NEVADA LEGISLATURE
COMMISSION ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES
(*Nevada Revised Statutes* [NRS] 482.367004)

SUMMARY MINUTES

The second meeting of the Commission on Special License Plates for the 2017–2018 Interim was held on Thursday, January 4, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 4401, Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 3137, Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and video or audio recording of the meeting are available on the Commission's meeting page. In addition, copies of the audio or video record are available through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835) and may be available online at http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Granicus/.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Assemblyman Richard Carrillo, Vice Chair
Senator Moises (Mo) Denis
Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno

COMMISSION MEMBER PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Assemblyman Jim Wheeler

NONVOTING MEMBERS PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Terri L. Albertson, C.P.M., Director, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
James M. Wright, Director, Department of Public Safety

COMMISSION MEMBER ABSENT:

Senator Patricia Farley, Chair

NONVOTING MEMBER ABSENT:

Peter D. Barton, Administrator, Division of Museums and History, Department of Tourism and Cultural Affairs (DTCA), representing David Peterson, Interim Director, DTCA

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Marjorie Paslov Thomas, Senior Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division
Melinda (Mindy) Martini, Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division
Brenda J. Erdoes, Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Darcy Johnson, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Christina Harper, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

Items taken out of sequence during the meeting have been placed in agenda order.

AGENDA ITEM I—OPENING REMARKS

Vice Chair Carrillo called the meeting to order. He welcomed members, presenters, and the public to the second meeting of the Commission on Special License Plates. Vice Chair Carrillo reviewed general meeting and testimony guidelines.

AGENDA ITEM II—PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Carrillo called for public comment.

Damon Hunter, Foundation Manager, Henderson Chamber of Commerce, expressed support for the Henderson Historical Society's special license plate application.

John Galloway, Team Leader, Tribute Flight, U.S.S. Nevada Battleship, submitted information and requested the Commission consider the special license plate application for the Battleship Nevada Remembrance Project (Agenda Item II). He stated the revenue would assist the Combat Wounded Coalition.

AGENDA ITEM III—APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2017

MOTION: Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2017, meeting. The motion was seconded by Senator Denis and passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM IV—OVERVIEW OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMISSION ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES AND A REVIEW OF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES INCLUDING ACTIVE PLATE COUNTS

Melinda (Mindy) Martini, previously identified, provided a brief overview of the Commission's membership, responsibilities, and active plate counts (Agenda Item IV).

James M. Wright, previously identified, commented that he understands the intent and benefits to organizations coming forth with special license plate requests, but he cautioned the designs and colors of special plates can cause confusion for law enforcement. He added that license plate frames can also impede law enforcement's recognition of a license plate due to the plate design.

AGENDA ITEM V—REPORT BY THE LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR CONCERNING CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING REVENUE FROM SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES (AS REQUIRED BY *NEVADA REVISED STATUTES* 482.38278)

Rocky Cooper, Legislative Auditor, Audit Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), shared a report of information provided by charitable organizations with a special license plate (Agenda Item V A-1). He provided an update on the following organizations that did not submit accurate or complete information in their annual audit report: (1) Douglas County Search and Rescue; (2) Horse Power; (3) Hot August Nights; (4) Nevada High School Rodeo Association; (5) Teamsters Local Union #631; and (6) University Medical Center Foundation.

Mr. Cooper reported on actions taken by the Audit Division to bring Horse Power into compliance with NRS 482.38277 and responses by Horse Power:

- Correspondence between the Audit Division and Horse Power (Agenda Item V A-2);
- Horse Power's balance sheet for the period ending December 31, 2016, and grants awarded in 2016 (Agenda Item V A-3); and
- A December 19, 2017, letter from Horse Power submitting a line-item budget estimate for 2017, a corrected balance sheet for fiscal year ending December 31, 2016; and a highlighted check register (Agenda Item V A-4).

Mr. Cooper expressed concerns with Horse Power's line-item budget as it lacks detail.

