



NEVADA LEGISLATURE SUNSET COMMITTEE

(Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] 232B.210)

MINUTES

May 22, 2026

The fourth meeting of the Sunset Committee for the 2025–2026 Interim was held on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 9 a.m. in Room 165, Nevada Legislature Office Building, 7230 Amigo Street, 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 recording of the meeting are available on the Committee's [meeting page](#). The video recording may also be found at <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Video/>. Copies of the video record can be obtained through the Publications Office of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) (publications@lcb.state.nv.us or 775/684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Assemblymember Shea M. Backus, Chair
Senator Roberta Lange
Senator Lori Rogich
Assemblymember Gregory T. Hafen II
Assemblymember Heidi Kasama (Alternate for Assemblymember PK O'Neill)
Assemblymember David Orentlicher
Assemblymember Erica P. Roth

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Senator Skip Daly, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Assemblymember PK O'Neill

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Jennifer Ruedy, Research Director, Research Division
Haley Proehl, Senior Principal Policy Analyst/GIS Specialist, Research Division
Virginia Weitzel, Research Policy Assistant, Research Division
Sarah Delap, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Kelsey DeLozier, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Wayne Thorley, Senate Fiscal Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division

Items taken out of sequence during the meeting have been placed in agenda order.
[Indicates clarification.]

AGENDA ITEM I—OPENING REMARKS

Chair Backus:

Good morning, and welcome to the fourth meeting of the Sunset Committee for the 2025–2026 Interim. Will the Secretary please call the roll?

[Roll call is reflected in Committee Members Present.]

We actually have all members present. We have Assemblymember Kasama sitting in today for Assemblymember O'Neill, so I thank her for appearing today with us.

Before we begin, I would like to make several housekeeping announcements. The agenda items may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more items may be combined in consideration. An item may be removed, or discussion of an item may be delayed at any time. Meeting materials can be accessed on the Committee's webpage located on the Nevada Legislature's website. You can also sign up for electronic notifications related to the Committee's activities on the Legislature's website as well. We will have a public comment period at the beginning and the end of the meeting. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker. Members of the public may provide testimony in different ways, all of which are listed on the agenda. Finally, I would like to remind members to please silence your electronic devices, especially cell phones and laptops, during the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM II—PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Backus:

With that, we will move on to public comment. I will start here. Before we start in Las Vegas, I would like to provide the call in contact if anyone is watching on YouTube or on the Legislature website. The telephone number for calling in for public comment today is (888) 475-4499 and the meeting ID is 822 5487 8159. Again, we will do public comment at the end of the meeting.

With that, I will go ahead and open up public comment here in Las Vegas. Anyone wishing to make public comment in Las Vegas, please make your way up to the front. Seeing no one, we will move to Carson City. Is there anyone in Carson City wishing to make public comment this morning? Seeing no one. AVH [Audio Visual and Hearings Unit], is there anyone on the telephone lines wishing to make public comment?

AVH, Information Technology Services, Administrative Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB):

Thank you, Chair. Our public lines are open and working. However, there are no callers for public comment at this time.

Chair Backus:

Thank you.

AGENDA ITEM III—APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 6, 2026

Chair Backus:

We will go ahead and move on to our next agenda item, [Agenda Item III](#), the approval of the minutes from the meeting on February 6, 2026. I will accept a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on February 6, 2026. Thank you, is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.]

SENATOR LANGE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 6, 2026.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER ROTH SECONDED THE MOTION.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM IV—PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING THE TERMINATION, MODIFICATION, CONSOLIDATION, OR CONTINUED OPERATION OF CERTAIN ENTITIES PURSUANT TO NEVADA REVISED STATUTES 232B.240

Chair Backus:

Next, we will go ahead and move on to Agenda Item IV. This is the time for public hearing concerning the termination, modification, consolidation, or continued operation of certain entities pursuant to NRS [*Nevada Revised Statutes*] 232B.240. All the documents that have been supplied are on the Committee's meeting page, including a document from staff providing background information on the legislative history for each entity ([Agenda Item IV A-1](#)) ([Agenda Item IV B-1](#)) ([Agenda Item IV C-1](#)). We have representatives from each entity joining us today to provide a brief overview and answer any questions. Today, we will go ahead and take the items in order as they are set forth in the agenda.

A. NEVADA INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION BOARD OF CONTROL (NEVADA REVISED STATUTES 385B.050)

Chair Backus:

We will go ahead and start with Agenda Item IV A, which is the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) Board of Control. We have presenters here in Las Vegas. I welcome Pamela Sloan, President of the NIAA Board of Control, Timothy J. Jackson, Executive Director of NIAA, Cate Sgroi, Assistant Director of NIAA, and Neil Rombardo, Legal Counsel, NIAA.

I understand we only have three seats. If there is a time you need someone else to make their way up to the front, we understand. With that, we always allow our boards to make opening remarks if you have any, and then we will dive into questions. Welcome.

Pamela Sloan, President, NIAA, Board of Control:

Good morning, Chairperson, and members of the Sunset Committee. I appreciate the opportunity to explain why the NIAA is vital and self-sustaining organization that serves as a cornerstone of the educational experience in Nevada.

