



# **NEVADA LEGISLATURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT FOR NEVADA YOUTH LEGISLATURE**

*(Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] 219A.300)*

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**January 5, 2024**

The second meeting of the Board of Directors for Corporation for Public Benefit for Nevada Youth Legislature for the 2023–2024 Interim was held on Friday, January 5, 2024, at 4 p.m. in Room 4401, Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 2135, Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and audio or video recording of the meeting are available on the Board's meeting page. The audio or video recording may also be found at <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Video/>. Copies of the audio or video record can be obtained through the Publications Office of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) ([publications@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:publications@lcb.state.nv.us) or 775/684-6835).

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

Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair  
Former Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Vice Chair  
Senator Dallas Harris, Treasurer  
Senator Melanie Scheible  
Assemblywoman Erica Mosca  
Zhan Okuda-Lim

### **BOARD MEMBER ABSENT:**

Assemblywoman Selena Torres, Secretary (Excused)

### **LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:**

Tina Ashdown, Constituent Services Analyst/Program Facilitator, Constituent Services Unit, Research Division  
Bonnie Borda Hoffercker, Research Policy Assistant, Research Division  
Christina Harper, Manager of Research Policy Assistants, Research Division  
Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel, Legal Division

*Items taken out of sequence during the meeting have been placed in agenda order.  
[Indicate a summary of comments.]*

## **AGENDA ITEM I—OPENING REMARKS**

### ***Chair Wiener:***

I call this meeting of the Nevada Legislature Board of Directors for the Corporation for Public Benefit to Administer the Nevada Youth Legislature (NYL) to order. Hereafter, we will refer to this Committee as the NYL Board.

Madam Secretary, please call the roll.

[Roll call reflected in Board Members present.]

## **AGENDA ITEM II—PUBLIC COMMENT**

### ***Chair Wiener:***

We will open public comment, whether it be questions or comments from the public who might want to share thoughts with us.

Do we have anyone in the North wanting to come forward? [No one came forward.] Does anyone in the South want to appear before the Board? [No one came forward.] Any public comment on the telephone? [There were no callers.]

## **AGENDA ITEM III—APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**

### ***Chair Wiener:***

We will move on to Agenda Item III. Approval of the minutes for the meeting of September 21, 2023.

FORMER STATE SENATOR WOODHOUSE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2023, MEETING.

THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN MOSCA.

THE MOTION PASSED (SENATORS HARRIS AND SCHEIBLE WERE ABSENT FOR THE VOTE).

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## **AGENDA ITEM IV—REVIEW OF NEVADA YOUTH LEGISLATURE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024–2025**

### ***Chair Wiener:***

We are privileged and pleased to have Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel, Legal Division, LCB to present the budget to us.

**Mr. Killian:**

Before you is a spreadsheet that shows multiple previous years in addition to multiple future years. The reason is the travel needs for the NYL are substantially different in the two years of the biennium. One year is more travel heavy with the 16 Youth Legislators from the south traveling to the north, and the next year the 5 Youth Legislators from the north travel to the south.

Fiscal Year (FY) 2021–2022 is the first year on the budget sheet; is one of those years where travel was light (Agenda Item IV). It is not exactly analogous, since we were coming out of the Coronavirus Disease of 2019 (COVID-19) where there was not much travel, but that would be the comparable year for the light travel years going forward. Fiscal Year 2022–2023 is the preceding year which had heavier travel. Those years are included in this spreadsheet for comparison's sake. Fiscal Year 2023–2024, which we are currently in, and the Board approved the budget for during the previous meeting, is another one of the light travel years and can be used as comparisons sake to the three FYs on the other side of the spreadsheet.

Fiscal Year 2024–2025 travel needs are likely to be heavy, and the reserves the NYL Board has built up would be substantially depleted. The Legislature provided a \$10,000 appropriation to the NYL for this biennium with \$5,000 for each FY. That is not sufficient to cover the general expenses of the NYL during the travel heavy year. The reserves for the NYL would fall from approximately \$17,500 at the conclusion of the current FY to about \$4,500 at the conclusion of the next FY. While FY 2024–2025 is the budget year that is on the agenda is to be considered, I included a projection of what would be necessary for FY 2025–2026 and FY 2026–2027 for comparison sake. The Legislature provided about \$10,000 of appropriation authority during the current biennium for FY 2025–2026 and FY 2026–2027. I projected the Legislature providing about \$30,000 of appropriation authority, and that level would be consistent with the level of spending expected of roughly \$30,000 over that biennium for the NYL to be in a stable financial position. In my conversations with the Director of LCB, there is a possibility more money could be made available to the NYL during the second year of the current biennium, FY 2024–2025, to ensure the NYL is solvent. The fiscal information is before this Board for consideration, and the Board may wish to consider making a request of the Director to allow additional financial resources be made available to the NYL during the second year of this biennium and to include an increased level of support for the NYL in future biennia.

