

#### 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, October 24, 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 9:33 am.

<u>Commissioners in attendance:</u> Kathleen Taylor, Angelica Villarta, Nic Steele, Gabriela Wyett, Amy Shaw, Yerania De Luca, Jon Lau

Commissioners not in attendance: Mercedes Krause, Jose Melendrez

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

<u>Public in Attendance:</u> Bill Brown, Hasaan Azam, Andrea Garcia, Jeanette Belz and Vanessa Dunn with Belz & Case Government Affairs, Marcel Schaerer

- B. Silent meditation and pledge of allegiance
- C. Land acknowledgements by Commissioner Villarta

"Today before beginning, we recognize that we are on the land of the Southern Paiute people who are part of the 27 sovereign Tribal Nations hare in what is now called Nevada. We take a moment to recognize their history and honor their stewardship of this land that continues into today. With this recognition, we intend to rightfully include their voice and respect the sovereignty of the Southern Paiute people and the Moapa band of Paiutes."

# 2. PUBLIC COMMENT (1<sup>st</sup> PERIOD)

The Commission received in person public comment at the end of September from Mr. Ganesh Kadam and Mr. Martin Johnson. The Management Analyst for the Commission read the public comment provided by Mr. Ganesh Kadam, and Mr. Martin Johnson attended in person during this meeting and read his comment to the Commission. Comment from Mr. Ganesh Kadam read by the Commission's Management Analyst:

"Good morning commissioners. I am Ganesh Kadam from Henderson, and I am also a diverse business owner. Recently Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) released the 2021 Disparity Study, and the study results are striking. The disparity study is now available on NDOT's website. I would like to bring commissioners attention to the results of this disparity study. Also, on May 25th NDOT had organized a public meeting to discuss the disparity study results. The recording of this public meeting is available on YouTube. This meeting and study clearly sum ups the challenges and issues faced by the diverse business enterprises in our state. I would like to bring up some important items discussed in the meeting by the disparity study consultant to commissioners' attention. In the State of Nevada, the Disparity Ratio for FHWA Funded Contracts is 27.1% and State Funded Contracts is 23.4%. The disparity ratio less than 80% reflects the discriminatory market factors. If this is the condition at the NDOT even though there is a defined goal for utilization of diverse businesses, then I am sure the disparity ratio will be very less in other government agencies in the state of Nevada where there are no goals for utilization of diverse businesses. The study consultant pointed out in the meeting that the State of Nevada doesn't have any good diverse business feeder system. And the consultant is correct. Currently in the State of Nevada there are not many opportunities for minority-, women-, veteran-, disabled-, LGBTQ-, and disadvantaged business enterprises in the government contracts issued by Counties, Cities, Special Districts & State agencies. To ensure effective and equal participation of minority-, women-, veteran-, disabled-, LGBTQ-, and disadvantaged business enterprises participation in the government procurement such as public works, goods/supplies, services, and public/private partnerships, the government agencies in the State of Nevada need to implement a diverse business utilization plan. Also, there are many recommendations suggested in the study to improve this disparity ratio. I hope commissioners will review NDOT disparity study recommendations and will discuss some action items in upcoming meetings for increased participation of diverse businesses in the government agencies of the State of Nevada. Thank you."

Comment from Mr. Martin Johnson:

"Good morning commissioners. I am Martin Johnson from Las Vegas, and I am also a diverse business owner. I agree with the speaker who just spoke before me. I would also like to bring Commissioners attention to similar issue. In last two years in the State of Nevada, multiple local government agencies issued large scale multi-million dollar contracts. When I inquired with these agencies if they did any outreach program to diverse businesses for these multimillion dollar contracts and the response, I received was that the