As defined by NAC [*Nevada Administrative Code*] 385B.106 through 385B.116, the NIAA Board of Control serves as the primary policymaking and governing body for over 50,000 students across 124 member schools throughout the state. The Board of Control consists of 12 voting members representing four regions across our state, based on student population. Additionally, the Board of Control includes 12 nonvoting members. This ensures that every corner of Nevada has a vote in our athletic and activity programs. Voting members must be a school district board member, trustee, a superintendent, assistant or deputy superintendent, director of athletics within the school district, principal of a high school, or parent-guardian of a student athlete involved in a sanctioned sport. Nonvoting members represent leagues and associations that work closely with the NIAA. These individuals offer valuable input by gathering direct feedback from coaches and school personnel ([Agenda Item IV A-2](#)).

The Board of Control is a policymaking and governing body of the Association and its duties are defined in NAC 385B.114 and are as follows. Responsible for making new regulations and/or revising the leading existing regulations, hiring of an employee and an executive director, setting their salary, defining the powers and duties, providing an office and equipment for conducting business, adopting an annual budget and establishing dues for membership, assigning each member school to a classification and league, providing for the organization's supervision and certification of sports officials controlling all sanctioned activities in which member schools participate, and authorizing the Executive Director to investigate violations of rules and regulations. The Board of Control conducts four meetings each year in the fall, winter, spring, and summer, alternating locations between north and south.

In conclusion, the NIAA Board of Control is dedicated to promoting transparency and excellence. As a governing body for high school sports and activities in Nevada, the NIAA places great emphasis on student well-being and safety, upholding educational values, ensuring fair competition, and fostering academic excellence.

At this time, I would like to turn it over to Mr. Tim Jackson, Executive Director of the NIAA.

Timothy J. Jackson, Executive Director, NIAA:

Good morning. I am here to answer any questions you have pertaining to the NIAA and provide any clarity that you require.

Chair Backus:

Thank you so much, did our third guest want to make an introduction? You are good. When we ask questions, if someone is going to answer them and sometimes you all may bounce back and forth. It is not natural, but we would just ask that you state your name just so it makes it easier for those preparing our minutes to know who is responding to our inquiries. With that, I will look around. Does anyone have any questions? I will start with Senator Lange.

Senator Lange:

Thank you. My background is—I am a former phys ed [physical education] teacher at Durango High School. Very involved in athletics my whole life, played sports. I just want to talk about a couple of things that have been in the news in the last year, and one of them is Bishop Gorman football. I know it was a big thing, and schools did not want to play them because they have a very elite program. I would like to hear from you other than just

reading what I read in the paper about what the situation was there, how you arrived at the decision you arrived at? Because the reason it concerns me is that you have a lot of travel teams with coaches that coach in the schools, that recruit those kids to come to their schools, which makes them an elite program as well. I really truly feel bad for the students who work really hard to participate in interscholastic activities in our state, who now other schools do not want to play them because they feel like they are always going to lose. If you could fill me in on that a little bit so I can have a better understanding?

Executive Director Jackson:

That is a very good question. As a former Durango employee myself—ironic, is it not? Small world. I think that question needs to be answered on multiple levels. First and foremost, the NIAA did not make the determination that the CCSD [Clark County School District] schools were going to go independent, which is what they chose to do. That is a status that is available under our regulations for them to do that. They are still members in good standing within our association. The decision there was made based on their assessment of their athletic program in football and their belief—and I will say it is a belief, it is not a fact, that they are being out recruited by a member school. All allegations of recruiting are investigated and are regulated by our association. Bishop Gorman High School is a member in good standing. We have no allegation that we can substantiate of any active recruiting, and they are all investigated.

I will tell you that the historical significance of this decision goes back many years to when a decision was made by CCSD to only play Bishop Gorman High School in league competition. That was years ago, I would say 20. That decision pushed Bishop Gorman's football program into a decision where they either had to not play games or find teams to play that were no longer located in Clark County. That began their journey where they began playing teams from out-of-state. Apologies, I have dry mouth this morning. As a result, they experienced—I would love some water, thank you. I should have brought a bottle myself. I appreciate that, Senator.

What they did was they sought out competition out-of-state, and they experienced success in those games. Bishop Gorman is not alone in their standing within our state as a dominant program. There are other programs that are just as dominant. If you look at girls' basketball, Centennial High School has won numerous state titles. Coronado golf dominates, Palo Verde swimming, Coronado swimming just won it is fifth consecutive state title. I think the issue you see here is football is a very media savvy sport; it is in the media. There are teams across our state that are dominant in many sports, but the publicity behind football has driven this decision, I believe, for the state of Nevada and for the Clark County School District.

Also, it should be noted that most of the schools that have chosen to go independent are not only not in the league, they are not even in the division that Gorman plays. There is no possibility they would play that team. To say they would have no opportunity for success against one entity is kind of misguided. They do not even play. I think that those things are out there. The other issue is this, I do not believe everything I read in the media, and I can attest that there were a lot of comments made by a lot of individuals that are not factual. Contact us, we will tell you what is going on, we will tell you where the NIAA stands on this. Like I started out, CCSD is still a member in good standing across the board. There is no problem with their programs. What they are utilizing has been a category that has existed for many schools that are going through developmental changes, growth, or loss of student population. I know that is kind of a vague answer, but I can get into more details if you would like.

Senator Lange:

Thank you. Can I ask another question? My other question is about the NAIA [sic] and how—what kinds of training do you provide for coaches? There have been allegations of abuse, shall we say? Or inappropriate behavior. There is a court case in the courts right now. How do you address that as an organization?