**Chair Wiener:**

I noticed, as I did comparisons of FY 2020–2021 to FY 2022–2023 and then FY 2024–2025, which would be a parallel year in the two-year cycle, I found, for example, the in-state travel in the two years, it is close to \$2,000 less proposed in FY 2024–2025 than it was in the two-year cycle prior for the comparable year. I saw a noticeably smaller figure for FY 2024–2025 than in FY 2022–2023. I am wondering, will we have inflation that is a factor in other costs if we are projecting with that in mind on some of these costs and evaluations? In addition, the NYL Board would have \$3,500 total in scholarships and that number is inconsistent throughout as well. Mr. Killian had suggested the NYL Board work with him and the experts in finance. When would be the appropriate time for us as a Board to start having that conversation with the financial experts and you?

**Mr. Killian:**

We built in a little bit of an inflation factor from year-to-year based on the comparable years' expenses. For FY 2022–2023 the actual amount spent for in-state travel was \$11,828 and what is proposed for FY 2024–2025 is \$12,500. Similarly, the amount spent in the supplies and operating category, and hotel expenses for FY 2022–2023 was just under \$4,600. That amount was inflated to about \$5,000 for FY 2024–2025 and then similarly projecting forward to FY 2026–2027, which would be the next similar heavy travel year.

We increased in-state travel from \$12,500 to \$13,500 and supplies from \$5,000 to \$5,500 by applying approximately 10 percent inflation factor, not actually knowing what inflation will look like between those years. This would build in a bit of a cushion given that we have seen airfare expenses for Southwest Airlines flights between Reno and Las Vegas growing at a rate that substantially outpaces inflation. For the scholarships category, we are in an awkward situation for accounting purposes during the current FY. Since the NYL Board met in September instead of in June, as it typically would, the expenses that we approved for a scholarship had to be charged against the following FY since the State FY closes on June 30<sup>th</sup>, rather than the preceding FY as would ordinarily be done. This is why it appears no expenses paid out for scholarships for FY 2022–2023 and then \$4,500 for FY 2023–2024. That was accounting for \$1,750 in previously approved scholarships that had been paid out, in addition to the \$2,750 in scholarships that we approved at the previous NYL Board meeting. We had projected scholarships at that \$2,750 level which parallels the expected gifts, grants, and donations contribution of \$2,750 in each of those years. Certainly, if the intent is to offer scholarships at a \$3,500 level, we can make that adjustment and adjust the gifts, grants, and donations figure to match.

I believe historically the NYL Board has worked on a year-to-year budget cycle which, given that the Legislature generally works on a biennial budget cycle, has not been in sync. Issues arose when the NYL program shifted which year was the heavy year for travel, it led to the LCB making a request to the Legislature for funding that did not match what the NYL was anticipating spending in the upcoming biennium. My suggestion would be that it might be helpful for the Board to also move to a biennial budget cycle and aim to have the fiscal figures finalized by the annual meeting in the summer of each even-numbered year. This allows time for those conversations to happen and those numbers to be finalized before the LCB completes its budget request for the upcoming Legislature in the winter and spring of the odd-numbered year.

**Chair Wiener:**

When should we start the conversation? What would you recommend?

**Mr. Killian:**

My suggestion is to start having that conversation around the timing of this meeting in the winter of the even-numbered year and then finalizing a budget for the biennium for presentation to and approval by the NYL Board by the summer meeting during each even-numbered year of each following biennium. Now is a great time to start.

**Chair Wiener:**

Any additional questions? Assemblywoman Mosca.

***Assemblywoman Mosca:***

I had a question regarding how the reserves are going to lower. Is there historical data about where the reserves have been before? Have we seen this dip before? Is this a lower dip in this proposed budget than it would be in the past or has the NYL had a larger reserve?

