

The Commission on Mineral Resources

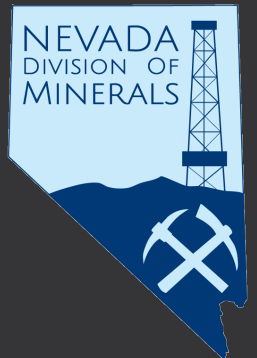
Commission on Mineral Resources Overview for the :
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources

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Administrator

Nevada Division of Minerals

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Joint Interim Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Request for a review of the Nevada Commission on Mineral Resources

- Powers, duties, mission and interactions with Division of Minerals
- The current composition, qualifications and background of members, length of service and term, and geographic representation of Commission members
- Appointment process and selection criteria considered during the appointment process
- How leadership of the Commission is determined
- Number of meetings held per year and location(s)
- Voting rules/constitution of a quorum
- Legislative history
- Per diem allowances and expenses of the Commission in 2022/2023
- Legislative history
- Recent actions

Commission on Mineral Resources

Powers and Duties

NRS 513.063

- Keep itself informed of and interested in the entire field of legislation and administration charged to the Division.
- Report to the Governor, the Mining Oversight and Accountability Commission created by [NRS 514A.040](#) and the Legislature on all matters which it may deem pertinent to the Division, and concerning any specific matters previously requested by the Governor or the Mining Oversight and Accountability Commission.
- Advise and make recommendations to the Governor, the Mining Oversight and Accountability Commission and the Legislature concerning the policy of this State relating to minerals.
- Formulate the administrative policies of the Division.
- Adopt regulations necessary for carrying out the duties of the Commission and the Division.

Division of Minerals NRS Oversight

NRS 513 – 1977

- Commission on Mineral Resources, Division of Minerals, the Abandoned Mine Lands Program, & Minerals Education

NRS 517 – 1897

- Mining Claim Forms

NRS 519A – 1989

- Reclamation Bond Pool

NRS 522 – 1953

- Oil and Gas

NRS 534A – 1975

- Geothermal

NRS 534B – 2017

- Dissolved Mineral Resources

Composition, Qualifications, & Background of the Commission

NRS 513.023 Creation; appointment of members; terms of office.

1. The Commission on Mineral Resources, composed of seven members appointed by the Governor, is hereby created.
2. The Governor shall appoint:
 - (a) Two persons who are familiar with large-scale mining;
 - (b) One person who is familiar with the production of oil and gas;
 - (c) One person who is familiar with exploration for and development of minerals;
 - (d) One person who is familiar with the situations unique to small-scale mining and prospecting;
 - (e) One person who is familiar with the development of geothermal resources; and
 - (f) One member to represent the general public.
3. The members of the Commission shall serve terms of 4 years, except when appointed to fill unexpired terms.

Appointment Process and Selection Criteria

Upon the end of a term or a resignation of a Commission member, the Chair of the Commission will notify the Governor's Office of the vacancy



Any member of the public that meets the requirements of the vacant commissioner position, is eligible to apply



The Governor will then review the list of candidates and use their discretion to appoint the candidate

Commission Leadership

NRS 513.043 Officers

1. The members of the Commission shall select a Chair from among their number who shall serve at the pleasure of the Commission.
 2. The Administrator shall serve as Secretary of the Commission and shall keep the minutes and audio recordings or transcripts of its proceedings.
- On a bi-annual basis, the Commission votes for a Chairman and Vice-Chairman
 - Industry representation with significant industry experience for the Division to utilize
 - The CMR ensures the resources are developed appropriately
 - Make sure that all Fluid Minerals well design regulations ensure the isolations of aquifers
 - Assist in the forecast of mineral environment to assist in the agency budgeting

CMR Members



Josh Nordquist - Geothermal Commissioner, Current Chairman

Mary Korpi - General Public Member at Large Commissioner, Vice Chair

Nigel Bain - Large Scale Mining Commissioner

Robert Felder - Exploration and Development Commissioner

Randy Griffin - Small Scale Mining and Prospecting Commissioner

Stephanie Hallinan - Large Scale Mining Commissioner

Art Henderson - Oil and Gas Commissioner

Number of Meetings, Location(s), Voting Rules and Quorum

NRS 513.053 Meetings; quorum; minutes, audio recordings and transcripts

1. The Commission shall meet at such times and at such places as is specified by the call of the Chair or a majority of the Commission, but a meeting of the Commission must be held at least once every 4 months. In case of emergency, special meetings may be called by the Chair or by the Administrator.
 2. Four members of the Commission constitute a quorum for transacting the business of the Commission.
 3. The minutes and audio recordings or transcripts of each meeting of the Commission must be filed with the Division.
- All meetings meet public meeting law and majority vote is required to take action.
 - The Commission meets quarterly with meetings normally in February (Las Vegas), May (Reno/Carson), August (Rural NV) and November (Reno/Carson).
 - Special meetings may occur outside of the quarterly meetings