agency does not have a specific outreach program for diverse businesses and the agency encourages prime contractors to utilize diverse businesses for all aspects of the project. Also, one of the government agency's websites specifically mention that "No mandates currently exist in Nevada to utilize diverse business in their procurement. As a member of the Regional Business Development Advisory Committee, the agency is required to report utilization of diverse businesses to the state legislature for evaluation. Increasing diversesupplier participation helps avoid state mandates. As a public agency, we operate under NRS Chapter 332 and NRS Chapter 338 purchasing statutes." As NRS Chapter 332 and NRS Chapter 338 does not mandate the government agencies in the State of Nevada to utilize the diverse business utilization in their procurement, there is no initiative from all government agencies in State of Nevada to utilize diverse businesses in their procurement. I hope commissioners will look at the data for the utilization of diverse businesses in the procurement of Counties, Cities, Special Districts, and state agencies in the State of Nevada and will suggest appropriate changes in NRS Chapter 332 and NRS Chapter 338 for increased participation of diverse businesses. Thank you."

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

**A.** Approval of August 15, 2022, meeting minutes (for discussion and possible action) Commissioner Steele moved to approve the minutes, Commissioner Wyett second, the motion carried unanimously.

# B. Swear-in of new Commissioner, Jon Lau

Mr. Jon Lau sworn in to the Commission by repeating out loud the Affirmation documents in front of the Commission.

# **C. Election of Subcommittees**

C. Villarta moved to approve, C. Wyett and De Luca second, the motion carried. The Commission agreed to eliminate vice chair, and co-chair positions for subcommittees and keep the chair positions for each one of the subcommittees. This was restructured in order to be in compliance with Open Meeting Law, NRS 241.015 (NRS corrected from meeting recording).

New break down of subcommittees Chairs as follows:

- Legislative: Commissioner Taylor
- Housing: Commissioner Taylor
- Community Liaison: Commissioner Villarta
- Workforce Development: Commissioner Villarta
- Economic Development: Commissioner Steele
- Healthcare: Commissioner Melendrez
- Education: Commissioner Krause



The following Commissioner are not housing any subcommittee:

- Amy Shaw
- Gabriela Wyett
- Yerania De Luca
- Jon Lau

# D. Resignation of Commissioner Melendrez as the Commission's Vice-Chair

Chair Taylor provided an update as Commissioner Melendrez was not in attendance.

"Commissioner Melendrez has decide to resign as our Vice-Chair due to his rigorous and very demanding work schedule. He is involved with a significant amount of duties and responsibilities on various boards, he is a family man, and very committed to his family. He will still be an active member of our Commission."

# E. Election of New Vice-Chair

Commissioners Wyett and Shaw nominated Commissioner Villarta for Vice-Chair. Commissioner Villarta accepted the nomination. The whole Commission voted in favor for Commissioner Villarta to be the new Vice-Chair of the Commission.

# F. Strategic Plan Review

Commissioner Steele moved to approve the Strategic Plan, Commissioner Wyett second. The whole Commission voted in favor for the approval of the Strategic Plan.

# G. Subcommittee Updates (for discussion and possible action)

# a. Legislative - Commissioner Tylor

Commissioner Taylor attended the Power of Policy event sponsored by the Urban Chamber of Commerce on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. She provided outreach and awareness for the Commission on Minority Affairs via event exhibitor. Governor Sisolak, Senator Dina Neil and Assemblyman Cameron Miller were in attendance. She reminded the Commission the BDR's were submitted to the Director's Office within the Department of Business & Industry.

She identified the following state and local organizations to advocate for and support legislation for the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs:

- SB Office of Advocacy, region 9
- The US Department of Labor
- Women's Bureau Region 9
- Nevada Commission for Women



- Lieutenant Governor Office of Small Business Advocacy
- The City of Las Vegas Government and Community Affairs

Legislation Watch:

# The PRO Act

- H.R.842 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- Passed House (03/09/2021)
- The bill is in the Senate and was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on March 11, 2021
- the Pro act is a bill that looks at protecting the right to organize for employees to unionize and there's some dynamics going on with how is an employee looked at as an independent contractor