Executive Director Jackson:

I do not believe we provide enough. I am going to be very frank and very honest. We provide a lot of educational opportunities for administrators and athletic directors. We are not into the coaches ranks as much as I believe we should be. Now, there are a lot of reasons for that. One is the sheer volume of individuals that we would need to be in contact with. It is better suited for the schools to provide their own education for the coaches.

We do require some background information, CPR [cardiopulmonary resuscitation], AED [automated external defibrillator], Coaches Clearance. We provide some tertiary educational opportunities. We strive to provide opportunities for our schools to provide opportunity for education for their coaches, but we do not have the capacity to get to the coaches the way we should. We rely on the schools and the school districts to coach up their coaches, but there are programs out there that we strive to use.

The NIAAA—not NIAA—NIAAA, is the National Association for Athletic Administrators and Athletic Directors [sic]. They provide coaches education through a platform of national training. The NFHS, the National Federation of High School Athletics [sic], provides coaches trainings. We have an organization that we work very closely with in our office called NADA, Nevada Athletic Directors Association, where we provide as much education as we can there. We have increased our educational opportunities, we have increased our educational awareness, and we have provided our schools and our districts a platform—if you will, a library of educational tools. We have also implemented what we call the summer institutes which are free to our schools that provide them the tools to run an effective athletic program which involves your coaches.

At the end, the coaches are not our employees, they are the district employees, but we need to help them and foster that and grow that. That is a definite area that I strive to do in my short tenure of two years. I believe the educational component that we provide at the NIAA is insufficient, but we need to be able to provide that in a manner that meets those needs. Coaches and coaches' behaviors are direct reflection on our schools. The direct reflection then comes back on the NIAA. We need to make it better.

Senator Lange:

Thank you. Just as a follow up to that, so am I hearing you correctly that there is currently no regulation as to, you have to have a certain amount of hours in certain classes that coaches have to take in order to maintain their status as coach? Is there any of that, or is it up to the school districts?

Executive Director Jackson:

There is a minimal amount for us. You have to have your AED and CPR certification. You have to take your coach's education, and you have to take concussion management. Those are the required—

Cate Sgroi, Assistant Director, NIAA:

The four requirements are first aid, CPR, which is every two years. Concussion, they have to do every three years, and then fundamentals of coaching is a one-time course that they have to take.

Executive Director Jackson:

Then if a coach is ejected from a game, there is a required educational component they take there as well, of course through the NFHS.

Senator Lange:

Thank you so much.

Chair Backus:

Members, I will start with Assemblymember Kasama.

Assemblymember Kasama:

Thank you Chair. I am just wondering if you could elaborate a little bit more, kind of following on my colleague's questions here. As far as the—you are collecting money from all the school districts, yet my understanding is, for example, Bishop Gorman is one that is charging to use the facilities. How do you pick where the games are played and is that unfair when the other schools are not doing that?

Executive Director Jackson:

First, Bishop Gorman does not charge us to use the facilities.

Assemblymember Kasama:

They do not?

Executive Director Jackson:

They do not. We are charged to use facilities through Facilitron through CCSD, which is for their security, and the home monitors, and custodial. I will tell you that is a substantial amount of money each season.

Assemblymember Kasama:

Every school where you play has a certain charge, is that correct?

Executive Director Jackson:

Not every school. Only certain schools do charge us. We play at many schools for free, they do not charge us for the use of their facility, Bishop Gorman is one of them. Examples of when they would charge us outside of a rental fee—and I am using the term rental fee because that would be the cost for the security, the CSMS', custodial, and any wear and tear that they charge us for on that would be a situation where we have a heated rivalry and the district says, "Tim, can we have some extra security?" Absolutely, we will pay for that, do not worry about it, we have got it. Or, if we need some additional custodial, we will pick up that. Those are far and few between.

I will tell you we are running into a price situation where we are being priced out of venues. That is a very big question our parents ask us often. Allegiant Stadium is gorgeous, and we play state football there, and we play state flag football there. The cost to the Association for the use of that facility is completely picked up for by the Raiders. We do not pay for that; they open their doors. The only people we pay for in those situations is we bring in our own announcer and we pay for our announcer or any staffing requirements we would have. They pay the entire bill; we do not see a bill from the stadium. That is not the case, we used UNLV [University of Nevada, Las Vegas] this past weekend for swimming state. We used Pavilion Pool up by Palo Verde High School for swimming. We are paying rental fees that are very expensive for those facilities.

We had parents reach out and ask us why we were not playing baseball at CSN [College of Southern Nevada] and UNLV. We were not able to secure those venues six months ago when we were trying to secure the venue for the state championship because they were unavailable at the time, but there are other times we are priced out. It is very expensive to secure those facilities. We do not work on a very large budget, and I will be glad to go over the budget with you at any time, but that is the case we are reaching. We are running into; we cannot afford to go play our games. With the costs that we are experiencing now with some of our public-school facilities, we are getting priced out there as well. We have had almost \$120,000 in security, custodial, and other fees beyond what we have to pay for officials, and medals, and awards, and the other things that go into running a state championship, it is getting very expensive.

We are very thankful for schools like Bishop Gorman that allow us to use their facility for free and many of our other school districts across the state that do the same thing. Most of them view it as we are already playing our games, we are already picking up this cost, we are not going to pass the cost back off onto the NIAA. But some school districts are in that situation where they must, and we do not begrudge them. We understand it costs to do business, but at the same time we are having to look at our costs and we are spreading ourselves very thin. We had five divisions of baseball and softball, so in essence, ten. We were at Faith Lutheran High School, Las Vegas High School, Sierra Vista High School, Needles High School, Spanish Springs High School, and I am missing one because we had an odd number, but we were all over the place playing baseball and softball because we cannot afford to secure a single venue that can meet our needs for our state championship just in baseball.

