

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

COMMISSION ON MINORITY AFFAIRS

Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Commission on Minority Affairs was held on Monday, July 18, 2022. Pursuant to public notice, the meeting was conducted in person and telephone conference.

1. **OPENING** (Call to order & roll call)

A. This meeting was called to order by Chair Taylor at 9:31 am.

<u>Commissioners in attendance</u>: C. Angelica Villarta, C. Kathleen Taylor, C. Jose Melendrez, C. Yerania De Luca, C. Amy Shaw, C. Gabriela Wyett, C. Nic Steele

Commissioners not in attendance: C. Mercedes Krause

<u>Staff in attendance:</u> Angie Rojas, Management Analyst for the Department of Business and Industry

Public in attendance: Marcel Schaerer, Deputy Director, Department of Business and Industry

B. Land Acknowledgements by Commissioner Villarta

Land acknowledgments are really a way for us to bring honor to our state of being and to each event or meeting that we do connecting our past with our present. So, regardless of where we came from, whether our indigenous bloodlines began here or overseas, it was the strength and resiliency and survival skills of our ancestors that led us here to the United States. And today we share in that North American legacy. So, as we go through our land acknowledgement today, I'd like it to resound with you that it is our responsibility to acknowledge respect and validated history. We, as advocates for our community, are known to give voice and rise to those who have historically been underrepresented and for those who have been victims of systems that have suppressed the rights of individuals, their families, their communities, and their survival. So, as we strive to pave a better and brighter platform for everyone in our state, may we also continually remember to give respect to the communities they come from as well as to the land on which we have created our lives on. So, in Nevada, there are 4 tribal communities and 27 sovereign tribal nations. Here in Southern Nevada. We are in the traditional land of the new. So, then we honor their stewardship of this land. of this land So, please, let us observe 30 seconds of silence for reflection, meditation, or prayer.



2. PUBLIC COMMENT (1st PERIOD) None

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Approval of June 13, 2022, meeting minutes (for discussion and possible action) Commissioner Wyett moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner De Luca second. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Roundtable Highlights

Chair Taylor, this is something that I wanted to incorporate, and is basically just kind of get everyone into the energy of sharing something that you consider to be like a goal that you achieved or something that really brought forth, a particular project that you accomplished in in your role professionally, maybe in your personal life, just as a roundtable, a highlight of what has occurred over the last month. So, I'll start just to kind of set the tone.

I received a card when 1st got sworn in, and is from a community partner, Andre Haines, he's the founder of the armed forces Chamber of Commerce. I've been carrying this card in my Commission binder for almost 4 years now. It always gives me inspiration and is about the belief in yourself and so whenever I'm at a point of trying to figure something out maybe there's an obstacle, maybe there's a success. I always look at this card and look at the word belief, and I'd like to share this with you because I do believe that the road to success is through our belief in each other and how we can fulfill our mission as Commissioners on this Commission.

C. Wyett, I think 1 of the highlights has really just been trying to maneuver, navigate and understand as much as I possibly can my role as a commissioner, and the responsibility that it takes to make sure that I am trying to make as much of an impact as possible in our minority community. I was able to participate over the weekend at a family services event and it was just nice to be there as a Commissioner separate from my professional role and just speak to the Director and see kind of what other services that they're providing, and really just try to engage and kind of come into my own little by little as a commissioner.

C. Steele, I was just going to add that this past month I had the opportunity of speaking with a couple other cohorts in the Federal Reserve program that I'm a part of. Commissioner Villarta is part of that cohort as well, and the other cohorts were from around the country and they're all looking at implementing policies and procedures that can change some of the systemic issues that are that are present in their own environments and really directed at ways of improving the systems that are in place for underrepresented and underserved populations to be able to access some of the economic initiatives in those areas, and so it was just a good opportunity to learn some best practices and share some of the things that we're doing here. I'm a firm believer that we can't come up with every idea ourselves and when there are others that are similar mind, it makes sense to see what they're doing and see if we can incorporate some of those ideas into our own into our own goals.