***Mr. Killian:***

There was a little bit of a bubble of reserves that built up as a result of COVID-19. Between legislative appropriations that were higher and anticipating travel that did not happen, the NYL built up a significant reserve. I believe part of what the Legislature was considering in the appropriations that were approved for the NYL was spending down some of that reserve. I do not know that the intent was necessarily to spend down the reserve as far as it is being spent down in this current biennium, which is why the Director of LCB is willing to have the conversation about making additional money available to get the NYL through the current biennium. The original reserve level was as high as \$30,000 approximately. A couple of years ago the amount was significantly higher than the organization had in the past. The result of the proposed FY 2024–2025 Budget of dipping down to under \$5,000 is significantly lower than the organization had in the past, somewhere in between those figures has been more typical in previous years.

***Chair Wiener:***

Any additional questions, comments? Should we work with you to schedule a meeting as soon as possible with the Board and the appropriate legislative staff?

***Mr. Killian:***

I am happy to coordinate those meetings between yourself and other members of the Board and the Director's Office, LCB.

**AGENDA ITEM V—CONSIDERATION OF NEVADA YOUTH LEGISLATURE SCHOLARSHIPS**

***Chair Wiener:***

Based on what was discussed at our September meeting and the idea of consolidating—we have done that at the request of Board Members (Agenda Item V). Going forward with this year's scholarships, up-leveling the amounts to draw more interest. We have maintained the Senator Valerie Wiener (Retired) Scholarship for \$1,000, and we have consolidated other scholarship investments that we had to create an NYL scholarship for \$2,500. Those participating as donors, I am contributing \$250, Senator Woodhouse is contributing \$750, Assemblywoman Mosca is contributing \$500, former Youth Legislator John Oglesby and his wife are contributing \$500, and Tina Ashdown is contributing \$500. Thank you all for your generosity. This creates a more substantial inducement for people to show an interest in the scholarships that we offer. Thank you. Any questions or comments?

## **AGENDA ITEM VI—SUMMARY REPORT OF NEVADA YOUTH LEGISLATURE MEETINGS, TRAININGS, AND ACTIVITIES, 2023–2025 NEVADA YOUTH LEGISLATURE TERM**

### ***Chair Wiener:***

On January 12, 2023, the NYL had an assignment deadline, which is relatively new in the history of the program. This is three questions and answers, and the Youth Legislators provided their own questions and then answered them. This is a skill that we teach them how to answer questions. The participation level was very high among the Youth Legislators. On October 12, 2023, a required training on “Effective Listening Skills” was provided, and on November 14, 2023, a required training on “Power Presentations” was provided. I substantially up-leveled and refined these training programs for this year and made them more substantial and engaging. Tina and I decided that we need more time, so we are going to add more time to the training in order to cover the material. The interest generated by Youth Legislators for these two programs is high and when we do the end of the year evaluations with NYL participants listening is typically the most powerful training, since most people are not trained how to do it. This was an up-levelled year for training, and we will continue to do that moving forward. The optional activity was the training on social communication or social conversation skill, which was successful; we had 16 current Youth Legislators from the South participate. I can say confidently, we have never had that large participation, especially for an optional event. It was highly successful, and we all learned something from the experience. The same parallel gathering in Carson City was canceled for yesterday because of a scheduling conflict. Any questions or comments about anything that I have shared.

Madam Secretary, please note Senators Scheible and Harris have joined the Board meeting.

## **AGENDA ITEM VII—STATUS OF NEVADA CIVICS SEAL AND POSSIBLE SCHOOL CREDITS**

### ***Chair Wiener:***

This topic was something the Board was interested in pursuing. Tina and I have had several conversations. We did talk to Ms. Jayne Malorni and had a wonderful Zoom meeting with her. I have asked Tina to do follow up.

### ***Mrs. Ashdown:***

Senator Wiener and I did meet virtually with Jayne Malorni from the Nevada Department of Education Office of Teaching and Learning, to talk about the Nevada Civic Seal and school credit for volunteer hours. She gave us information about these programs and contact information for school district personnel who might be able to give us more information. The Nevada Civic Seal is a program that is initiated by the student. Everything they need to pursue this avenue is found online. The volunteer hours needed for this honor is supervised by a school employee. The Clark County School District (CCSD) may not have the personnel available for this program. My CCSD contact did not know of any schools that are offering the Civic Seal. I did not get an answer about the program from the Washoe County School District (WCSD). Students in Nevada can earn up to one credit hour for time spent volunteering with an approved community agency. They get one-half credit for every 60 volunteer hours. The contacts from CCSD and WCSD said that the Youth Legislators should be eligible to receive credit through a program of community service. We can let the students know to contact their school counselors directly and say they are interested in

using NYL for community service credit. The schools can handle all the paperwork from there. Before you is a document that lists some of the service hours spent by Nevada Youth Legislators (Agenda Item VII).