# b. Economic Development - Commissioners Wyett & Villarta

# August/September

- 1. Economic Development for Minorities in UT through Affordable Banking and Financial Services
  - a) Through observation of various panelists, listened to the initiatives being discussed around the Bank On Coalition and the importance of developing Nevada's own Bank On Coalition for the LMI community.
- 2. Rural Partners Network in partnership with USDA
  - a) Discussed the consideration of Nevada receiving additional federal resources for out rural communities. The focus was around building out the rural network community and engagement
- 3. Historical West Side Business Expo
  - a) Business expo held at Guy Center with various vendors and businesses in attendance. Information on accounting services, access to capital, childcare, skill-set building, transportation, and business planning. As a participant, was able to discuss and provide information on the various options of capital and lending.
- 4. Bank on Coalition Initiative
  - a) Discussed a roadmap with David Rothstein, Principal of CFE Funds and Steve de Jesus, Community Affairs Specialists with FDIC on how to develop the Bank o Coalition in NV. Commissioner Steele has completed a lot of research and needed a little more guidance and perspective to move the initiative into fruition.



(i) The goal of BankOn Nevada is to ensure that residents have access to a safe and affordable bank or credit union account. BankOn Nevada is a collaborative initiative between the State of Nevada, community organizations and financial institutions. All partners in the coalition are committed to improving the financial stability of Nevada residents. Through BankOn Nevada, Nevadans can find an affordable bank or credit union account now that will help them get their unemployment and other emergency benefits faster, and more safely. Prepaid cards may charge fees for using ATMs or accessing customer service and will not allow individuals to load cash or other payments onto the card. BankOn Nevada accounts will help individuals keep their money safe and all in one place.

# 5. CEO Retreat

a) Was on a lender panel and discussed the various options of capital. The discussion ranged from equity capital, venture capital, grants, traditional and non-traditional lending. Two businesses have reached out with lending requests since the seminar. The majority of the attendees were African American Female entrepreneurs.

# 6. Fiestas Patrias

- a) Hosted by the City of North Las Vegas in partnership with the Mexican Consulate
  - (i) There were about 150 people in attendance
    - A mixture of businesses, community leaders, both federal and state
- b) It was a celebration with a kick off to Hispanic Heritage Month.

# September/October

- 1. Small Business Discussion Circle (B&I)
  - a) A round table was held by a multitude of industry experts to discuss the following initiatives:
    - i) Marketing Initiative Team
      - Defining key activities and deliverables
  - b) Select Language Tool
    - i) Two prong approach
      - Asking state and federal leaders to support the initiative plus utilizing outreach navigators and other resource partners in the community



- c) Outreach Navigator
  - i) New initiative aiming at utilizing a grassroots efforts approach to micro and small businesses to provide awareness of the multitude of resources available, starting with the roadmap.
- 2. Governor's Infrastructure Summit
  - a) The first infrastructure summit, hosted by Governor Sisolak.
    - i) Sandra Douglas Morgan highlighted the economic impact of the Allegiant Stadium and the diversity initiative in workforce.
  - b) Breakout Sessions focused on:
    - i) Transportation
    - ii) Economic Development
    - iii) High Speed Internet
    - iv) Workforce Development
    - v) Clean Energy Investments
    - vi) Water Infrastructure
- 3. Nevada Grow Presentation
- 4. Committed to Our Business Community Expo
  - a) Expo hosted by Regional Business Development Advisory Council (RBDAC) and brought together a variety of resource groups, procurement opportunities, lenders, chambers, and other services for business owners. A one stop shop collaborative.
- 5. Workforce Connections Regional Sector Partnership
- 6. Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance Awards
  - a) The annual awards ceremony recognized the accomplishments of many businesses in the community which have provided economic development in the community such as jobs and diversify the economic tax base. Also recognized individual contributors to our community.
- 7. NAACP Las Vegas Freedom Fund Gala
  - a) This event is focused on honoring and highlighting the exceptional community members that continue to fight on the path of equality and provide Las Vegas' Community with better opportunities for people of color. This event also provides scholarships for students. Many of the candidates running for office were in attendance as well.
- 8. B&I Roundtable Discussion
- 9. Coffee and Commerce, Hosted by Chamber of Commerce
  - a) Three speakers who touched upon the topic of state contracts, Cedric Crear, Councilman and business owner, Niki Johns Gomoluh, Business Specialist for the City of Las Vegas and Jorge Cervantes, City Manager. The man focus was the ability to earn a contract through the city, be a part of the process, be your



