



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

The Commission on Ethics held a public meeting on
Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.
at the following location:

**State Bar of Nevada
9456 Double R Blvd., Suite B
Reno, NV 89521**

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 and the [Commission's YouTube channel](#).

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.

Chair Scott Scherer, Esq. appeared in person in Reno and called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. Vice Chair Kim Wallin, CPA, CMA, CFM and Commissioner Michael E. Langton, Esq. appeared in person in Reno. Commissioners Teresa Lowry, Esq., John Miller, John T. Moran III, Esq. (joined after roll call), Terry Reynolds, and Brianna Smith Esq., appeared via Zoom video conference. Present for Commission staff in Reno were Executive Director Ross E. Armstrong, Esq., Commission Counsel Elizabeth J. Bassett, Esq., Acting Associate Counsel Curtis Hazlett, Investigator Erron Terry, Senior Legal Researcher Caitlin Pagni, and Executive Assistant Elvira Saldaña. Outreach and Education Officer Sam Harvey appeared via Zoom video conference.

2. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes of the November 12, 2025 Commission Meeting.

Chair Scherer asked if there were any questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Commissioner Reynolds moved to approve the November 12, 2025 Commission Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible approval of Order of Dismissal following successful completion of stipulated deferral agreement regarding Kelvin Watson, Comm'n Op. No. 24-027C.

Chair Scherer introduced the item and asked Commission Counsel Bassett for her presentation.

Commission Counsel Bassett presented an overview of the Order of Dismissal for Case No. 24-027C. All requirements have been fulfilled by Mr. Watson. Commission Counsel Bassett suggests that the proposed Order of Dismissal be approved by the Commission.

Chair Scherer asked if Mr. Watson's counsel was present.

Scott Abbott confirmed his presence.

Chair Scherer asked if there were any comments Mr. Abbott would like to make.

Mr. Abbott stated he submitted the compliance report to the Commission on Mr. Watson's behalf and agrees with Commission Counsel Bassett that all the terms of the stipulated agreement have been fulfilled.

Chair Scherer asked if Commissioners had any questions or comments.

There were no questions or comments.

Vice Chair Wallin made a motion to approve the Order of Dismissal in Ethics Case No. 24-027C regarding Kelvin Watson. Commissioner Langton seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

5. Discussion and approval of a Proposed Stipulated Agreement concerning Ethics Complaint No. 25-059C regarding Caroline Sexton, Chief Marketing Officer, Division of Tourism, State of Nevada.

Chair Scherer introduced the item and noted that Commissioners Langton, Miller and himself served on the Review Panel for the matter and are precluded from participating in any further proceedings pursuant to NRS 281A.220, subsection 4. He turned the item over to Vice Chair Wallin to act as presiding officer.

Vice Chair Wallin asked if there were any disclosures.

Executive Director Armstrong stated he has a close personal friend named Cass Munoz. Ms. Munoz and he have almost daily contact, have vacationed together with her and her husband and other friends, and occasionally exchange gifts. He considers the friendship with Ms. Munoz to be "substantially similar" to a relative within the 3rd degree of consanguinity and therefore qualifying as a commitment in a private capacity pursuant to NRS 281A.065(6). During the course of this matter, he learned that Ms. Munoz was paid by the third-party marketing firm for some modeling and social media work related to the Travel Nevada x Deso project. She was not involved with the

contract with the Argosy or the kickoff event, which is central to this matter. She has no financial interest in the outcome of this matter, and the relationship was with Noble Studios and not with Travel Nevada, Deso, or the Argosy. She has no direct or indirect stake in the outcome of this matter therefore, he believes he does not need to abstain from this matter.

Vice Chair Wallin asked the Counsel for the parties to introduce themselves.

Deputy Attorney General Harry Ward appeared via Zoom video conference and stated he represents Ms. Sexton.

Executive Director Armstrong stated he is representing himself.

Vice Chair Wallin asked Executive Director Armstrong for his presentation.

Executive Director Armstrong presented an overview of Ethics Complaint No. 25-059C and the Proposed Stipulated Agreement. Under the terms of the agreement, Ms. Sexton agrees that her conduct constitutes one non-willful violation of NRS 281A.400(10), agrees to pay a \$1207.68 civil penalty, and agrees to complete Ethics Law training within 60 days. All other alleged violations after the Review Panel are agreed to be dismissed.

Vice Chair Wallin asked Commissioners if there were any questions.

There were no questions from Commission members.

Vice Chair Wallin thanked Ms. Sexton for working with staff to resolve the matter in the most efficient manner and Deputy Attorney General Ward for his assistance.

Commissioner Reynolds made a motion to accept the terms of the proposed Stipulated Agreement and direct Commission Counsel to finalize the agreement in the appropriate legal form. Commissioner Lowry seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

Deputy Attorney General Harry Ward thanked the Commission members.

6. Report by the Executive Director on agency status and operations.

Chair Scherer introduced the item and invited Executive Director Armstrong to provide his report.