Assemblymember Kasama:

Do you receive any state funding?

Executive Director Jackson:

No, ma'am. We receive zero state funding. Our funding—we have three funding streams. We have student—we have school dues; our schools pay a due. It is a flat rate for schools under 650, it is \$1,400 and then for schools at 651 and above it is \$4 per student, generates around \$550,000 a year. We have our partnership agreements, so sponsorship that generates around \$280,000 a year give or take, sometimes it is a little higher, never lower. We are very fortunate there, and then our gate receipts for our state championship games at the venues that we host.

Our general operating budget runs just shy—sort of north—of \$2 million and then we pay our bills out of that, but that is the only funding we receive.

Chair Backus:

We will go to Assemblymember Hafen.

Assemblymember Hafen:

Thank you, Chair. I do have a few questions, just cut me off whenever you want me to stop asking them. First of all, Mr. Jackson, I just want to say thank you for some of the history lessons. I, 25 years ago, graduated from Bishop Gorman and I remember us not being very good in football at least. I think that we had not won a state championship since the 80s, probably before I was born, prior to the changes with the Clark County School District 20 years ago. I just want to say thank you for that because I do know that did take place and that we were not very good.

The other thing I wanted to mention on that is that I also remember our football games. We did not have a football stadium at that time, we had played at Valley High School, and I do not believe that Valley charged us for that. You would have to go back 25 years and look, but to me that was a good experience. It was fun and I am kind of disappointed to hear that now the school districts are charging for that, for the NIAA, for state championships. It is also my understanding that they will not let the charter schools, and charters are now having to rent parks and facilities and running into the same issues that you are. Kind of disappointed that we do not come together as a community and share our facilities. They are all taxpayer funded facilities, and I wish that we could get back to that.

My question on that, is there a way through the NIAA to create regulations to try to address that so you are not having to pay rental fees to the schools if they want to participate in the state championship or in the playoffs? That they have to let you use their facilities if they have home field advantage. That is my question to you, can that be done through regs [regulations] under current statute or are there statutory changes that need to be made to try to address that?

Executive Director Jackson:

Currently, most of our leagues in the postseason do play at the higher seed site, so they do have that understanding that they are going to host. As far as the regulation for them to provide that for us free of charge, there is no regulation that says they have to do that. There also is no regulation that says they have to charge. I do not know what we would get as far as pushback on that, because they do have their costs that they need to recoup, and we are the guest on their site. I understand that. Look, I get that when we host our event there, we are putting a strain on their facility. We understand that and they have to pay their personnel as well. I do not know if the regulatory way is to do it. I think that what you said earlier about us working together, when I took over this job, there was a divide, north to south. Whether it was real or perceived, my goal has always been to try to bridge that gap, to bridge the north and the south. That we look at this as what is the best for the students of Nevada and not what is the best for the students in the south or the north or in our rural areas.

Unfortunately, I think that gap is getting wider and not getting narrower. I think we need to work on bridging that and I think this is one of those things that we need to look at. One of the complaints we often hear is, well you have teams that are playing games in the park and there is no security at that park, but why are they playing the games at the park? It is because we cannot get onto the facility, they cannot get onto the facilities. I do not know

that is going to be exacerbated or eased if we regulate it in that manner. I think they need to get together.

I mean, they need to look at, these are our kids. I hear the comment too many times, it is not good for kids. Well, these adult issues are not good for kids. We are using kids as pawns for a political game of I do not want to lose or I need to win, and that is not right, and it is very frustrating. If we were to have a regulation, I think it would have to be very well crafted because I think one of the issues we are going to run into is we still need security. What I do not want to get to a point is districts are financially strapped. We understand that it is a tough time right now. We cannot host him; we cannot afford it. Now, you are punishing your kids for this issue as well. Right now, we are covering it, but it is getting more and more difficult. It is getting more and more expensive. But at the same time, I do not know if regulation is the way to go on that matter.

Assemblymember Hafen:

Thank you for that. You said that there is no regulation that would prevent them from charging, but there is also nothing that allows them to charge. If there is nothing allowing them to charge, I am curious how they are getting around that and charging? The other thing on that is the cost of security. My understanding is there is the Clark County School District Police. I would just assume that is part of their job duties when it is a Clark County School District facility, but I do not know enough about that. I am sure you do not have the answer on the authority for them to charge, but maybe you could bring that back.

The other question that I wanted to touch on is a situation that took place that was brought to my attention recently in Fallon, where we recently implemented the lacrosse as of a sanctioned sport. There is one student that—in Fallon, they do not have, the school district does not have lacrosse, but the charter does. That student has been playing at the charter. Now, there are concerns that next season that student most likely will not be allowed to participate. I was hoping maybe you could give me a little bit more background information and hopefully there is a way to ensure that student can participate as we try to, at least in this transition period, moving to the sanctioned sport. The last thing that I think any of us want is for students not to be able to participate in sports that they have been for the last three years.

Executive Director Jackson:

I am going to turn this over to Ms. Sgroi, Assistant Director. She handles regulation and she can walk you through the regulation that we are dealing with, and we are aware of the situation.