C. Introduction of New Commissioners

C. Wyett, I've been in business banking overall for a little over 20 years business banking. My main initiatives through work have always been community development, and just really a focus on uplifting the minority business community as best as I can, regardless of what level they're at, they're just barely starting out whether it's a season business or a brand-new business. It's always been that focus, and I've had the opportunity to work with different community resource partners and individuals that have I would say over the last couple of years have really taken off and as unfortunate as a pandemic was, it was a blessing in disguise to bring certain community partners together to really forge forward and make trying to make an impact and a difference, and with my background, I am looking to promote, and provide that information to the inequity, this business community

C. Steele, my background is in capital markets. I spent a number of years working on Wall Street as an equity derivative trader and the bulk of that time spent working was really on how to maximize profits for my bank and for my division and it's very interesting and very different than what I do now. Have a lot of experience and structured products, and financing investment banking, and for the past 4-5 years I kind of focused on supporting small businesses in Nevada and primarily over the last 2 years through information that we've been operating in that. I'm the executive director, and we've been solely focused on how to increase access to capital for underserved populations, so it's been great, I think, use of my experience and expertise in finance and financing along with my passion which is for helping others, and specifically in helping others gain access to capital and increasing intergenerational wealth so joining the commission is such a pleasure for me because it allows me to expand that passion even further, so I'm incredibly excited to be here.

D. Election of Vacant Subcommittees

Results on elections were as follows: Community Liaison – Commissioner Villarta Workforce Development – Commissioners Villarta and Melendrez Housing – Commissioner Taylor

E. Subcommittees Update

a. Legislative - Chair Taylor and Commissioner De Luca

C. De Luca, not directly related, but I want to share the invitation to the 10th annual workers compensation, educational conference that really, I think touches at all levels for this committee and this is going to be September 15th, which will also include a legislative update in terms of all things workers compensation, and I will be presenting from my end of the expertise if you will best practices for audits, within the workers compensation world. So that'll be shared out there. That's the closest information I have

right now that relates to the legislative updates, but that has been shared with Angie and she'll share that link with you all

so you're aware of that conference it will be in Las Vegas and lots of good information as we come out of covid and so many, really interesting topics that will be shared in that conference.

C, Taylor has been working with former C. Boyce on the BDR's approved during the April public meeting and asked if August 1st was still the due date to submit these to the Director of Business and Industry for approval. MA Rojas will check with the Director and will follow up with C. Taylor.

C. Shaw, we have the signed interlocal agreement for the disparity study between Harry Reed airport, and Southern Nevada, so it will be a statewide disparity study. We plan to go to the board either in August or September for approval, and we will be able to start after that. We'll start by holding open meetings with the public and with agencies and with the chambers, and so where we would like this to coincide with the BDR that the commission is supporting to carry this as a statewide initiative to create a small business minority and women business statewide that are working on projects that are federally funded, so we'd like to take on to that.

C. Villarta requested updates on bills 222 and 318. MA Rojas will follow up with the information on 318, and on SB222, the annual meeting was scheduled to be on July 13th with liaisons and MSO's but the meeting notice was not posted through the Department of Administration, and it had to be cancelled so it was rescheduled to July 28th.

b. Economic/Business Development - Commissioners Wyett and Steele

C. Wyett, A minority business development agency, Avon stylist, to kind of see, to get some insight and perspective as to what it is that they're looking for kind of the industries and really more so than that is the struggle with outreach and so, we have a follow up with him and a couple of other partner agencies to see what we can do to kind of bridge that gap, and then we had a score presentation which was around access to capital and we focused on access community in reference to that to micro business lending and again, kind of graduating those businesses to bankable relationships and growing in that aspect. From the Business Development aspect of it in the Community outreach that was done on Saturday but I was a participant and that'd be call, which was last week, Wednesday and that was extremely informative with John Rubin the regional administrator of spa and they've again provided more insight to P tech and different programs that they're trying to kind of bridge the gap and find out what the root issue is as to why they're not coming to the resources because the resources aren't there. It's definitely just the lack of businesses that are coming to these resource centers.