A couple of bill draft request (BDR) ideas were also discussed during the meeting. The first idea was a BDR to require school districts to accept the NYL service as volunteer hours. However, Ms. Malorni did not think that would be necessary. The second idea was a BDR that would give internship credits for participation in the NYL. As I said before, you have a document that lists most of the volunteer hours for service in the NYL. I am happy to answer any questions.

***Chair Wiener:***

Assemblywoman Mosca.

***Assemblywoman Mosca:***

If we are to go the internship route, would the school district still have to do the logistics or would NYL be able to handle that internally for the credit?

***Chair Wiener:***

We can provide the information because we keep a spreadsheet for every Youth Legislator and they know every time they get together what their status is, what they missed.

It can be confusing because it would be in the school district as an internship program but not the NYL internship program. This would fit well into volunteer hours. Tina explained that it is 120 hours for a full credit. We do not know what that looks like time wise. In addition, we worked on every possible level of opportunity of engagement in the NYL program and we came up with 104 hours. A couple of these are optional like today, the gathering, and if they showed up they get credit for it. Would there be an interest in finding another 16 hours for the NYL program or could the 16 hours fall under community hours or volunteer hours? Nevada Youth Legislature could still be 104 of the 120 hours needed to get full credit.

There are other opportunities for additional activity credits or half credits for those who provide additional service to or on behalf of the NYL. We are growing more of those opportunities. One that is not new is the student representing the NYL to work with the Nevada Association of Student Councils to recommend a student member on the State Board of Education. That might be something we could allocate an additional activity credit. Another opportunity for credit in northern Nevada is when international delegations, guests of the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), meet with our Youth Legislators. One of the delegations had 15 people from 14 countries. The last delegation was Papua New Guinea. Our Youth Legislators are amazing about participating as social hosts with the visiting delegations. I realized the importance of adding a "Social Host" training since certain types of questions are asked by the international delegates and we want to prepare the Youth Legislators for these types of questions. The Youth Legislators knowledge grew substantially from working with the large international delegations, after receiving a training in preparation for meeting the Papua New Guinea delegation.

"Social Host" training should be added to the list of training opportunities which would add two hours of credit, for doing the activity itself and then coming to the Legislature to host could be optional credit time. Another option for credits is when the North Youth Legislators deliver the annual report to, and meet with, the Governor. We did that for the first time

officially in 2023. It was extraordinary and a wonderful experience to sit with the Governor. Additional credits should be directly connected with the NYL and relevant to the program. What are your feelings about adding these as additional activity credits?

***Senator Harris:***

I am all for students being able to get as much deserved credit for what they are doing while involved in this program as possible. The idea that Youth Legislators do the amount of work that they do and get very little educational acknowledgement in return is a travesty. I am glad to see it being addressed and as many credits as we can get these kids for the hard work they put in and demonstrated knowledge and skills they develop while they are participants of the program, the better.

***Chair Wiener:***

Any other remarks? Mr. Okuda-Lim.

***Mr. Okuda-Lim:***

I echo what Senator Harris mentioned. Given the amount of work that Youth Legislators put in for these formal activities, and other activities that have come about over the years. I think having an acknowledgment in the form of activity credit for purposes of attendance or something similar would be important. I also think it would be important to think about which Youth Legislators, depending on geographic region, have access to different opportunities. Of course, given that the State Capital is in Carson City, and the Legislative Building is in Carson City, it is wonderful for Youth Legislators who either live up North or happen to be in the area during one of these events to be able to participate. For Youth Legislators in other parts of our State it is important to consider whether other events and activities that those Youth Legislators might be able to partake in, supplemental or in addition to, these formal activities given different regions of our State and where different events and programs are being held. I do think it is important to have that acknowledgment and show the Youth Legislators that not only are they getting personal growth and benefit from these other activities, but there is an acknowledgment of the work that they put in when they participate or get involved in some of these other programs.

***Chair Wiener:***

Did you have something to add Former Senator Woodhouse?

