



## **NEVADA LEGISLATURE**

### **NEVADA SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE FORUM**

*(Nevada Revised Statutes 427A.320 through 427A.400)*

#### **SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT**

---

The fifth meeting of the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum (NSHLF) for the 2013-2014 interim period was held on Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was video-conferenced to Room 3138 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada, and to Room 137, High Tech Center, Great Basin College, Elko, Nevada.

A copy of this set of "Summary Minutes and Action Report," including the "Revised Meeting Notice and Agenda" ([Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature's website at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Interim>. In addition, copies of the audio-video record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: [publications@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:publications@lcb.state.nv.us); telephone: 775/684-6835).

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:**

Herbert E. Randall, Ed.D., President, Silver Senator  
Barbara Altman, Senatorial District No. 9  
Clo Banks, Senatorial District No. 3  
Joann M. Bongiorno, Senatorial District No. 7  
Verlia Davis Hoggard, Senatorial District No. 4  
Rick Kuhlmeier, Senatorial District No. 2  
Patsy Metler, Senatorial District No. 18  
Lucy Peres, Silver Senator  
Mary D. Roberts, Senatorial District No. 1  
Stephanie L. Rose, Senatorial District No. 11  
Betty Rumford, Senatorial District No. 6  
Russ Schoenbeck, Silver Representative  
Lonnie Strait, Silver Representative  
Harriet Trudell, Senatorial District No. 10  
Clare Tobler, Senatorial District No. 12

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:**

Reba June Burton, Senatorial District No. 15

John Yacenda, Ph.D., M.P.H., P.A.H.M., Senatorial District No. 16

**COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT IN ELKO:**

Ray B. Jones, Senatorial District No. 19

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Colleen Brown, Senatorial District No. 5

Evelyn A. Canestra, MSW, Senatorial District No. 8

James Downer, RTRP, Senatorial District No. 20

John Paul (Jack) Ginter, Jr, Senatorial District No. 14

Margaret Spooner, Senatorial District No. 17

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:**

Mary Shope, Coordinator, NSHLF, Administrative Division, Las Vegas Office

## **CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS**

Herbert E. Randall, Ed.D., Forum President, called the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum's (NSHLF) meeting to order. President Randall welcomed guests and members of the public.

Acknowledging the recent passing of Speaker Emeritus Joe Dini, President Randall requested a moment of silence in his memory.

Ms. Shope conducted the roll call and a quorum was determined to be present.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Randall called for public comment; however, no testimony was presented.

## **PRESENTATIONS ON OVERSIGHT AND INSPECTION PROCESS OF SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES**

President Randall introduced Margaret A. McConnell, RN, BSN, MA, RFA and Chairwoman, Board of Examiners for Long-Term Care Administrators (BELTCA). Ms. McConnell provided an overview of the Board, which included its purposes to protect the public and consumers, ensure residents receive care with dignity, and enforce compliance with the licensing requirements. She addressed BELTCA's commitment to investigate complaints. ([Exhibit B](#)) ([Exhibit C](#))

Ms. McConnell summarized the licensing procedures and qualifications for administrators, which includes a national examination, background check, education and training on the domains of practice and regulations. She reassured the Forum that licensees have continual oversight and continuing education requirements.

President Randall inquired about BELTCA Board members. Ms. McConnell shared the appointments for the Board; the members serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

Barbara Altman and Harriet Trudell raised concerns about the discrepancy between the failing care reports and the extensive licensing criteria. Ms. McConnell stated that survey comparisons between the states are subjective. She reiterated that Nevada has rigorous standards for administrators.

Dr. Yacenda inquired about allegations and the tracking of violations or sanctions with the data bank. Ms. Davis Hoggard asked about the complaint process. Ms. McConnell stated the Board investigates all complaints and works with the administrator to resolve the situation, including disciplinary actions and/or data bank reporting.

## **PRESENTATIONS ON SENIOR ISSUES FROM SENIOR ORGANIZATIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATION**

President Randall introduced Ms. Connie McMullen, Commissioner, Nevada Commission on Aging, and Chairwoman, Washoe County Senior Citizen Advisory Board. Ms. McMullen provided information about the responsibilities and advocacy for the Boards. ([Exhibit D](#))

Dr. Yacenda inquired about the integration plan for the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), including concerns for appropriate funding. Ms. McMullen indicated the plan would be submitted for consideration. Ms. Jane Gruner, Administrator ADSD, stated participants evaluated their services. To improve patient care, Dr. Yacenda concluded with a request for the Forum to support person centered planning programs.