C. Steele, upcoming on July, 28 there is an event hosted by the Western Regional Minority Supplier Development Council, and it is a networking event that brings together lenders as well as different members that are members under the National organization, I will be sending that information out as well And That'll be an opportunity to have 1 on 1 discussions between minority business enterprises and lenders, and also there may be some supplier opportunities as well.

C. Wyett, we're having a small business credit class that will be held here at the Nevada State Business Center it will be held in Spanish, and I will be a panel.

C. Villarta, recently SBA has been doing a lot of webinars. I attended 1 just at the beginning of the month where the SBA is really spending a lot in of time and energy to connecting with small businesses with the critical resources. A webinar that I was in was just informational about the Biden Harrison administration policy agenda, including how the bipartisan infrastructure law and American Rescue Plan creates these opportunities for the small businesses, but there was really heavy emphasis on certifications requirements and now I know that some of our state procurement offices and state agencies are also looking for. I want to put a little bit of emphasis on that. Also, this week is America's seed fund week. There are tons of classes all week, long webinars that are happening all over the country about how to become a beneficiary of seed funds opportunities that are out there, grants and investors. There's a lot of technical assistance that's being provided.

c. Healthcare – Vice-Chair Melendrez

1st of all I want to be very clear because I know people are acting like COVID has gone away, it's not going anywhere, and the numbers are going in the wrong direction.

So, I just want everyone to be mindful of that, that if we're involved with things that we're doing things that corporate numbers are going up, this new variant people are getting sick. They're not dying, but they're getting sick, and as long as there's folks who are unvaccinated, that will continue to be the case. So, I just wanted to do my part as a public health professional and make sure that that's out there, and folks are aware of that. Governor Sisolak recently signed an executive order, dealing with climate impact and heat. With the work of the Nevada Minority, Health and Equity Coalition, we are starting to look at the impact of climate especially on diverse communities. We are teaming up with the RTC. They're doing a heat index study that's happening in August and we're sending out the invitations. They're looking for 150 volunteers that will attach this special equipment to their cars and then 3 times on a specific day, they will drive a certain path that's been designated, and so at 6am, 2pm, and I think at 7pm. This technology will record the heat and all of that timing and from that, they'll be able to produce a heat index map that will point out exactly what the heat was like on that day. And I want to say, that's like August 6 or 7, so we're, we're spreading out the word. If anybody wants to do it. I think they are volunteers are being paid for their service



that day so, we're spreading the word And I'll send that I'll send that information to Angie, so she can get it out on our networks.

Given what's happening with Roe versus Wade, on June 20th Governor Sisolak signed an executive order to protect reproductive freedom for any persons who is seeking access to reproductive health care in Nevada, and so this includes language or no information or assistance to other states and our executive Department agency, or plan may provide any information or use time money or other resources to assist another state. So that we, that issue or concerns about reporting across states. If somebody was using our services or whatever, a healthcare professional protection, and no extradition. The governor put that into place and then again, going back to the time and impact there's a bunch of resources that there are now available online, extreme heat, resource guide. the vaccine is now available for kids so both Washoe County Health District, and southern managers are kind of putting information out there promoting it. We had our 1st cases of monkey pox reported in Nevada, so it's here, I'm not sure what that means for everybody, but it's here. So, mask up people!

C. Villarta, thank you so much Vice-Chair for sharing those resources on how we can see what's happening with the air quality. I also wanted to point out that if you have an iPhone and if you pull up the weather that gives you the temperature and a forecast it also gives you now you air quality. So, there's the air quality index where you can see what the air quality is as far as, like, how the ozone is, what sort of allergens are in the air, the UV index. I think that was really important, especially with people suffering from allergies or anything like that. So that's just something I wanted to throw out there also. I know Asian Community Development Council will be doing 2 vaccine clinics, 1 specifically for senior citizens, but they are also doing it for minors, they're doing Pfizer on the 2nd floor of Shanghai Plaza and so I'll send those dates and those details out to Angie, and she can share with you. There's also 1 for the kids coming up in August. Those are free vaccine clinics also and I'll share that with you guys.