own advocate, sign up for the bid meetings, sign up for NGEM to receive updates on bid opportunities.

- 10. Nevada SSBCI Marketplace Discussion
- 11. A Journey in Life and Business
  - a) As a panelist, discussed access to capital, capital options and resource opportunities available in the state of Nevada. Marcel Schaerer, Deputy Director of B&I, and Noe Gonzalez, Project Director of NV MDBA Business Center were also panelist.
- 12. Launch Rural Nevada Pitch Day Event
- 13. Hispanic Heritage Month
  - a) "Meet the Candidates" and close out Hispanic Heritage Month. Several candidates were in attendance, discussed their policies, and asked for support.
- 14. Federal Reserve Bank Discussion
- 15. She's Next Empowered by Visa and U.S. Bank
  - a) A small business event designed to empower women entrepreneurs, provide resource, support and network amongst the like. The attendees received access to coaching and goal setting and obtained insights from industry professionals.

#### Commissioner Villarta,

The Asian Pacific Islander community started conversations with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The CFPB based in D.C. reached out to us and they wanted to put Nevada on the map for API, because we have one of the fastest growing communities.

They were looking to highlight a few Asian Pacific Islander small businesses, their voices to get others in the community to support section 1071 of the Dodd-Frank Act, which requires the CFPB to collect data about small business lending to facilitate enforcement of fair lending laws and to help identify business and community development needs and opportunities.

For additional information on the section and regulation visit <u>bankerscompliance.com</u> This proposal intended to bring this section of reform past in 2010, and it's going to kick off in January. So, it's already an ongoing process, but they were reaching out nationally to all different communities. But the community that they couldn't get to engage was our API community. We through ACDC have submitted about 14 different businesses, small business owners that speak the language, or are bilingual so that they can help with the understanding of getting more of data on that tip. So, I was really proud of that because, choosing that, as your API resources, just amazing, right? So, they will start filming these videos and it'll be available on the CFPB website and social media channels probably as early as December 2022.

One other thing I wanted to add as a resource; Commissioner Steel, and I did go to the Nevada Grow meeting, which is a small business initiative customized for Southern Nevada existing businesses that have over 50,000 in less than 700,000 in sales.



Participating businesses receive access to economic and demographic data, and assistance to small business development, central counselors to help grow their business. They are also looking to hire more counselors. So if you need more information on that, you can either. reach out to a Commissioner Steele or myself.

#### c. Healthcare – Commissioner Villarta

The <u>Impact Summit</u> is coming up in November. The Nevada Minority Health and Equity Coalition is looking for partners or people to represent their starring committees. If anybody is interested in that, I would encourage our stakeholders in that industry to see if there will be good partnerships.

#### d. Education

None

e. Community Liaison - Commissioners Villarta and Lau

We just want to recognize that the injured police officers fund is fundraising for a fallen officer from LVMPD, Truong Thai donations are going directly to Officer Thai's families. On October 13th, LVMPD just received a call of domestic disturbance, and arriving officers contacted the suspect vehicle near the Intersection of University Center and Flamingo and an officer, and a citizen were struck by gunfire and were transported to local hospital. The citizen is currently being treated for non-threatening injuries. However, Officer Truong was pronounced deceased at the hospital. Commissioner Villarta offered 30 seconds of silence to pay respect to the fallen Office.