Executive Director Armstrong stated a written report was submitted. Executive Director Armstrong reported an AI policy has been adopted. The strategic plan continues to move forward. The Request for Proposal responses for the case management system have been received. The strategic plan will be integrated into any legislative requests for the 2027 Legislative Session. Legislative proposals are due to the Governor's office in March, after the Commission meeting, and will be submitted for consideration. The budget kickoff is scheduled for late February. Review Panels will take place in February and a full Commission meeting in March. An adjudicatory hearing is anticipated in May, and the June meeting will be in Elko.

Chair Scherer noted there will be a Legislative Committee meeting in February.

Commissioner Lowry asked if the AI policy was included in the meeting materials.

Executive Director Armstrong stated it was not; however, he can provide it.

7. Report on Ethics Outreach and Education.

Chair Scherer introduced the item and invited Outreach and Education Officer Harvey to provide their report.

Outreach and Education Officer Harvey reported outreach to Nevada Ethics online users has started. The rural tour has wrapped up and there are scheduled trainings in late January. An overview of the training feedback received was provided, along with information on what has helped boost training compared to previous years. The annual report has been finalized. There will be an upcoming article on the Complaint Process in Senior ResQ Magazine. The next issue of the Ethics newsletter is scheduled to go out later this month. There has been an increase in public records requests this fiscal year.

Vice Chair Wallin asked why more public records requests are being received.

Outreach and Education Officer Harvey responded that it may be due to the types of cases being addressed and the high-profile nature of some of them.

Chair Scherer brought up publishing an article in the Nevada Lawyer Magazine.

Commissioner Smith commented there is a September 20, 2026 ethics issue for the Nevada Lawyer that Chair Scherer mentioned. The article deadline is June 19, 2026.

Report from the Commission's Legislative Committee on progress toward a recommendation for the full Commission and feedback to the Legislative Committee from Commission members on next steps.

Vice Chair Wallin reported the committee met earlier in the day. The committee has agreed on 6 items which include mandatory training for all public officers, unwarranted harm, appearance of impropriety, gifts, cooling off, and confidentiality. Vice Chair Wallin provided an overview of the proposed language for each of the items.

Commissioner Langton asked if the language has been drafted.

Vice Chair Wallin responded that the concepts will be presented to the full Commission. After Commission approval, the Executive Director will submit them to the Governor's Office.

Commissioner Langton asked if Commissioner members who are not on the committee will be able to provide input.

Chair Scherer stated it will be submitted at the March meeting and Commission members will have an opportunity to vote.

Executive Director Armstrong noted that the meeting materials for the January 21, 2026 Legislative Committee meeting include the initial draft language. Commission members will have the proposed language at the March meeting.

Vice Chair Wallin suggested that non-committee members attend the next Legislative Committee meeting if they would like to obtain more details or provide feedback prior to the March full Commission meeting.

Chair Scherer encouraged Commission members to get up to speed on the concepts and provide feedback early in the process. Chair Scherer stated he offered feedback regarding confidentiality during public comment at the committee meeting. He would like to reduce confidentiality and increase transparency for the subject of the complaint, so they have more information about what the accusations against them are without divulging the identity of the requester.

Vice Chair Wallin asked if the subject is provided with a copy of the complaint.

Executive Director Armstrong stated the subject receives a copy of the complaint and all the materials the Commission members receive to make a jurisdictional determination.

Chair Scherer commented in a previous case, Counsel wanted to be able to look at the information that was available and respond appropriately.

Vice Chair Wallin noted that the mandatory training requirement may be the only item the Legislature may have an issue with.

Executive Director Armstrong commented that he met with the Interim Committee Chair recently and hopes any issues will be addressed during the interim.

Chair Scherer stated that the Legislature may object to the 30-day requirement due to them conducting training during orientation in January. Under the Nevada Constitution, Legislators take office as soon as they are elected. They may want a longer timeframe.

8. Commissioner Comments on matters including, without limitation, identification of future agenda items, upcoming meeting dates and meeting procedures

Vice Chair Wallin suggested adding a policy that if a member attends via Zoom, their camera must be on, they must unmute when a vote is taken and they must participate in the meeting.

Chair Scherer requested it to be added to the March meeting agenda.

Commissioner Lowry commented that recently there was a case which involved reviewing a video of a small board meeting. It was difficult to determine who voted.

Regarding Vice Chair Wallin's suggestion, it will provide clarity of the voting records and the reliability of the meeting minutes.

Commissioner Reynolds stated he concurs with Commissioner Lowry, noting the importance of clearly identifying who is voting and how votes are recorded.

9. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

10. Adjournment.

Vice Chair Wallin made a motion to adjourn the public meeting. Commissioner Langton seconded the motion. The motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Minutes prepared by:

[/s/ Elvira Saldaña](#)

Elvira Saldaña
Executive Assistant

[/s/ Ross Armstrong](#)

Ross Armstrong, Esq.
Executive Director

Minutes approved March 18, 2026

[/s/ Scott Scherer](#)

Scott Scherer, Esq.
Chair

[/s/ Kim Wallin](#)

Kim Wallin, CPA, CMA, CFM
Vice Chair