***Former Senator Woodhouse:***

The comments made by yourself madam Chair, Senator Harris, and Mr. Okuda-Lim I agree with. One of the things that we all realize is the more opportunities offered and different types of opportunities offered for students to become involved in—you never know what the catalyst is that creates the feeling of “this is what I want to do.” Furthering the growth of that student and providing many different options gives them a better chance of knowing exactly where they want to go and what they can do. We have this group of activities for students, and we all know what it is going to do for them. Whatever we can add to it might be the spark for something else.

***Chair Wiener:***

Based on what Mr. Okuda-Lim said with the permission of the Board, something I have been entertaining is an affiliation through our new location. This might be an opportunity to have

a conversation with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) to determine if there might be a program that invites international delegations or other delegations similar to UNR. We could make it available for rural Youth Legislators if they have enough notice to be able to participate in either location. As we move forward, I will be open to those possibilities and Tina, and I will have those conversations. Tina, would you comment on the maturity that our Youth Legislators demonstrated in dealing and participating in these conversations with these international delegates?

***Mrs. Ashdown:***

The Youth Legislators participate at a level beyond their years. They are welcoming to the international delegates even though they have to work through an interpreter. They listen to the interpreter and speak back to the delegates, and they did it with class and elegance. It was very impressive.

***Chair Wiener:***

Any other thoughts, questions, or comments? Then we will look at those opportunities. The opportunities show up for us—the international delegations and the training for social hosting. I mentioned earlier that I did a special training and what happened was there were certain things we thought we had taught them, and this is where they showed up in the real world because of questions they were asked by this larger delegation involving politics. We teach them at the very beginning (and several times) that we are not a political entity. We teach policy making, representative government, serving as a voice of your youth constituents, and all of the things that are at the root of this program. Yet, when they were asked a question about young people in politics, they responded with the word “politics.” We worked through that with the Youth Legislators and that highly elevated their participation in the next international delegation that their voice was there. My thought would be to teach everyone the “Social Host” training during the “Message Accountability” training. We continue to grow and are thrilled with the opportunity. Mr. Killian, we do not need a vote as to anything if we have the permission of the Board—it does not require a formal vote to be on the lookout for other ways to expand opportunities for our Youth Legislators?

***Mr. Killian:***

That's correct.

***Chair Wiener:***

Thank you. Just want to be so sure about this.

**AGENDA ITEM VIII—UPDATE ON NEVADA YOUTH LEGISLATURE WEBSITE**

***Mrs. Ashdown:***

We sent an email out to former Youth Legislators and asked for endorsements for our website. You have a document in your packet labeled “Nevada Youth Legislature Website, Alumni Endorsements.” We have eight of them from former Youth Legislators that give a glowing endorsement of what participating in the Nevada Youth Legislature has done for them (Agenda Item VIII).

***Chair Wiener:***

This was based on a request from our Board at our September meeting. Tina will be adding the term years and office held (if applicable). These are all Youth Legislators who are mentor trainers, and they are above and beyond just alums, and other endorsements are going to be coming in soon. We have a great place to start, and they all have something different to say, and it is lovely. We will move on to any questions or comments.

***Assemblywoman Mosca:***

This was so great. Thank you for following up on that request. The only thing this made me think about when I was reading about it is if we have ever had a discussion about social media for the NYL and promoting some of this?

***Chair Wiener:***

We have not discussed social media. We are very cautious about engaging in avenues of communication that we do not have as much executive opportunity to ensure the message is being managed the way it should be as we do with our own website. We want to be able to have the highest caliber of management opportunities with messages that we transmit.

Any additional questions or comments about the website?

**AGENDA ITEM IX—PROPOSAL OF COLLABORATION PROVISION IN BYLAWS**

***Chair Wiener:***

This is a proposal of collaboration provision in the bylaws. As a refresher, I had concerns about being approached by other legislatures, national organizations, and other various groups that want to partner with us, use our model and go national, or many other different proposals. We have received an interest that they want to partner with us, and they have long lists of things they want to accomplish. That set a red flag up for me as to establishing a foundation for making these connections, processing what could be a disadvantage because we are a program of the Nevada State Legislature, a governmental entity. Anything that we decide to do as a Board has a direct impact on the Nevada Legislature. We have a high level of responsibility and that is why Mr. Killian was addressing this through a bylaw.