d. Education – Commissioner Krause None

e. Community Liaison - Commissioner Villarta None

f. Workforce Development – Commissioners Villarta and Melendrez

C. Melendrez, there are several BDR's going around, and I serve on the Clark Regional Behavioral Health Committee. There's 5 of these regional health counselors around the state and the rural 1 is actually picking up the workforce engagement as 1 of their BDRs. I've been invited to serve on that to help with that process. The state of Nevada received a 17Million dollar grant from the CDC who's funding this workforce initiative to increase the diversity of

professionals or community-based folks going into the public health fields, and the focus is on increasing the diversity of those folks. The grant was given through the Department of health and

STATE OF NEVADA

TERRY REYNOLDS Director

Human Services and then they kind of der sub awards. And so, like, I know, you know, we, we were, we were given a small grant, the moneys we got, we were able to use that to hire 2 recruiters who focus on traditional recruiting, but then they attend all the community events, different meetings, all this, to kind of promoting information about the public health fields. And but multiple entities were formed around that that we see funding and from that group, we formed an advisory council. There is a statewide advisory Council. now on workforce engagement increasing the diversity. At some point the Governor set up an official advisory council from the governor's office that will provide recommendations to the legislature to counsels to anybody who might be working in those areas, and I found out through a letter that I was appointed to that council. There's a lot of stuff happening in workforce engagement and more coming. So, as I learn more about all these different areas, where that's happening, I think that is something that we should obviously be monitoring because it is about increasing the diversity in all those groups and another element of that I don't know where it's going to go, but I don't know if everybody here is familiar with community health workers and so that takes folks from within Specific communities and train them and give them skills on how to basically be community health advocates as I like to refer to for their communities. There are some conversations or better understanding of how to utilize Community Health Workers in Nevada and I want to say, it's a part of 2 bills currently that were recently, or that were passing the last session, and I think I'm hearing conversations about maybe making those bills stronger or amending them so that you can really find a better way to use Community Health Workers. I think it relates to the issue about right now agencies can use community health workers and submit for reimbursement of certain services and I think what they want to do is they're trying to expand what services can we help workers provide because they do a lot of different stuff. They're trying to push to expand what type of services you can actually submit for reimbursement that community health workers might be doing. There's a ton of stuff coming from all that. So, as I hear more or learn more, I'll be definitely sharing it with our commission.

C. Villarta, the Governor's Office for New Americans has also been working on their skills immigrant integration program and this mission is really to help create and expand proven and promising approaches that support communities and developing immigrant and refugee work inclusion. So, the initiative was made possible by this national group called World education services skilled immigrant integration programs. So we're working with them to really create some sort of a path to our immigrants and our refugees who have international credentials to fully be able to use those credentials and integrate it into our workforce. So, in the past 1 of the things that we've noticed with a lot of our immigrants, they may come here or are refugees. They may come here and be doctors and nurses in their country.

But then, when they come here, they're, you know, they've got to do dishes and their certifications in their degrees, and everything don't count. So, we're working with that national group to see how we can facilitate pathways to workforce integration and development for the for skilled immigrant, and our refugee population, which is really powerful. In addition to that, I have 2 surveys; 1 I pulled from the unemployment office and it the state of Nevada characteristics. I looked at some of the way that they're doing their data and their surveys, and I've noticed that some people are using our government capacity and I want to put this out there for knowledge. They're using these surveys saying the state of Nevada, characteristics of insured unemployed we've got 45% of our unemployed our females male is saying, 54.2%, and then INA's point 05%.