There was discussion between Commission members and Mr. Cooper on the following issues:

- Horse Power's outstanding checks and bank reconciliations; and
- The process utilized by the Audit Division to assist entities to resolve audit issues.

AGENDA ITEM VI—HEARING TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATION MADE BY THE COMMISSION ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2017, THAT HORSE POWER IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN LAWS GOVERNING SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES (PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 2 OF *NEVADA REVISED STATUTES* 482.38279)

Vice Chair Carrillo opened the hearing to consider the recommendation made by the Commission on Special License Plates on September 20, 2017. He provided an overview of the audit history and recommendations from the Commission to Horse Power (Agenda Item VI A-1).

Phil Johncock, Executive Director, Horse Power, responded to the two outstanding issues:

- Horse Power hired an accountant in mid-December and the budget estimate for 2017 was approved by the Board in April 2017; however, input of the budget into QuickBooks was delayed until the accountant was hired;

- Two outstanding checks were incorrectly dated 2017, instead of 2016. Once the accountant was hired, the dates were corrected and listed on the register.

Mr. Johncock testified to the steps Horse Power has taken to satisfy the Commission's recommendations in the *Performance Audit Horse Power Special License Plate 2017* (Agenda Item VI A-2) in a letter dated December 27, 2017 (Agenda Item VI A-3). He stated he is focused on improving Horse Power's accountability and performance (Agenda Item VI A-4). Mr. Johncock reported the Horse Power Board (Agenda Item VI A-5) approved bylaws on December 2, 2017 (Agenda Item VI A-6).

Assemblyman Wheeler questioned whether Horse Power has changed its mission from a grant-awarding organization to a rescue organization. If the mission has changed to a rescue organization, a new application for a special license plate would be warranted.

Mr. Johncock responded that on December 2, 2017, the Horse Power Board determined its focus would be to award grants to groups, individuals, or organizations that care for wild, estray or second chance horses, burros, or mustang mules. He reported that at least 50 percent of the revenue received from the sale or renewal of special license plates supports the grants.

Concerns were expressed that Horse Power may use the remaining funds for activities as a rescue organization.

Mr. Johncock reiterated that Horse Power would continue to award grants.

Rocky Cooper, previously identified, reviewed the recommendations and implementation status outlined in the *Performance Audit Horse Power Special License Plate 2017* (Agenda Item VI A-1). He stated Recommendation No. 6 is the sole recommendation implemented to execute a contract between the Board and the executive director. Sufficient documentation has not been provided to the Audit Division for the remaining recommendations.

Mr. Johncock responded he would work toward full implementation providing the appropriate documentation. He indicated many of the recommendations have been implemented but the appropriate documentation needs to be submitted and reviewed by the Audit Division. Mr. Johncock asked for the Commission's patience in this process as he is dealing with limited staff availability. He requested assistance to address the recommendation regarding equine ownership records. Mr. Johncock said Horse Power does not own the horses, as they are owned by a separate entity.

Discussion ensued between Commission members and Mr. Johncock on the following issues:

- The original time frame of the recommendations, the hiring of the new executive director, and Horse Power's request to allow up to a year for full implementation;
- The process to clarify equine ownership records through the State Department of Agriculture's brand inspector;
- The connection between Horse Power and Jubilee Ranch; whether Jubilee Ranch received grants from Horse Power;
- Records indicate Jubilee Ranch currently owns equine previously owned by Horse Power;
- Horse Power's original special license plate application does not indicate a percentage of revenue to be granted in awards; and
- Horse Power's actions indicating they are operating as a rescue organization;

Discussion and clarification ensued among Commission members, Mr. Johncock, and Mr. Cooper regarding the following issues:

- Equine ownership of the 40 horses on Horse Power property at the time of the audit;
- A detailed list of administrative costs, including the duties, responsibilities, and salary of the deputy executive director position.
- The fact that the previous Horse Power executive director currently is contracted as the deputy executive director;
- The use and possession of the debit card by the deputy executive director;
- Equipment purchases by Horse Power;
- The lack of a 2018 line-item budget; and
- The importance of transparency in all business transactions and grant awards.