CMR Brief History

In 1943 during the 41st Session the Nevada Legislature established the Advisory Mining Board. The purpose of this board was to:

1. Study ways and means of furthering the mining industry of the state;
 2. Further explore and develop the oil and gas industry;
 3. Report results of such studies to the governor; and
 4. Call upon the Nevada Bureau of Mines and its analytical laboratory in furthering the objectives and purpose of the legislative act.
- In 1953 the Legislature created the Oil and Gas Commission.
 - In 1977, the Legislature combined the Oil and Gas Commission with the Mining Advisory Board to create the Oil, Gas, and Mining Board to serve in an advisory capacity to the newly created Division of Mineral Resources within DCNR.
 - In 1983, to establish and give visibility to the mineral industry the Legislature removed the agency from DCNR and created the Department of Minerals, supervised by the Commission on Mineral Resources, all the authority and duties of which remain the same today.
 - Sweeping departmental changes occurred in 1993 and the Department was changed to the Division of Minerals within the newly created Department of Business and Industry. This only lasted for six years when the Legislature, in recognition of the importance of the mining, oil and gas, and geothermal industry to Nevada and moved the Division for the last time.

Commission on Mineral Resources



Mission

To encourage and assist in the responsible exploration for and the production of minerals, oil, gas, and geothermal energy which are economically beneficial to the State, to provide for public safety by identifying, ranking and securing dangerous conditions at mines that are no longer operating, and collecting and disseminating information on exploration, production and related topics.



Interactions with Division of Minerals

Quarterly Commission meetings

- Additional meeting as needed
- Significant industry experience within in Commission
 - Current and past industry guidance

NRS 513.063

- Advise and make recommendations to the Governor, the Mining Oversight and Accountability Commission and the Legislature concerning the policy of this State relating to minerals.
- Formulate the administrative policies of the Division.
- Adopt regulations necessary for carrying out the duties of the Commission and the Division.

CMR/DOM Funding Sources

Average revenue and expenditures for fiscal years 2022 and 2023:

Revenue: \$3,424,521

Expenditures: \$3,064,409

- No General Funds

NRS 513.094 - \$10 per mining claim on federal land filing fees paid to the county

NRS 519A.250 - \$20 per acre of disturbance for any new mining or exploration plan of operations on federal lands

NRS 522 - Oil and gas drilling permit and production fees

NRS 534A - Geothermal drilling permit and annual well fees

NRS 534B - Dissolved Minerals drilling permit fees

NRS 235.016 - Medallions Royalties

Other - Federal, State, and Local government partners

Commission Expenses

NRS 513.033 Compensation of members

1. Each member of the Commission is entitled to receive a salary of not more than \$80, as fixed by the Commission, for each day while engaged in the business of the Commission.
2. While engaged in the business of the Commission, each member and employee of the Commission is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally.

CMR Per diem Expense	CMR Stipend Expense
FY 22 - \$1,711.53	FY 22 - \$2,560
FY 23 - \$306.88	FY 23 - \$3,120

Commission on Mineral Resources

Recent Actions

- NRS 534B – Dissolved Mineral Resources (2017 Session)
- NRS 522 Updates – Hydraulic Fracturing (2015 Session)
- Agency program guidance
- Agency budget review and approval
- Agency Special Project guidance
- EO 2023-003 regulation reviews and updates
- Review and update of all regulations
 - All regulations had been updated within the past 8 years when EO 2023-003 was enacted

Commission on Mineral Resources

Support and Collaboration with Partner Agencies

- NDOM Open Data Site / Nevada Mineral Explorer
- Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology reports and publications
- Local and State Museum mineral displays
- GOED and other agencies at PDAC
- DCNR
 - Coordination with NDEP on mining, bonding, and AML
- Tonopah Historic Mining Park
- Fourth Ward School, Virginia City
- University of Nevada Reno, Mackay School of Mines
- Great Basin College
- Annual funding support of Nevada Mining Association and Division of Minerals Earth Science Teacher Workshops

Questions