Assistant Director Sgroi:

In general, regulation NAC 385B.706 requires that a student attend the school in which they wish to participate in. We have some exceptions to our regulations involving students that, for instance, attend a charter school. If that charter school does not offer the sport, then they can participate at their locally zoned district public high school. We do not have the reverse in this situation, and it has actually been brought up at our Board of Control. Some member schools have basically, our public schools have said, "I do not offer bowling at my school, but my students at my public school cannot go anywhere else to do bowling." This was more of the argument to not allow charter students to be able to play at public schools. There has been some pushback actually on that end, but what we are talking about is the reverse. We currently do not have a regulation that would allow a public-school student to

go anywhere else to participate in a sport that is not offered at that school, unless they are attending a school that has 30 or fewer students and that is per NRS 385B.065, I believe it is. That was passed—I think—about ten years or so ago. They have to have a very small school to allow them to participate anywhere else if they are at a public school. Those are the regulations that are at play here, so there is really no exception through our regulations to allow those students to participate.

We understand obviously with it having been club prior, that students are participating from different schools on the club programs. Now that it is fully sanctioned, they are under our regulations, so this is a bit of a change for them in where if a student that the school is not going to be offering that sport that would not be able to play on a high school team versus when they were able to play for the club program.

Assemblymember Hafen:

Thank you for that. Just follow up Chair. On that, again, I am going back 25 years in my memory, so apologize. I just remember when I was in high school, I had friends that went to Las Vegas Academy. They did not have a football team, so they were able to play on—I believe he played for Valley High School actually at the time. Is that still the case with the magnet schools, so the magnet schools can still go and participate that way?

Assistant Director Sgroi:

Currently, any school that does not offer sports at all—that is a public school, a public magnet program, or a charter school—public charter school always has that ability to participate at their locally zoned school. Private schools do not, unless again, they are under the 30 threshold.

Assemblymember Hafen:

I would just encourage you guys to look at the regulations to try to fix this situation in Fallon. My last question, Chair. Just because I do not know the makeup of the Board, but in regards to the charter school situation here, does the charter actually have a seat on the board, or no?

Executive Director Jackson:

Currently, no, they do not. Our current makeup of the Board is 12 members, 3 of which are parents. The three parents come from three distinct regions. One is Clark County, the other is Washoe, and the third is a conglomerate of our rural communities, counties. They picked the third parent. Then the remaining five, that leaves five seats—nine seats, excuse me. Five seats are at the behest of Clark County School District, they have five. Washoe has two, and then the rural counties have one each, as they are grouped together, which is in our regulations. Which regulation is that Ms. Sgroi, 212?

Assistant Director Sgroi:

It is 112, I believe, or 106, 108 go over the voting and nonvoting members.

Executive Director Jackson:

Those are our 12 voting members. Currently, the private schools and the charter schools do not have a voting seat.

Assemblymember Hafen:

I know we get to make recommendations from the Sunset Committee at the end of this, but 12 seems like an even number, and an odd number would be good. Maybe throw in the charters and/or the privates to try to split the tie in the event there is one. Just throw that out for food for thought. Chair, I want to thank you for allowing me the time this morning.

Chair Backus:

Absolutely. I may piggyback on Assemblymember Hafen's question just because I have a follow up with that. I was looking at—I thought at the beginning of the introduction remarks that Ms. Sloan had indicated the seats were proportional to student pop [population], maybe they were that way, I do not know how many years ago. But I pulled up what our student populations were for these different categories and I grouped them together. I am not sure about the public schools because I did just a generic Google search on that, and that was about 22,000 students. Then, there is this quasi situation where I do not know if it goes from private schools, but I know for our charter schools. If you are going to a charter school that does not have a sport, like one of my girlfriend's children swam for one of our public schools because that is the school she would have been zoned for. The charter schools are actually our second largest school district in our state, making up about 70,000 student population. Clark County is right under 300,000. I call it our northwest counties, make up about 15,000. All other rurals are about 30,000, and Washoe at 63,000. Definitely the makeup of the Board I do not think is proportional to student population. Do you have any idea whether it is proportional, maybe to student athlete population?

Executive Director Jackson:

It is not by participation. If it were, I think we would be in a situation that would be rather unique. I can tell you that we know, a Moapa Valley High School percentage of students participating in athletics is far higher than some of our largest high schools in the Clark County School District just because the number of kids they have. We go to a school like Lund; you may be looking at almost every kid in your school as an athlete just to field your teams. I think that we have had this discussion before internally and with the Board we have started the discussions on this. We live in a bicameral country. We have the House of Representatives, which is by population, and we have the Senate, which is by state. I am a firm believer in the NIAA being represented in a Senate matter. We are not saying one school is more important than another school simply because of the number of students who attend it. You are densely populated; you are going to have more density of students. I believe that we need to look at that very well and very deeply because first of all, I do not like 12. I agree, I am an odd number guy. It breaks ties. I would have loved to have a 13th vote or just an 11th vote. I think once we get past 12, our Board may be getting too large for what we do.

If you are asking me whether I think we are representative of our members, I do not. I do not think we have—we need to have the voice of our charter schools. They are the second largest district in our state now. Our private schools' members are now making up 16 percent of our 129 members. Our largest number is Clark County with 38, but that is 29.45, 29.5, 30 percent of our schools. They right now have 6 of the 12 votes. I think that is a discussion that needs to be had.