AGENDA ITEM VII—DISCUSSION AND DECISION BY THE COMMISSION ON SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES ON WHETHER TO UPHOLD OR CHANGE ITS ORIGINAL RECOMMENDATION MADE ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2017, CONCERNING THE HORSE POWER SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE (PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION 3[A] OF *NEVADA REVISED STATUTES* 482.38279)

Vice Chair Carrillo outlined the options to DMV regarding Horse Power.

MOTION: Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno moved for Horse Power, either the executive director or staff, to submit all required information to the Audit Division by March 15, 2018; the Audit Division is to review the submitted information and submit a report of its findings to the Commission by the end of April 2018. The motion was seconded by Senator Denis and passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM VIII—PRESENTATION ON THE PROPOSED REDESIGN OF THE "UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS" SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE (PURSUANT TO *NEVADA REVISED STATUTES* 482.3747) AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO REDESIGN THE LICENSE PLATE

Chad Warren, Senior Associate Vice President, Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving, and Executive Director, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) Alumni Association, requested the redesign of the UNLV collegiate license plate (Agenda Item VIII).

Discussion ensued between Commission members and Terri L. Albertson, previously identified, regarding the following:

- The redesign cost of special license plates;
- The impact on staff resources; and
- A desire for consistency in policy or statute for the redesign of special license plates.

MOTION: Senator Denis moved to approve the redesign of the UNLV special license plate as proposed. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno and passed. Assemblyman Wheeler was absent for the vote.

AGENDA ITEM IX—PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF PENDING APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES

First Tier

A. The Interfaith Council of Southern Nevada

Gard Jameson, President, Interfaith Council of Southern Nevada, and Marvin Gawryn, Executive Director, Interfaith Council of Southern Nevada, presented information for the Council's special license plate application (Agenda Item IX A).

Discussion ensued between Commission members and presenters on the following:

- Anticipated public support for this special license plate;

- Special license plate requests from religious organizations in other states; and

- Special license plate revenue as a fundraiser to further the organization's mission.

B. Grant a Gift Autism Foundation

Terri Janison, Chief Executive Officer, Grant a Gift Autism Foundation, presented information in support of the Foundation's special license plate application (Agenda Item IX B).

Lynda Tache, Founder, Grant a Gift Autism Foundation, provided the history and information for this organization.

Discussion ensued among Commission members and presenters regarding:

- Reasons why Grant a Gift Autism Foundation should receive the revenue from an autism sponsored special license plate;

- Other autism foundations that might submit a special license plate application;

- Anticipated public support for this plate in order to remain in the first tier;

- The levels of support and services offered to clients, parents, and families; and

- The creation of programs when specific services are not accessible for clients.

C. Northern Nevada Section of the Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Incorporated

Vice Chair Carrillo stated the Northern Nevada Section of the Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Incorporated initially submitted an application in January 2012. Legislative Counsel Bureau staff has made numerous efforts to contact this organization, but they have not responded. This organization will have an opportunity to present at the next Commission meeting (Agenda Item IX C).

Second Tier

D. Southern Nevada Joint Management Culinary Bartenders Training Fund

Vice Chair Carrillo said the Southern Nevada Joint Management Culinary Bartenders Training Fund has withdrawn its special license plate application per a letter dated December 28, 2017, from Linda Mattoon, Interim Chief Financial Officer, Southern Nevada Joint Management Culinary Bartenders Training Fund (Agenda Item IX D).

E. The Henderson Historical Society

Louis (Lou) F. La Porta, Chief Executive Officer, President, and Founder, Henderson Historical Society (HHS), requested consideration of the Society's special license plate application (Agenda Item IX E).

Valerie (Val) La Porta-Haynes, Board Secretary, and Denell Butler-Hahn, Board Member, HHS, assisted in the presentation.

There was discussion among Commission members and presenters on the following issues:

- Anticipated public support for this plate to remain in the second tier;
- Membership in the HHS; and
- Support from the City of Henderson for this special license plate.