But then it goes on further and it starts to break things up by age and race and ethnicity and industry. So, my only problem with this is for the race category, I'll say this is for the race category i'll say It says that American Indians and Alaska, natives are 2.6% of our unemployed. Um, Asians are 88% or or 6.1%, black and African Americans are point one percent black and African Americans are 21% Native Hawaiian or Pacific islander is 2.8% and white is 49.6%. So they're using this data and saying, oh, well, look, you know, we have more white, unemployed. Um, or or African American, unemployed peoples than any other race. But what they're not taking into account is per capita. It may seem like those numbers are small, but with the smaller groups or the smaller, you know, populations, those numbers are big Compared to the national or to our state average and so that, that was just 1 thing I wanted us to be wary of, like, if people are using data to, um To talk about things, just those disparities they're, they're not talking about per capita. They're talking about as a race as a whole I mean, as our population as a whole and then Angie was able to share with me. Some of the technical Some stuff from technology, workforce development, and I wanted to let everybody know, like the most in demand because when we're looking at workforce development, we're looking at different sectors across the board who's who's hiring what sections are needed. And so just this would be for the tech sector they're in demand, Jobs are probably overall project management specialists and business operations specialists, software developers.

And computer user support specialists I T, and then market research analysis and market specialists. So these are our top trending jobs for at this moment so just keep that in mind as you're talking to people and, what sector in the sector needs jobs that's where that's pretty much where they're looking for a heavy set. So, as I get a little bit more familiar with the workforce development, I'll have more detailed reports for you, but.

C. Steele, quick note recently approved was a proposal that went before the treasurer's office to help identify and help support the assessment of childcare development across the state. I'm actually working with the children's cabinet to hire 2 individuals that 11 working in the in the Reno sparks area, and another working in Las Vegas inside the childcare hubs that are managed by the children's cabinet. The roles would be to a couple different responsibilities, but primarily they would be looking to assess the current landscape of childcare providers in

northern and southern Nevada as well as developing a study and plan to promote the expansion of childcare facilities across the state. That would include generating cost modeling as well as a financing proposal. That will be submitted to the state in in 12 to 24 months. Those 2 individuals also would be there to provide technical and financial guidance to childcare providers in the North and South and assist with plans to transition providers from their home into standalone facilities. There are 2 openings in the childcare space, which is even more and more valuable these days coming out of the pandemic, knowing that childcare is an industry that's predominantly driven by women owned businesses and women providers and so I just wanted to have that on the record.



C. Taylor, before moving to the housing update, I implore you to please take the time to write a really quick report. Even if it's just some quick bullet points and send those to Angie so that she has that on record. It's very important that she has that. Yes, we go on record and within our meeting minutes about our activities. However, it really is important to submit those individual reports to Angie because all of that information goes into our annual report that we submit to the Governor's office. We need that activity; we need that content. So I'm so happy that all of our subcommittees are filled and we have a lot of robust reporting going on as well, so thank you so much for your reports.

g. Housing- Chair Housing

C. Taylor will continue to work on the housing subcommittee, and attending the events sponsored by the Housing Coalition, and will continue to connect with the organizations that we have previously worked with.

C. Villarta, I have some updates because I wasn't sure if I was going be on the housing subcommittee. There was something I noticed on the chap's website there is information for both renters and landlords. For renters, "If your landlord gives you an eviction notice, you must file an answer in the justice court. If you do not file and answer your landlord can evict you, even if you have applied for rental assistance. When you file the answer tell the justice court that you have applied for rental assistance and request mediation. This is the only way to protect yourself. Free forms and help are available at the civil law selfhelp center."

For landlords per NRS118A.210.4, late fees must not exceed 5% of periodic rent. The landlord verification form has been updated to reflect this requirement. It is in the chapel landlord portal, and it'll be updated on there soon. It's not updated yet. So, landlords may not know this.

So, Home is Possible is still offering free classes online. So if anybody who's looking to purchase a home, they can still go on to Home as Possible and they're still doing free online classes.