I wanted to also remind everybody that every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month LVPMD opens up all of their substations doors on Tuesdays. They have community forums where they bring in community resources to help them with things like suicide prevention or how to be less of a victim just different resources so that the LVMPD wants you to know so that you can become safer.

Las Vegas Clark County Library District is continuing to put on and prepare some really amazing events and programs for the community and not just for families. But also now, for youth independence, young adult, a development career development, life skills, and cultural diversity. They're putting on all these really amazing things. So if you haven't signed up for Clark County Library District, you can actually get a new library card online

The Interagency Community Investment Committee (ICIC), is focused on the operations and execution of federal programs that facilitate the flow of capital and provision for financial resources into historically,



underserved communities, including communities of color, and tribal nations rural communities. So the agencies are inviting the public, not to comment on how ICIC can promote economic conditions and systems that reduce racial disparities and produce stronger economic outcomes for all communities. So, responses may be used to inform ICIC's future actions to improve the operation and delivery of federal community investment programs through stronger federal collaboration.

<u>Federal Register :: Notice and Request for Information-Opportunities and Challenges in</u> <u>Federal Community Investment Programs</u> responses will be accepted until December. 5th of 2023.

# Commissioner Lau,

There was Pac Mid-Town with UNR's homecoming this past Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> so the API alumni chapter of UNR hosted a little boba's stand and so we had free boba for anybody attending that.

#### f. Workforce Development

Nevada career Explorer, it's for those that are of 13 years of age or older, but they get to log in online, choose the type of an account, whether they're explorers, students, job seekers, or navigators which are like coaches, advisors, libraries, organizations, etc., going through this website they get to discover the most popular careers for the state of Nevada. They get to do research on projects that are relevant to today and help other organizations get feedback, and they discover local opportunities, they can create career maps and see what career paths look like. So, if you have families, even the young adults that are looking for different types of careers are interested, and they don't know really where they're going they can head to this very, very interactive website and it's <u>https://nv.headed2.com/</u> and it's a career Explorer.

# Workforce connections actually has a podcast

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWZrG\_dq3AI5SdYUZg4Hg8Q

It's actually a really cute program and great to listen to if you're curious about what's happening around the city. The most recent guest they had was Forrest Lewis who's the Director of North Las Vegas Library District, who was talking about partnerships between the libraries, and Workforce Connection, One Stop Career Center and now business hubs as new resources.

there was Tina Quigley with LVGEA and Michael Brown with GOED talking about economic development and the types of jobs that they're creating through the LVGEA there was Mark Sherry, who was the Vice Chair, and David Parks Secretary Treasurer of Workforce Solutions in Texas. They shared their takeaways on best practices in as employers. It's really neat because it's kind of growing that that industry sector with different partnerships and exposing us to what's going on in the mindset of those



employers. I really recommend even if you're driving in your car, or you have time in your in front of your computer, just check out the workforce connections podcast.

# g. Housing

#### August/September

1<sup>st</sup> item, Nevada Housing Coalition in partnership with the Corporation for Supportive Housing hosted a 3 day virtual event for the Supportive Housing Academy. Relevant information was shared from experts in the housing industry. Attendees were from Northern and Southern Nevada.

2<sup>nd</sup> item, the data housing funding initiatives, nearly 120Million in federal funding was approved by Clark County Commissioners earlier in September to create, or rehabilitate around 3100 units in an effort to address the affordable housing crisis in Nevada. This funding is part of relief efforts from the American rescue plan. Many of the projects will target renters earning between 50 to 60%. AMI.

Also, over 2000 jobs will be created and 967 units will be rehabilitated.

3<sup>rd</sup> item, The Nevada Housing Coalition launched the Elevate Nevada Program. The goal of the program is to provide education and training opportunities for housing professionals looking to increase their access to resources, partnerships, and implement innovative and sustainable projects to close the gap in the low income housing inventory.

# October

1<sup>st</sup> item, the Nevada Housing Coalition via its Elevates Nevada Housing Program is hosting the following events in October.