AGENDA ITEM X—WORK SESSION—DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO:

Melinda (Mindy) Martini, previously identified, reviewed the Work Session Document (Agenda Item X).

A. Pending Special License Plate Applications

MOTION: Senator Denis moved to recommend the Interfaith Council of Southern Nevada's application for a special license plate. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno and passed. Assemblyman Wheeler was absent for the vote.

MOTION: Senator Denis moved to recommend the Grant a Gift Autism Foundation's application for a special license plate. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno and passed. Assemblyman Wheeler was absent for the vote.

MOTION: Senator Denis moved that no action be taken on the Northern Nevada Section of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Incorporated's application and the application to be agendized for the next Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno and passed. Assemblyman Wheeler was absent for the vote.

MOTION: Senator Denis moved to accept the withdrawal of the application for the Southern Nevada Joint Management Culinary Bartenders Training Fund. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno and passed. Assemblyman Wheeler was absent for the vote.

MOTION: Senator Denis moved to recommend The Henderson Historical Society's application for a special license plate. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno.

Prior to voting, Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno expressed concern regarding the ability of the HHS to sell and maintain the required number of plates for the second tier. She questioned that if the HHS is unsuccessful at the second tier, can it be moved into the first tier.

Ms. Martini responded that if the HHS fail to maintain the required number of plates in the second tier, it would need to start the application process for the first tier.

The previous motion made by Senator Denis and seconded by Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno passed. Assemblyman Wheeler was absent for the vote.

AGENDA ITEM XI—PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Carrillo called for public comment; however, no testimony was presented.

AGENDA ITEM XII—ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Harper
Senior Research Secretary

Marjorie Paslov Thomas
Senior Principal Policy Analyst

Melinda (Mindy) Martini
Principal Policy Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Senator Patricia Farley, Chair

Date: _____

MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM	WITNESS/ENTITY	DESCRIPTION
Agenda Item II	John Galloway, Team Leader, Tribute Flight, U.S.S. Nevada Battleship	Written Testimony
Agenda Item IV	Melinda (Mindy) Martini, Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB)	Commission Brief
Agenda Item V A-1	Rocky Cooper, Legislative Auditor, Audit Division, LCB	Audit Report
Agenda Item V A-2	Rocky Cooper, Legislative Auditor, Audit Division, LCB	Correspondence
Agenda Item V A-3	Rocky Cooper, Legislative Auditor, Audit Division, LCB	Financial Documents
Agenda Item V A-4	Rocky Cooper, Legislative Auditor, Audit Division, LCB	Letter and Financial Documents
Agenda Item VI A-1	Commission on Special License Plates	Letter
Agenda Item VI A-2	Rocky Cooper, Legislative Auditor, Audit Division, LCB	Audit Report
Agenda Item VI A-3	Phil Johncock, Executive Director, Horse Power	Letter
Agenda Item VI A-4	Phil Johncock, Executive Director, Horse Power	Internal Accounting Controls
Agenda Item VI A-5	Phil Johncock, Executive Director, Horse Power	Board of Directors
Agenda Item VI A-6	Phil Johncock, Executive Director, Horse Power	Bylaws
Agenda Item VIII	Chad Warren, Senior Associate Vice President, Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving, and Executive Director, University of Nevada Las Vegas Alumni Association, UNLV Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement	Written Testimony
Agenda Item IX A	Gard Jameson, President, Interfaith Council of Southern Nevada	Written Testimony
Agenda Item IX B	Terri Janison, Chief Executive Officer, Grant a Gift Autism Foundation	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item IX C	Melinda (Mindy) Martini, Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division, LCB	Dates of Attempted Communication
Agenda Item IX D	Linda Mattoon, Interim Chief Financial Officer, Southern Nevada Joint Management Culinary Bartenders Training Fund	Letter
Agenda Item IX E	Louis (Lou) F. La Porta, Chief Executive Officer, President, and Founder, Henderson Historical Society	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation

Agenda Item X	Melinda (Mindy) Martini, Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division, LCB	Work Session Document

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