Chair Backus:

If there is any way—do you guys have a spreadsheet that shows us two different things? One, where the member schools are located and basically also looking at the number of student athletes? This may be a little complicated because I am kind of curious, even with our charter schools, of those charter schools that may flow into one of the public-school districts. I do not know if you have that information, but I think probably members on our Committee would like to see that knowing what the makeup is. Probably, the makeup was done years ago when charter schools were not as big in our state as well as private schools. I remember, I am just like my colleague Assemblymember Hafen, but I am probably 35 years out from going to a public school when Gorman was doing quite well in sports. I think at the time their sport of choice was basketball. I know some of the other public schools gave a run for the money, but maybe that is why the regs [regulations] had come into play shortly after that.

[Subsequent to the meeting, Executive Director Jackson submitted follow-up information regarding the breakdown of member schools by classification and location and participation numbers by school and district ([Agenda Item IV A-3](#)).]

With that, I will go to Assemblymember Roth for some questions.

Assemblymember Roth:

Thank you, Chair. Just a few questions. In 2022, the Nevada Legislature—we passed in Nevada, the Equal Rights Amendment. It is the most expansive amendment that we have seen in this country. Part of that amendment protects individuals on the basis of gender identity. Now, in 2025, it is my understanding that your organization, or your body, overturned a decades-long policy which allowed transgender athletes to participate in sports in the State of Nevada. A few questions specifically on how that came about. Can you tell me what, if any, government agencies, or representatives you worked with to come up with the language for that?

Executive Director Jackson:

The Board addressed that issue last April on the tails of the President's Executive Order. There was ample discussion amongst the Board, there was some discussion with some outside entities and some other groups that provided input. They did not make the final determination that was made by the Board. I cannot tell you the name right now off the top of my head, I apologize. I cannot remember the name of one of the groups that they talked to, but they did talk to a few other groups out there. The decision to move in that direction—I think it is very important to understand that transgender students were not told they were not permitted to participate. The decision and the policy that was implemented was that they participated in their gender at birth. That was the change that came in alignment with the Executive Order, and it has been in place now for over a year, and it was a change. I do not disagree that it was a change. We do not track the gender identity of students. We do not track that, nor should we. The identity of the students is never divulged and the protocols in which this policy was amended was correctly done; public forum, with a vote of the Board. It is a policy, and I will—I am on the record having said whether I agree or disagree with it.

The President of the United States made an Executive Order. We follow the rule of law and that is where we stand on that. I can provide you any other information you would like, but I do not have that with me at my hands.

Assemblymember Roth:

I have a few follow-ups. I have the privilege of being a constitutional lawyer and one of those things I have learned is that we focus first on what the *Constitution* says. Now, the *Constitution of the State of Nevada* protects students based on their gender identity. That is in direct conflict with the Executive Order that was issued by Donald Trump. My concern is that whether or not there have been any state agencies or individuals representing the State of Nevada who participated in drafting this language. What I am hearing is that there are no state agencies, for example, or offices, such as the Lieutenant Governor's Office, who participated in moving this policy forward.

Executive Director Jackson:

I can tell you I did not work with the Lieutenant Governor's Office. The group that was with us at that time—thank you Ms. Sgroi for this—was called ICONS [Independent Council on Women's Sports]. I do not believe he is a part of that group. If he is, I was not aware of that. No, I was going to say that there was no—I know he testified before our—he made public comment before a couple of our meetings and but there were other students and other parents that made public comment. I am going through the last couple of meetings before the April decision was made, but we did not work with—nor did I work with, or anybody on my staff work with—the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

Assemblymember Roth:

Then the previous policy was put in place in 2016. It was in place from 2016 to 2025, which allowed students to participate in the sport as the gender in which they identified. How many injuries occurred during that time that was a direct result of a student participating as the gender in which they expressed?

Executive Director Jackson:

We do not track that. We would not have that information. I do not have the—we do not track who injured who.

Assemblymember Roth:

And you are aware that the ACLU [American Civil Liberties Union] and other organizations have found that this change is blatantly unconstitutional.

Executive Director Jackson:

I cannot say that I have, but I am telling you that from our standpoint we followed the directive of the Executive Order.

Assemblymember Roth:

Thank you.

Chair Backus:

We will go next to Assemblymember Orentlicher.

Assemblymember Orentlicher:

Thank you, Chair, and thank you for the presentation. As you mentioned, you are fiscally, in a sense, self-sustaining. No state dollars, it is sponsorships, dues, and ticket sales. You have also talked about the economic pressures on the schools, and that is what is led to these rental fees and other problems where they hold their gains. I am wondering if you can speak to the extent to which these financial pressures end up diverting funds? The schools have to come up—the school districts, the schools—to cover their costs for athletics, what are they sacrificing? Does this mean there is less music and arts? Do you know how they are—what kind of cost shifting is going on?

Executive Director Jackson:

I cannot address it on a district level. I can tell you that I have heard clearly from the superintendents that the travel budgets are starting to impact their abilities to meet their budgetary needs. I do not have any firsthand knowledge that they are having to cut programs to sustain athletics, but I do know that they are feeling that pinch as well because of the cost associated with traveling for state competitions. As a former assistant principal over athletics at a high school for many years, I can tell you that the per diem rates for traveling with our students is starting to impact their budgets. I can tell you that the time away from class impacts schools greatly. When we do not have centralized venues where we can get kids to and from, they are out of school way too much. Some of them are traveling Thursday, Friday. Some of them are traveling Wednesday, Thursday, Friday on a shortened week as it is. I know those impact budgets as well, but I cannot give you any direct correlation between a music program being cut and a football team being funded.