***Mr. Killian:***

The first document is the bylaws as they currently exist (Agenda Item IX-A). The second document is a proposed new article of the bylaws relating to collaboration (Agenda Item IX-B). At its core, this is a simple set of bones to build collaboration provisions on top of. The first section generally provides that individual members of the Board or Youth Legislators, or any other person cannot bind the Board to an agreement with any external entity for any sort of collaboration agreement and that any such purported agreement is not binding on the Board. The second section provides the basic standards that the Board would use to determine whether to agree to a collaboration agreement with some external entity. Those three core standards are: first, that public money the Board received would not be spent for any purpose other than supporting the NYL. Second, that the agreement would strengthen the activities of the NYL and present greater opportunities for Youth Legislators and other pupils in the State. Third, that the benefits would effectively outweigh the costs and what the foundation and the NYL get from the agreement would be worth more than the monetary and time costs to the Board, to staff, and to others to implement the agreement.

Finally, the third section preserves the right of members of the Board, staff, Youth Legislators, et cetera to have informal conversations with external entities and to provide public information to external entities. Working together, that effectively says that you can still have informal conversations, you can still share public information, you cannot bind the Board to a collaboration agreement without the consent of the Board.

I am happy to answer any questions about these provisions or if the Board would like to have a conversation.

***Chair Wiener:***

I do have a question. We had countries reach out to us and I am concerned about any precedent we might set with one of these agreements. Could this cause issues for us going forward? If we set a precedent with one relationship, how might that affect those going forward? Would we be bound to something because we have already done it? I am concerned about any possible unintended consequences or impacts or liabilities that we might incur, obviously unintentionally, through establishing these relationships.

***Mr. Killian:***

I think some of those concerns you raised may be topics for conversation by the Board. There would generally be no obligation by the Board to enter into agreements with any entity whatsoever. The fact that the Board had entered into an agreement with one entity would not create an obligation on the Board to enter into an agreement with another entity. It may have persuasive power for members of the Board to enter into similar agreements with other similar entities. However, nothing in these proposed provisions to be added to the bylaws or in the law would require the Board to enter into any particular agreement with any external entity regardless of any agreements it may have made with other entities previously. The second concern, there is a possibility that there may be a provision in an agreement that the Board enters into that obligates the Board to engage in some sort of activity which may accrue liability for the Board. That is a concern that is inherent to any agreement with any entity. I think the best way to mitigate the risk to the NYL for that kind of situation going forward would be to have either myself or whoever is occupying this position in the future, providing the Board with legal assistance, have the opportunity to review any of those agreements in advance and make sure that they are written in a way that minimizes any risk for the Board being obligated to anything that it was not expecting in the future.

***Chair Wiener:***

That answers my concerns. Senator Harris.

***Senator Harris:***

I hope I am not opening a can of worms here, but I wanted to see if we could discuss the point about the finding of the benefits significantly outweighing the costs. I would propose that we amend to require the Board to find there are simply benefits to the Legislature to engage in the agreement to make a determination about whether those benefits outweigh the costs might be a bit more difficult. Especially when we are thinking about what kind of benefits we might see from engaging with another country. In fact, we may not see a huge amount of immediate return from engaging with another country, but the Board may find it beneficial for the program. However, to focus on making sure that the findings suggest that there has to be a substantial additional benefit over costs might limit us a bit more than we are intending. I would like the Board to have a conversation about potentially limiting this to

the Board finding that there is some benefit to the program in engaging with the agreement as opposed to the language of significantly outweighing the costs.

***Chair Wiener:***

I was having concerns about the subjectivity of that as well. I think based on that and you mentioned country, a country is one that is a little—we can think of ideal relationships and how grand except that is a state government in essence contracting with another country with a lot of unknowns. That may be great. What may be one thing that would make me feel more comfortable would be, as Mr. Killian so graciously offered, we can work with legal. We would have some provision that before entering any agreement we must work hand-in-hand and step-by-step with legal to ensure that legal is an integral part of the developments as our legal voice in establishing these relationships.

What are the thoughts of the Board? Senator Scheible.

***Senator Scheible:***

I would agree. I think it makes sense to put the process for consulting legal into the bylaws. I also agree that maybe making the standard that the contract have some benefit to us would be a smart adjustment to the proposed bylaws and not requiring the weighing mechanism.

***Chair Wiener:***

Some benefits are subjective too. We could talk about something to qualify versus some measurable benefit, and we can determine what makes that a worthwhile benefit. I understand we may not want to do this because it could load ourselves down, so I ask Legal to help refine this.

