

JOE LOMBARDO  
Governor

TERRY REYNOLDS  
Director

STATE OF NEVADA



COMMISSION MEMBERS

Gabriela Wyett – Chair  
Angelica Villarta – Vice-Chair  
Nic Steele  
Jon Lau  
Nina Gallagher  
Juanny Romero  
Lance West  
Anabel Navarro

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
**NEVADA COMMISSION ON MINORITY AFFAIRS**

*The central advisory body advocating for and providing a voice to Nevada's minority community."*

**MEETING MINUTES**

Name of the Agency: Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs  
Date: July 17, 2023  
Time: 9:30am  
Location: 3300 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 490, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102  
Type of Meeting: Hybrid with connection to Webex platform

**1. OPENING**

A Call to order & Roll call

The meetings call to order at 9:35am by Vice-Chair Angelica Villarta

**Commissioner in Attendance:**

Gabriela Wyett  
Angelica Villarta  
Nic Steele  
Jon Lau  
Lance West  
Anabel Navarro  
Juanny Romero  
Nina Gallagher

**Staff Present:**

Angie Rojas, Management Analyst for the Commission on Minority Affairs

**Members of the Public Present:**

Marcel Schaerer – Department of Business and Industry  
Phil Su – Attorney General's Office  
Whitney Hartley – Helping Hands of Vegas Valley

Marina Gonzalez – Helping Hands of Vegas Valley  
Courtney Humm – Helping Hands of Vegas Valley  
Marilyn Thomas – Helping Hands of Vegas Valley  
Diamond Barrier – Helping Hands of Vegas Valley  
Diana Jayne – Helping Hands of Vegas Valley  
Carolyn Fregoso – Aetna Medicare Solutions  
James Carr – Aetna Medicare Solutions  
Monica Coburn – Nevada Business Advisors  
Kathleen Taylor – Nevada Women Business Center  
Tara Raines  
Gloria Castro  
Arturo Castro  
Demetrius Ware  
Salvador Navarro  
Andrew Navarro  
Isabela Wyett  
Mercedes Krause  
Reiley Gallagher  
Gavin Gallagher  
Chris Gallagher  
Gary Fregoso  
Andrea Smith  
Eric Moreno  
Michele Gonzalez  
Delia N.  
Amanda K.  
Michael O.  
Joseph R.  
Robert

B Silent Meditation & Pledge of Allegiance – Vice-Chair Angelica Villarta

C Land Acknowledgements – Commissioner West

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

None

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A Approval of June 27, 2023, meeting minutes  
Commissioner Steele moved to approve the meeting minutes.  
Commissioner Wyett second.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**B Swearing-in of new Commissioners**

Vice-Chair Angelica Villarta, and Deputy Director Marcel Schearer provided welcoming remarks for new Commissioners.

Commissioner Nic Steele moved to open the swearing-in ceremony, Commissioner Wyett second.

Commissioners Lance West, Anabel Navarro, Nina Gallagher, and Juanny Romero were sworn into the Commission on Minority Affairs.

**C Election of New Chair and (If Necessary) Vice-Chair**

Commissioner Nic Steele moved to open the floor for elections, Commissioner Wyett second.

Commissioner Nic Steele nominated Commissioner Gabriela Wyett for Chair; Commissioner Gabriela Wyett accepted nomination.

The Commission elected Commissioner Gabriela Wyett as the new Chair for the Commission on Minority Affairs.

**D Management Analyst Update**

Commissioner Steele moved to open the floor the MA update, Commissioner Wyett second.

- **NCMA Minute**

The management analyst provided a detailed explanation of what the NCMA minute will be. As part of the outreach requirement for the Commission's management analyst and in effort to collect and disseminate information on activities, programs, and essential services as required per the Commission's NRS, the management analyst will work collaboratively mainly with State agencies and minority serving organizations to do a one-minute video clip where a representative from the organization will describe the services or programs the organization offers. The video clip will be explicitly related to the areas of focus of the Commission's subcommittees. The Commission voted to have the NCMA Minute in place.

- **Commissioner's Binder**

The management provided binders to all acting commission members with information that can be utilized as a reference for items members of the Commission should be familiar with. The binder's includes information regarding Business and Industry, Open Meeting Law guidelines, Commission's governing documents, policies and procedures of the Department and Commissioner, guidance from the Attorney General's Office for boards and commissions, and much more.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

Vice-Chair Angelica Villarta read a letter the Commission on Minority Affairs received from former Commissioner Kathleen Taylor donating \$2,000 for efforts related to the NCMA Academy.

MA Rojas stated that the donation would be contingent upon approval of the Governor's Office of Finance, and the process can take a couple of weeks. After processing and approval, the Commission can start using the funding. The funding will be distributed in two pieces; the first \$1,000 will be donated today by former Commissioner Kathleen Taylor, and for the remaining \$1,000 the same process will take place again in the next fiscal year.

Vice-Chair stated that during the next public meeting Commissioners will be nominating and electing subcommittee Chairs.

MA Rojas stated that the Commission needed to bring back to the table the conversation on AB73. The Commission voted during the last public meeting to accept the initiative, and what the Commission needs to decide is on how the appeals we receive from the Department of Education will be handled.

Commissioner Gabriela Wyett commended the efforts of Vice-Chair Villarta for the work she has done for the Commission during the last three years.

Vice-Chair provided a closing statement to emphasize the importance of supporting newly appointed Commissioners of the Commission on Minority Affairs

#### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT (2<sup>nd</sup> Period)

Former Commissioner and Chair of the Commission on Minority Affairs, Kathleen Taylor officially presented a large check with the amount of the donation she did for the NCMA Academy efforts. She congratulated newly appointed Commissioners and newly elected Chair, Gabriela Wyett.

Deputy Director provided a closing statement for new Commissioners and thanked former Commissioner Kathleen Taylor for her generosity with the Commission.

#### 6. NEXT MEETING

TBD

#### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Nic Steele moved to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Gabriela Wyett second. This meeting was adjourned at 10:47 am.