Chair Backus:

Thank you for that, Mr. Jackson. I think it is really interesting when—I think in Clark County we do not really appreciate what our rural counties go through for travel. I remember I was up at the Owyhee Combined School and one of my friend's kids was playing volleyball. I feel like they had to travel to—they were traveling to Ely or something to play a game and that is a very long drive. I do not think people appreciate that a lot of our students that may not be in the Clark County, or the Washoe school districts, or even in our wonderful northwest rural area, the amount of travel that is required. That visual is always kind of something we have to continue to think about for other athletes throughout our state. Those budgets are probably a little more difficult when you have fewer students within your school district. Thank you for reminding us of that.

With that, I will go ahead up to Senator Daly who has some questions for you from Carson City.

Senator Daly:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I know there has been several issues discussed, but I wanted to go back real quick to the charging for the facilities and those types of things. Now, I understand during the regular season that there is not charges for that. It is mainly for playoffs, and championships, and those types of events after the regular season?

Executive Director Jackson:

Yes, that is correct. We do not regulate—we do not facilitate or regulate the regular season contests; those are at the schools. They conduct those in their own manner. We are the

postseason; we do postseason only. That is where the costs come in. What occurs during the regular season is borne out by the school districts themselves.

Senator Daly:

Understood, and I just wanted to be clear on that. That is what I was understanding from reading and from what the conversation was today. Separate question along that line, and I know different events are different. You talked about football getting the public attention. I am sure some of the programs for basketball, baseball, the major sports, on those championship type things, is there a gate? Is there a ticket cost to get into those events? Who administers that and who gets to keep the gate? Is it the venue, or is it the NIAA? Could that be an offset if the school is keeping the gate and charging? I do not know how much it would be, probably less for some other smaller sports.

Executive Director Jackson:

Thank you. The gate is one of the three sources of revenue we have. If we were to give that up, we would be in very bad shape. We do charge a gate at all events except for a very select few. We do not charge for cross country because it is usually held in a park, and it becomes very cumbersome to try to figure out where we are going to stop people from coming into a park. We have looked at that.

We do not charge for bowling. However, we are charged to use the bowling alleys. We have not yet charged at bowling. Those are not venues that we readily have access to charge at. There are some venues that we have trouble charging when we go there. For example, if a venue has a ticketing agreement with an entity that is outside of our ticketing agreement, we may not be able to use that entity. We worked with a venue in Nevada where they had a ticketing deal, regardless of what we charged they were going to put \$4 on top of every ticket sold. Our student athletes, or our students that come to games only pay \$5, so we would only be making \$1 for the sale. We could not afford that, and we did not want to put \$4 on top of that charge for a single game event, making it a \$9 entry for a student. We run into situations like that. We hire people to take the tickets at the games. Usually, they are the staff at the venue, the school will hire them out. We pay them an hourly wage. The schools tell us what to pay and we pay that amount. Some schools do not charge us for that. Some schools just say, "Nope. You know what, it is part of doing business, we will do it for free." And they do not send us a bill for that.

If we were to lose our ticket sales, the NIAA would be in a very bad financial situation. We are looking at about \$1.3 million probably this year in ticket sales. That is over half of our operating budget at \$2 million. We could not afford to lose those. We do not charge an exorbitant price. It is \$12 for adults, \$5 for students. We are in line with all of our neighbors here on the west coast. California, it might be a little bit higher, but Arizona, Washington, Utah, they are right around that same amount. In some cases, you are getting multiple events for the price of one. You go to a baseball game; you may see three baseball games for the price of one. Now, we do have a higher ticket price for when we go to Allegiant Stadium for football. It is four games. The reason we do that is part of the agreement is the Raider Youth Foundation, which supports youth across our state with shoes, gear, helmets, equipment. It is \$2 for every ticket we sell, so we raised the price of our ticket for that with the donation going directly back to the Raiders Youth Foundation, because we know that means dollar for dollar it is going right back to our kids. To me that is a good investment in our future. As far as not selling tickets, or giving the ticket sales to the schools, that would be a financial demise to the NIAA.

Senator Daly:

Thank you for that explanation and that is where I was, not based on the discussion we had of the charging the schools. I did not know who, or at least it was not clear, who was taking the gate, if you will. I was just curious if schools were charging a fee to use the facility and they also got the gates, but you are saying that is not the case, so I understand that a little more clearly. It is an issue that I am not sure—we need to think of a way to help solve that on a variety of levels, but I have not got a clear idea just yet.

Going back to one of the previous discussions on the Board. I understand your analogy, House of Representatives versus the Senate makeup, and it seems to me that the Senate makeup is going to make a little more sense. I agree with you there. Having 12, and you mentioned not going to 13, maybe going back down to 11. Do you—it seems to me when I look at the makeup of the voting members, and not necessarily the makeup, just the numbers, and then the nonvoting members. I mean, you are at 25 people. That seems a little unyielding to me and everybody has got their little different interests and areas of concern, and they are trying to influence things to their favor rather than looking at the overall purpose of the NIAA and going forward that way. Do you think the Board voting, nonvoting, needs to be reviewed and looked at and overhauled a little bit to get everybody's focus back on to the primary reasons we have this and what those objectives are? Rather than—when I look at all these nonvoting members coming from all of the different contingencies if you will, it seems to me that purpose gets clouded.