***Senator Scheible:***

I am comfortable with something as vague as “a benefit” or “some benefit.” The purpose being that at a Board meeting like this, we would have to articulate the benefit. I do not think it is possible or even necessary to describe the quantity or the value of the benefit. I might be paranoid, but I even had a momentary thought that we might be getting into a little bit of a gray area if we are talking about working with other entities, that maybe do not have the same purpose that we do. For example, nonprofit or for-profit organizations, we do not want to start turning this into—Nevada will economically benefit from these arrangements. Even though we can certainly say we benefit from bringing new people to the State to see it for the first time. We do not want to get stuck in a conversation where we are asking ourselves was the \$100 we spent on lunch worth the \$250 the tourists spent at the gift shop. I think that is something we want to avoid.

***Chair Wiener:***

We want a benefit that would enrich the program. Anyone else? Any thoughts?

***Mr. Okuda-Lim***

I agree with what our colleagues have mentioned, and I am not sure if we have to wordsmith right now or we could have something I imagine that the Chair would want action on moving forward with this amendment. We can always talk about wording here. I agree with Senator Scheible. We want to even keep subsection (c) of 8.2, for example, the

Board has determined there would be benefit that would accrue to the Foundation and the program, would be sufficient. I definitely understand the interests here in balancing standards for the Board to consider since we do not know what specific requests might come our way in the future. We want to have at least clear standards to work with and allow enough flexibility both for the current Board and future members of the Board to consider. I think something broader in 8.2 subsection (c) would be sufficient.

I want to thank you, Mr. Kilian and the team and colleagues who worked on this. As we are thinking about potential opportunities and the array of those opportunities NYL has had over recent years and what could be coming in the future, having these new bylaws will be important to allow the Board to weigh different options, and consider what makes the most sense given those specific circumstances on a case-by-case basis. It is great to have this before us to take action on, and I am grateful that we will have this for the future of the program moving forward.

***Chair Wiener:***

Any additional questions or comments on that section? Mr. Killian, moving forward, do we need to have you bring a revised proposal to us for a bylaw change or, based on the conceptual discussion we have had, would that be enough to move it forward?

***Mr. Killian:***

Any change to the bylaws would need to be approved by the Board at a public meeting.

The most efficient way to move forward is to take the direction the Board has given during this conversation today. First for Section 8.2 subsection (c) to eliminate the idea of weighing benefits against and simply identify that there are benefits. Second, to add a provision requiring the preview of any such agreement before the Board may approve it by legal counsel. I can make those revisions and have a revised version of this proposal ready for the Board's next meeting. I could also try to generate language on the fly right now, but I do not want to hold up the Board for that since we are nearing the end of the agenda.

***Chair Wiener:***

To clarify, we will meet before summer since we are going to be working on the budget. To offer another clarification under Article V, Officers, 5.8, page 3, it says Legislative Counsel Bureau to designate a member of the staff of the Bureau as "Program Coordinator," however, we have been using the language "Program Facilitator" please make that change (Agenda Item IX-A).

Any additional questions or comments? There will not be a vote on the bylaws since we will move it forward for final action at our next meeting where we will work on the budget.

**AGENDA ITEM X—DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND PROPOSED DATE FOR SUMMER MEETING**

***Chair Wiener:***

We have request about a meeting prior to June 13, 2024. I believe that is when the Interim Finance Committee meeting begins. I would suggest we get together as early as March or early April; which allows us to get in front of the budget this time since that was a strong recommendation from Counsel.

Anything else the Board would like to discuss at the upcoming Board meeting of the NYL Board? Any additional thoughts, anything you want to discuss? We did respond to all of the Board member requests. For the next meeting of the NYL Board we will focus on budget and any other pressing issues and new language for the bylaws. We will look at any upcoming reports and possibly an update on the participation and activity credits.

***Mrs. Ashdown:***

The NYL meeting is on April 11, 2024, and it might be good to have the NYL Board meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> or the 12<sup>th</sup>?

***Chair Wiener:***

I will be in Carson City for that NYL meeting. For my one visit each year term. I could Chair from Carson City.

***Mrs. Ashdown:***

I was proposing April 10, or April 12, 2024?

***Chair Wiener:***

What does the NYL Board consider a better date? Would April 10, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. work for everybody?

