's website.

Chair Wallin also thanked Executive Director for his succinct presentation.

6. Commissioner comments on matters including, without limitation, identification of future agenda items, upcoming meeting dates and meeting procedures. No action will be taken under this agenda item.

Vice-Chair Duffrin thanked Chair Wallin and Commissioner Lowry for being willing to serve another term with the Commission and congratulated them on their recent reappointments.

Vice-Chair Duffrin requested that a Legislative summary cheat sheet be prepared for the Legislative Subcommittee meeting in April.

Commissioner Oscarson recognized the staff's team effort in accomplishing the work of the Commission.

Chair Wallin requested that an item be included in the next Commission meeting agenda regarding statutory restrictions precluding incarcerated persons from filing Ethics Complaints with the Commission.

7. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

8. Adjournment.

Commissioner Oscarson made a motion to adjourn the public meeting. Commissioner Gruenewald seconded the motion. The Motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Minutes prepared by:

/s/ Kari Pedroza

Kari Pedroza
Executive Assistant

/s/ Ross Armstrong

Ross Armstrong, Esq.
Executive Director

Minutes approved April 20, 2022

/s/ Kim Wallin

Kim Wallin, CPA, CMA, CFM
Chair

/s/ Brian Duffrin

Brian Duffrin
Vice-Chair