Services in supportive housing, they met virtually this is a work group, interactive virtual session covers a random topics to build capacity and momentum towards increasing the development of quality support of housing in Nevada.

Also, October 28, the Affordable Housing Development, these partners got together to provide statewide, regional, and local opportunities to discuss challenges facing affordable housing development in Nevada.

Also, elevate in the pattern of reception of for the 2022 Nevada Housing Conference that took place on October 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> in Reno.

# H. Management Analyst Update (for discussion and possible action)

a. Annual Report Internal Due Date

Angie reminded Commissioners that the internal due date for the annual report is December 1<sup>st</sup> to submit to the Director's Office.

Angie asked to please submit the drafts per subcommittee by November 10<sup>th</sup> so she has



enough time to compile all the information into one draft to have it ready for Commission approval by the next Commission meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Angie also reminded Commissioners that the report's content is on activities and recommendations from the Commission to the Governor's Office.

#### b. By-Laws Update

The Director of Business and Industry provided an approval of the By-Laws and they will be posted on the website by the end of the day

#### c. BDR's

Both BDR's were submitted to the Governor's Office and they will be reviewed for approval in November.

# 4. NEW BUSINESS (for discussion only)

A. Strategic Plan update/ revised every two years – calendar or fiscal year Commissioner Taylor,

The reason I'd like to put this out for discussion is because the way that our strategic plan is now it's worth fiscal year. Fiscal years are really weird; it's comprised of two calendar years, but the timeline is 12 months. So, because commissioners term out at different times. Having the strategic plan every 2 years for calendar years that will still give new commissioners and current conditioners a game plan for a strategic plan to follow versus updating and revising it every 12 months. So, for example, the strategic plan, if the commission decides to take the strategic plan and convert it to a 2 year calendar, To calendar years, then it will be into in effect until 2024. So, now there are several of us that are terming out, you will still have a game plan, or you can still continue with this plan. But July 1<sup>st</sup> of next year, you'll have to revise it again. And that's the fiscal year. So, just something to consider.

B. Subcommittee monthly meetings between Chair or Vice Chair with subcommittee Chairs

#### Commissioner Taylor,

This is my way of establishing more communication, having an open door policy and checking in with the chairs of each subcommittee about their progress, their activities with myself, or are Vice Chair Also, my schedule is open every Monday, any commissioner, whether you chair a sub subcommittee or not, you can check in, schedule a meeting with me, it can be a quick phone call, a virtual meeting. Do you want to shoot me a text to a degree, I'm open to that to a degree, but again, it's just my way of establishing communication and continuity with our commissioners.

Commissioner Villarta,

I'm pretty open, my calendar and my schedule is open for communication. I am very big on communication. So, emails, texts, calls, whatever it is, if you guys have questions or need support in any sort of way or, if you have recommendations in any sort of way, you can always reach out. Yeah, I'm available.

# C. Letter from the State of Nevada Assembly

At its work session on August 23, 2022, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Commerce and Labor (Nevada Revised Statutes 2 l 8E.320) unanimously voted to send the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs a letter encouraging the Commission to facilitate the implementation of a Bank On Nevada initiative to increase the use of certified financial products and reduce reliance on an alternative financial service (AFS) for the unbanked and underbanked communities in Nevada.

This interim, the Committee heard testimony regarding the unbanked and underbanked communities in Nevada and solutions to reduce their use of alternative and often high-cost services. Being "banked" is a critical component of financial stability and provides a core foundation for other financial services. At the April 5, 2022, meeting, Access CDFI noted the "unbanked" are people who do not use mainstream financial services, such as checking or saving accounts, and primarily conduct transactions in cash when using an AFS, like payday lending or check cashing. Underbanked households may have a checking or savings account with an FDIC-insured institution, but regularly use an AFS.