F. FY2023 Strategic Planning

C. Taylor, all of our Commission Subcommittees basically has a foundation based upon our strategic plan so previously you should have received our strategic plan for from fiscal year, 19, fiscal year 20. There was a more condensed draft internally created by the Nevada Department of Business and Industry for the Commission. Last year during the pandemic, things were such an influx that we really could do in person events as all of you know because of the dynamics of the pandemic. So, the strategic plan of for 20, this is, uh, uh, basically the document that I'd like for you to use at a point of reference, this is just an open discussion. Or ideas that you could submit so basically. If you looked at your individual, uh, interest, uh, as you chair Co chair, or are you involved in a volunteer capacity in your professional life, or what you do professionally, and you want to bring those things forward to really make it a part of our strategic plan, then brainstorm those things o that we can start to create the content. I did a draft of notes that was taken from a conference call between myself, Vice Chair and was nothing set in stone, but for example, being part of the legislative subcommittee with commissioner De Luca we want to continue to incorporate in our strategic plan to have each subcommittee bring forth an idea to help us craft about the community liaison, maybe there's something going on in the community that could be crafted, been to legislation,

COMMISSIONERS: C. Kathleen Taylor; C. Jose Melendrez; C. Angelica Villarta; C. Amy Emiko Shaw; C. Yerania De Luca; C. E. Mercedes Krause; C. Gabriela Wyett; C. Nic Steele.



economic business development, housing, health, so on and so forth. So that is, something that we want to continue to incorporate within our strategic plan. Look at your individual subcommittees, your strengths what are some things that you want to accomplish. Part of your work of the commission to help us continue our mission and our purpose. So, it's just basically an overview for you to keep in mind for you to start brainstorming some ideas, send all of your ideas to Angie by email. She will incorporate that content. Uh, in using the format, based upon a strategic plan, 1919 and FY, 20, she'll incorporate that into a draft, send it out for review and then we'll bring it back. Hopefully, for our next meeting for final approval, and now we have a real game plan to go forward with the commission, based upon our strategic plan, so I just wanted to make those open comments about this agenda item and I'll open the floor and now for further discussion.

C. Melendrez, So, just to be clear, so, then for the strategic plan that we want to, I guess we're working on updating there for the next 2 years. Correct? For our fiscal year overlaps our calendar years so it's, it's it will be fiscal year. if I heard you write them from each of our respective areas, submit kind of like here's the topic areas, and then, as we move forward, we can start to kind of fill in what that might look like, in terms of core things that we're reporting on things that we think our priorities that we should be working on or monitoring as a commission is that right?

C, Taylor, Yes, is basically what's been put forth instead of reinventing the wheel so, yes, that's basically what our strategic plan looks like. So, it, it goes through the format of and again, I'm literally just opening this document, so. For example, and it will have incorporated it in an objective. A goal for that objective a timeline who's responsible for this. And again, this is based upon the format use in our most recent strategic plan, so you are correct vice chair I'm just reiterating it and also, I highly recommend that you look at the strategic plan that has been deiminated to you, and to brainstorm some ideas. 2 things just for clarification. So, all of the ideas that we're going to come up with will be incorporated into a strategic plan on behalf of the legislative subcommittee is to ask the different sub committees to provide us with an idea or content to help us craft a potential BD or that you feel is important on behalf of your subcommittee. Ideally, we would like to get this wrapped up prior to our next meeting, if you guys can please send the drafts or the inputs that you have for the strategic planning by August 1st, we can have the draft by our next meeting, which is August 15, so, are we clear commissioners August 1st is the internal deadline to submit input.

G. Management Analyst Update (for discussion and possible action)

As part of my updates, I wanted to remind everyone about email communications. Please, please, please do not CC commissioners on emails. This is we avoid having conversation between more than 4 commissioners, because we will be violating open meaning law. Any communication just send it to me, I'll send it to commissioners So, we don't fall into that mistake. As part of your package of meeting materials, I included the social media policies and media communications that was a request by chair Taylor to submit this to everyone So we can review this and have it handy in case we have any



communication with the media, or if you guys want me to post anything social media, those are our policies. I've been attending a lot of virtual meetings throughout the state on areas that the commission oversees. I have attended a few of the workforce development meetings through OWIN. I attended a few in housing, I do have a meeting pending with the regional housing authorities, because they are going to explain to me what the difference between public housing and section 8 is. I don't know if Chair might want to attend that meeting as well. I'll keep you in the loop. I don't have the exact date yet, but I should be getting an email from the director sometime this week. On July 7 Gov approved the Nevada childcare fund, so I have that information, I will forward the flyers for the information in case you want to distribute to the community.