***Mr. Killian***

To make sure the Board is aware, there is a Joint Standing Interim Committee on Revenue meeting scheduled for April 10, 2024, at 1 p.m. I am not sure if there is any overlap between the Members of the Board and the Members of the Committee.

***Chair Wiener:***

How does April 12<sup>th</sup> look for the Board?

***Mr. Killian***

There is a Joint Standing Interim Committee on Government Affairs meeting at 12:30 p.m. I am not sure if we have any overlap in membership.

***Chair Wiener:***

If we met at 3:30 p.m., would those meetings typically be done by then?

***Mr. Killian:***

There are no agendas posted for these meetings. That date would indicate it would be the third meeting for both of these bodies during the interim. It is difficult to project how long the agendas would be at that point. Typically, the interim committees are in full swing of hearing policy issues at that point and may run for the entirety of the afternoon.

***Mrs. Ashdown:***

We could use the other room.

**Chair Wiener:**

We could meet in the smaller room?

**Mr. Killian:**

That is not a decision I could speak to. You need to coordinate that with the Director of LCB.

**Chair Wiener:**

We are looking at April 10, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.

**Mr. Okuda-Lim:**

I will most likely not be able to attend from April 10<sup>th</sup> through the weekend.

**Chair Wiener:**

Would it be possible for you to attend by telephone?

**Mr. Okuda-Lim:**

I might be traveling during that time, but I might be on a plane that afternoon.

**Chair Wiener:**

We would have five members if everybody else can be here. We would still have a quorum. We are looking at April 10, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. for the next NYL Board meeting.

Thank you, Tina, for your leadership. We discussed items to be on the agenda. The priorities that we have discussed here today, we would like to resolve by then. That would be working through the budget with Mr. Killian and fiscal people to ensure going forward that we feel comfortable with some of the things that we have discussed today. Mrs. Ashdown will have an update on credit activities. What else did we want to bring forward in that meeting at this point? Assemblywoman Mosca.

**Assemblywoman Mosca:**

Looking at the scholarship application date of April 30, 2024, I would like the Board to get an update if we have received any applications by then.

**Chair Wiener:**

Yes, we will be eager to see that data.

## **AGENDA ITEM XI—BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, AND DISCUSSION**

**Chair Wiener:**

Any additional questions or comments?

[There were none offered.]

## **AGENDA ITEM XII—PUBLIC COMMENT**

### ***Chair Wiener:***

Are there any people in the North who would like to share something with the Board at this time? I do not see any.

Are there any in the South which we can see in person? [No one came forward.]

Any on the telephone?

### ***Broadcast and Production Services (BPS):***

The public line is open and working but we have no callers.

### ***Chair Wiener:***

We are preparing for adjournment, but I would like to take this moment to share my gratitude for all of the team who put the NYL Board together—the LCB, Legal, and BPS. Meeting by meeting, training by training, Board activity—whatever we are doing LCB makes sure it is exemplary. As a special word of gratitude, I would like to thank Maria Aguayo who has served—I am going to get a little emotional here—who has served as our secretary, the source of organization, all of the beautiful graphic work on our materials for the trainings, and big smile all the time. Maria has been with us since 2016, and Maria has found an opportunity to move to the Fiscal Analysis Division. Her last day was December 31, 2023, and we miss her already. Again, we are grateful for Constituent Services and the LCB for providing support for the continuity and seamlessness of the work we do.

### **AGENDA ITEM XIII—ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bonnie Borda Hoffecker  
Research Policy Assistant

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Tina Ashdown  
Constituent Services Analyst/Nevada  
Youth Legislature Program Facilitator

APPROVED BY:

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Senator Valarie Wiener (Ret.), Chair

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

## MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER/ENTITY	DESCRIPTION
Agenda Item IV	Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel, Legal Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB)	Nevada Youth Legislature (NYL) Budget for Fiscal Year 2024–2025
Agenda Item V	Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair, Board of Directors for Corporation for Public Benefit for Nevada Youth Legislature (NYL Board)	NYL Scholarships
Agenda Item VI	Senator Valerie Wiener (Ret.), Chair, NYL Board	Summary Report
Agenda Item VIII	Tina Ashdown, Constituent Services Analyst/Program Facilitator, Constituent Services Unit, Research Division, LCB	NYL Website Alumni Endorsement
Agenda Item IX-A	Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel, Legal Division, LCB	Proposed Bylaw Amendment
Agenda Item IX-B	Asher Killian, Legislative Counsel, Legal Division, LCB	Proposed Bylaws

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