The Committee received information that the ecosystem of financial institutions in Nevada is strong. However, in 2019, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation reported an estimated 10.7 percent of Nevadans used unbanked credit. Many estimates suggest the percent of unbanked and underbanked to be around 30 percent. To provide stability, several financial institutions throughout the state have joined the Bank On coalition, a nationwide network of banks and financial institutions that aims to make bank accounts as accessible as possible and provides education about banking resources. At the core of the Cities for Financial Empowerment (CFE) Fund's Bank On Nevada initiative are the Bank On National Account Standards for basic banking



accounts that are designed to address critical pain points for consumers and limit risk for financial institutions, including no possibility for overdraft or insufficient fund fees, low or no monthly fees, a low opening deposit, and bill pay functionality.

For these reasons, the Committee strongly encourages the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs to facilitate the implementation of a Bank On Nevada initiative in order to reduce the number of unbanked and underbanked communities in Nevada. In order to achieve this goal, the Commission should consider using existing staff members to promote the Bank On Nevada initiative with key stakeholders, such as financial institutions, community organizations, and county and local agencies, and encourage the adoption of programs supported by the CFE Fund.

#### Commissioner Steele,

I was asked to testify in the committee and provide some insights on the state of the banked and unbanked within the state of Nevada. Addressing those issues go hand to hand with what we're doing here on the commission, because the levels of banked and unbanked disproportionately affect minority communities.

So we've been working on with Commissioner Wyett and I know been working with the FDIC as well as the Bank On Coalitions across the country to develop a framework that we can help market what's already existing here in Nevada. Banks have already established banking accounts that are available throughout the state that are identified access to financial institutions without the normal fees that would be reasons why you will salary for the banking industry. To date, we have got set up temporary website, <u>BankOn Nevada – BankOn Nevada – Join us!</u> right now anyone to process can actually visit that site and there are links to the actual websites and these institutions that provide these low costs or no cost and no fee the banking accounts. I'd like to At least have that website on record for people to be able to visit now, and hopefully we can bring additional funds from outside the state to support our efforts and our initiatives to help market these sites to local individuals.

I think the support from the Assembly is just recognition, and gets us more encouragement that we're on the right track. So, thank you for your leadership, Chair. It's being noticed, and I think a lot of the individuals that are in the Assembly appreciate the efforts of the Commission.



D. Nevada Commission of Minority Affairs Community Academy Commissioner Taylor submitted through Angie to Director Terry Reynolds the draft for what would be if approved the NCMA Community Academy. Basically it will be once a month virtually 30-40 minutes webinars with subject matter experts for issues or initiatives to spread the word about what we are doing as a Commission and highlight the work of each subcommittee.

E. Commission Brochures

Commissioner Taylor distribute brochures to the Commissioners who attended in person.

MA Rojas,

I have an update on some of the last items. The Department of Business and Industry decided to support and promote the Bank On initiative, and on the flyers, I am working on translating the language of the flyer to Spanish so we have it available.

# 5. PUBLIC COMMENT (2<sup>ND</sup> PERIOD)

- Ms. Jeanette Belz, and with Belz & Case Government Affairs identified her self for the record.
- Marcel Sharere thanked all Commissioners for the great job done at the Commission and welcomed Commissioner Lau.
- Ms. Vanessa Dunn with Belz & Case Government Affairs identified herself for the record.
- Dalisa Steward with the Urban Chamber of Commerce Congratulated Commissioner Lau, and second the statement of Mr. Martin Johnson. She wishes to see more equity among contracts that are getting out to our small diverse minority businesses.
- Martin Johnson, I just like to say your organization should put strict scrutiny expedite a couple of meetings law about where their mandates from state agencies for inclusion of minorities. The local governments have done it, so, with the divers. As it is presently women, majority of ladies can't see why it couldn't be a strong legislation with minimum mandates for inclusion. So, thanks that you for the efforts.

# 6. NEXT MEETING

January 16, 2023. Location TBD

# 7. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Steele moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Wyett second. The meeting adjourned at 11:12am