Ms. McMullen highlighted Washoe County Senior Services Advisory Board, which provides social services to Washoe County residents. The Advisory Board collaborates with State agencies to provide elder services.

Lucy Peres inquired about the funding requirements for the Strategic Plan Accountability. Ms. McMullen stated that agencies address their funding requests during the Legislative Session and this is when Board members advocate for services and the necessary budgetary support. Ms. Bongiorno requested clarification about the property tax assessments allocated for senior services.

President Randall introduced Mr. Jeffrey Klein, FACHE, Chairman, Nevada Commission on Aging, Subcommittee on Legislative Issues, and President and CEO, Nevada Senior Services, Inc. Mr. Klein shared the highlights of the Commission on Aging Legislative Subcommittee's proposal to inform legislators of critical services. ([Exhibit E](#))

President Randall introduced Mr. Bruce Arkell, Lobbyist, Nevada Senior Advocates and Nevada Senior Corps Association. Mr. Arkell mentioned seniors seek his assistance to navigate senior organizations and programs. He recommended the Forum to consider proposals that increase the number of senior advocates who provide services to the growing number of seniors, rural and urban populations alike.

Dr. Yacenda inquired as to the most critical service needed. Mr. Arkell shared his concern for advocacy, rather than the administrative bureaucracy. He suggested advocates work directly with the individual, one-on-one.

President Randall introduced Mr. Barry Gold, Director of Government Relations, AARP Nevada. Mr. Gold provided an overview of AARP's support for seniors, including future initiatives and the effects of recently passed legislation. He mentioned AARP's future legislative endeavors would address social change, which includes family caregivers' concerns, funding senior waiver slots for independent community living, and protection for older workers against discrimination. In addition, he mentioned Nevada received grant

funding for access to services for individuals living in the community. Mr. Gold recommended the “no wrong door” concept, with a single point of entry for senior services. Additionally, he spoke about Nevada’s Health Link, as he revealed the largest portion of enrollees were seniors. ([Exhibit F](#))

Ms. Bongiorno highlighted the challenges that family caregivers encounter, especially if they are not family members. Ms. Stephanie Rose indicated she faced similar difficulties when her employer did not consider herself as a valid family caregiver for her mother-in-law. Ms. Trudell suggested AARP reintroduce similar bill draft requests and advocate for legislative support for family care giver concerns.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 18, 2014 MEETING**

President Randall presented the minutes for February 18, 2014, meeting and requested the members review the meeting minutes.

The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:**

LUCY PERES MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 18, 2014, MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. RUSS SCHOENBECK SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT WITH THE LATEST AVAILABLE BUDGET REPORTS, APPROVAL OF RECENT EXPENDITURES, AND DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ANY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES**

Lonnie Strait provided specific information for the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum Summary of Receipts and Expenditures of Sources/Uses of Funds and Encumbrances,” for Fiscal 2013-2014 Period Ending 02/28/2014 and 03/31/2014. ([Exhibit G](#))

President Randall recommended the Forum submit a request to the Legislative Commission to have the remaining funds for the fiscal year 2013-2014 be forwarded to the next fiscal year.

The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

CLO BANKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE TREASURER’S REPORT AND EXPENDITURES ENDING MARCH 31, 2014. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LUCY PERES AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF NEVADA SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE FORUM'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

President Randall provided an update on the Goals and Objectives. President Randall stated the majority of the Goals and Objectives had been accomplished and future discussion would be on an as needed basis.

## **DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO SENIORS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN LEGISLATION FOR THE 78<sup>th</sup> (2015) SESSION OF THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE**

Dr. Yacenda reiterated the significance, including specific details, of his working document. ([Exhibit H](#)) He stated he would summarize the issues for the work session meeting with the approval of the Forum. Ms. Davis Hoggard acknowledged the importance of work session document. Dr. Randall recognized Dr. Yacenda's efforts and requested he assist Ms. Shope in the preparation of the work session document.

**The NSHLF APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

VERLIA DAVIS HOGGARD MOVED TO APPROVE DR. YACENDA'S ASSISTANCE IN THE PREPARATION OF THE WORK SESSION DOCUMENT.