4. NEW BUSINESS (for discussion only)

C. Taylor, I wanted to talk about the Management Analyst handbook. I would really appreciate it just for transparency and for all of our commissioners to understand how all these pieces are put together and what's going on and how all of our expertise, our activities, and what we're bringing to the table interplay together. I would highly recommend that this

document to be distributed to the full commission. Please, please, please read this document. It will be really enlightening for you to understand and help you fill in the blanks about what's going on internally with the commission versus just meeting together once a month reporting on activities and things that we did it's far more intricate than this and I think that will really give a lot of us clarity as to the real work that we're really doing. Okay, so thank you so much. And also, it will also give you insight as well to the tremendous amount of work that Angie is doing as well. Right and I definitely commit that.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT (2ND PERIOD)

Deputy Director Marcel Schaerer, Good morning commissioners, and thank you for framing this as I believe, or believe in something. So I believe in all of you and I, thank you for the day in and day out what you do, in terms of helping minorities. Having said that, and commissioner Wyatt, you mentioned. The small business roundtable that we have last week on July 13 is something we do on a quarterly basis, and it's focusing on things that are practical from our perspective. Last week we had about 83 participants throughout the state, and we focus on number 1, a business sector in this case, a retail sector out of the Midtown A district in Reno and showcase some of the challenges and opportunities when it comes to the retail sector. We had actually a business owner by the name of Jesus Gutierrez, he goes by Chuy and owns with his wife a small restaurant by now 4 different locations Mary Chuy's Mexican kitchen. Something commissioner Villarta mentioned in terms of contracts and certifications we understand that there are immense opportunities, but we need to provide access to those opportunities when it comes to minorities to access the billions of dollars When it comes to contracts in subcontract. So, a lot to be done, but we wanted to point to that the space and who is winning so, there were several businesses showcase there in terms of who is accessing those contracts and basically winning.

We have Elmy Bermejo representing SBA specifically region, 9, which is called the Pacific region including Nevada, California still not 1, uh, Hawaii I think I may be forgetting probably use that also as well But any, any robust conversation about that. Thank you for mentioning during your meeting those

COMMISSIONERS: C. Kathleen Taylor; C. Jose Melendrez; C. Angelica Villarta; C. Amy Emiko Shaw; C. Yerania De Luca; C. E. Mercedes Krause; C. Gabriela Wyett; C. Nic Steele.

efforts, but we are also. Working in terms of coordinating effort, working as a group and not just cooperating, but collaborating. So, remarkable collaboration goes beyond to just you, and I knowing who we are and supporting each other is basically working on activities With that being said, I also want to I mention that in early June we launch an initiative or movement to add a select language tool to your web sites, and I will be providing information through Angie to all of you. Why this? and probably all of you

are familiar with what I am saying, this select language tool capability. Why are we doing this? Well, if you take 297,000 small businesses in Nevada please understand that about 82% and that is 240 5,000 businesses have no employees. It's just 1 person show 245,000. Now, the 18%, the rest of it please know the 15%. Are 1 employee to 19 employees about 52,000 businesses And only 3% 7,000 are basically 20 employees to 2 to

500, which is the definition of a small business under the SBA umbrella. My point here is that there are a lot of minority businesses. And to conclude that all of them know the language of commerce, English is very dangerous so we would just like to add and encourage our business support ecosystem to consider adding this select language tool to their Web sites, and we will need the support of this commission. So, like I said, I will go into channel this information through Angie and that will be distributed to all of you for your consideration perhaps how you can brainstorm, to help us with this movement or initiative. Last comment here 99.9%. on a business support ecosystem do not include the select language tool. So, we are basically have to start 1 customer at a time. My dream and believing that dream can be accomplished would be that in 2 years we could be talking about 99.9% of our business ecosystem, embrace this language tool, it doesn't require a whole lot. So, stay tuned more information to come.

6. NEXT MEETING

August 15, 2020, at 9:30 am in person and remotely.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Shaw moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Wyett second. The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.