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REBA JUNE BURTON, WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Ms. Peres requested future meetings be limited in meeting time to a 2 hour maximum duration. In the alternative, Ms. Bongiorno offered consideration of recesses as a compromise for lengthy meetings.

**The NSHLF APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

LUCY PERES MOVED TO APPROVE LIMITED MEETINGS AT TWO HOURS MAXIMUM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY RUSSELL SCHOENBECK, WHICH PASSED, WITH A MAJORITY VOTE.

## **REPORTS FROM NSHLF MEMBERS AND DISCUSSION OF SENIOR CONCERNS**

Dr. Randall called for Forum members' testimony, however, none was provided.

## **STATUS REPORT ON THE NATIONAL SILVER HAIRED CONGRESS AND NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SILVER HAIRED LEGISLATORS**

Ms. Peres reported on the National Silver Haired Congress' Annual Conference, which will be held August 6-10, 2014. She encouraged the members to review their website for more details.

President Randall provided an update on the Nevada Senior Citizen of the Year Award. He mentioned the award would be presented on May 28, 2014.

Ms. Davis Hoggard reported on the National Council of Silver Haired Legislators. She mentioned their organization is planning an annual meeting in August 2014, correlated with the NSHC's meeting. She said more details would be provided in the near future.

## **DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS, MEETING DATES, AND EXPENDITURES**

President Randall opened the discussion on future agenda items, meeting dates, and expenditures. Dr. Randall shared the upcoming meeting date, June 17, 2014.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Randall called for public comment.

Bonnie Russell, private citizen, shared information regarding her father's care, guardianship, family caregivers and inherent frustrations with senior services. She mentioned her father was a victim of financial exploitation. Ms. Russell asked for assistance to resolve her situation and to inform the members of this financial exploitation. Dr. Yacenda requested follow up on this issue.

Robert Langermann, private citizen of Las Vegas, shared testimony regarding limited responses to his concerns for services to aging persons and persons with disabilities. Ms. Gruner, Administrator, ADSD, offered to assist Mr. Langermann.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Forum, President Randall entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The NSHLF **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

LUCY PERES MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY VERLIA DAVIS HOGGARD AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

President Randall adjourned the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Mary Shope, Coordinator  
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

APPROVED BY:

---

Herbert E. Randall, Ed.D., President  
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY:

---

Lonnie Strait, Treasurer  
Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the “Revised Meeting Notice and Agenda” for April 15, 2014, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator, NSHLF, Administrative Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.

[Exhibit B](#) is the document titled “Board of Examiners For Long Term Care Administrators (BELTCA)”, provided by Margaret A. McConnell, RN, BSN, MA, RFA.

[Exhibit C](#) is the document titled “Leading in Long-Term Care Quality: Nevada Board of Examiners for Long Term Care Administrators”, March 2014, provided by Margaret A. McConnell.

[Exhibit D](#) is the document titled “Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum”, dated April 15, 2014, provided by Connie McMullen, Commissioner, Nevada Commission on Aging, and Chairman, Washoe County Senior Citizen Advisory Board.

[Exhibit E](#) is the document titled “Commission on Aging Legislative Subcommittee Information Sheet For Legislators and Candidates”, provided by Jeffrey Klein, FACHE, Chairman, Nevada Commission on Aging, Subcommittee on Legislative Issues, and President and CEO Nevada Senior Services, Inc.

[Exhibit F](#) are the documents titled “AARP Nevada 2014 SNG: Social Change Agenda, Pass the Protecting Older Workers Against Discrimination Act, and Caregiver Connections”, provided by Barry Gold, Director of Government Relations, AARP Nevada.

[Exhibit G](#) is the memorandum titled “Treasurer’s Report” and the “Budget Reports for the fiscal year 2013-2014, Periods Ending 02/28/2014 and 03/31/2014”, provided by Mary Shope, Coordinator.

[Exhibit H](#) is the document titled “Discussion of Issues Relating to Seniors for Possible Inclusion in Legislation for the 78<sup>th</sup> (2015) Session of the Nevada Legislature” - prepared for the Members of the Commission on Aging, presented by Dr. John Yacenda, NSHLF Member (Senate District 16).

This set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report” is supplied as an informational service. Exhibits in electronic format may not be complete. Copies of the complete exhibits, other materials distributed at the meeting, and the audio record are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library online at [www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm) or telephone: 775/684-6827.