Executive Director Jackson:

I would say clouded is a very generous term for what it becomes. To say the Board is too big is an understatement. It is entirely too big. That is probably not going to be very popular with my Board when I leave this meeting that I just said that publicly in this hearing, and I am okay with that. Because here is where I have a problem. We need to check our hat at the door. We are a Board of Control for the students of the NIAA. We are not a Board of Control for any individual entity within the NIAA. That change in mentality or that change of thinking is very difficult. I think that is what has happened, is we have become fractured and factioned. I hear too many times, I have to remember where I came from. You came from Nevada, you came from the State of Nevada, you were put on this Board for that purpose, and I think that has been lost.

I think we also need to have a Board training so that we can get back to what the purpose of the Board is. What is your role as a Board member? What are your goals and objectives, and what are we trying to accomplish? Because too much of it has become, I have to vote this way or I have to vote that way because of where I come from, instead of looking at it for the entirety of the state. It is not a very popular opinion, and I am sure I will hear about it later, but I stand by it, and I still believe it.

I applied for this job on the basis that I was going to be accused of being a southern guy, and I would do everything in my power to break that mold, that I was a Nevada guy. I want to be that Nevada guy, but I also need a Board that needs to be the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association, and there is no district identified in those four letters. No high school, no county, nothing. It says Nevada, and we need to get there, and I do not know if we are there right now. We are looking at—as a staff, we are looking at trying to have some Board governance training going into the new year because I believe we need it. I think there is a good proponent or a good proportion of our Board members that would agree with that.

We are going to have some change on our Board. Some people term out, and some people are being replaced. I think the time is right for that, but I do believe the makeup of our Board and our nonvoting liaisons has become too cumbersome, and too large.

Senator Daly:

And clouded, maybe I was trying to be generous. I did not want to accuse anybody of only looking after their own self-interest by and through this Board. I do think the main purpose, and I agree with what you said—it is the Nevada NIAA, Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association, and we should look at it from that and then look at what the purposes are and not regionalize. Then, when I look at your 13—I think—nonvoting members and the different interests there on that. I think that needs to be looked at and I will be back to that in just a minute.

A couple more questions if I can, more technical questions. I believe it is on the first document, Item IV A-1, on page three, where it says the Board may—and I would like a little more explanation or understanding. I looked at and read the rules that you are listing there where it says you may amend any regulation adopted by the NIAA in the manner prescribed in 385B.142. When I looked at that, I think it refers back to the 233B language. But to me, that language seems to be contradictory to what the normal process is for amending in a regulation. I always get cautious about the adoption of regulations, the process that regulations get adopted under, and then always cautious about how those amendments get changed or amended. I believe they have to come back to the Legislative Commission. I just looked at that and said, “How can you adopt regulations outside of 233B?”, was news to me.

Executive Director Jackson:

I am going to turn this over to Assistant Director Sgroi.

Assistant Director Sgroi:

Thank you for the question, Senator Daly. You are correct that we do follow all Chapter 233, all the requirements for regulation changes. A change can come to us through a member school, it can come through our Board of Control, through the superintendents. Those changes go to a committee that we have to discuss, and then we make suggestions to the Board. Then I will present—from the point of the committee—those regulations to the Board of Control and we follow all posting as far as workshops, hearings, timelines for all of that. All the public libraries get that information. We take public comment at those workshops and hearings. The Board of Control then makes decisions on whether or not to move forward. I will then work with the LCB for the legislative writing of those regulations and that back and forth until it gets returned back to the Board, again, then for a decision on moving forward with the regulation. We go through that entire process and then at the end, once the Board has finalized the language, it comes to the Legislative Commission hearing for final approval. There are no changes to regulations that go outside of that program, that process.

Senator Daly:

Understood, thank you. It is more of a process where you can receive suggestions to make amendments to regulations. You have a committee that then will say, “We like this, we do not like that.” But then you have to go through the notice, workshop, hearing, adoption, and then you got to send it on to LCB to go through the Legislative Commission. I think I

understand that. When I read that I just was not—that is why I asked for a little additional explanation, but that I think was answered.

Then in the next document, in IV 2-A, I think it is the question 15. When I was looking at the duties of the board, commission, or entity, you have NRS 385B.0501, and then you say NRS 385B.114. I could not find that. Is that supposed to be NAC which gives you the other duties of the board, commissions, or entities?

Assistant Director Sgroi:

Yes, the second is NAC 385B.114. That is our regulation within Chapter 385B.

Senator Daly:

So, that should read NAC rather than NRS in that particular spot?

Assistant Director Sgroi:

Yes.

Senator Daly:

That is what I was suspecting, but was not exactly sure. Then the last one, I told you I would come back to the Board makeup and various things if I can, Madam Chair. I think this is my last one. I read Section 27 where you guys go through pretty lengthy and details on some possible recommendations or issues, I suppose. Then when you get to Section 28, it says recommended statutory changes necessary to carry out objectives and programs. You say see above, which I am assuming is 27. But there is nothing specific in there when I read all of Section 27 that you are saying, "We would like to see this, we would like to see that." I think you described some issues or experiences, but I did not see a specific ask. I was just curious what, if anything, do you have? If you have got some ideas on the makeup of the Board to get that Senate style, and get it more focused on the actual purposes and duties of the NIAA. I would love to hear what you guys are closest to it, what that recommendation is. I understand you have got Board members that you have got to worry about and various things, but the Legislature does not have that same worry. We want to know what is going to be best for the state and the students. I think I speak for everybody on our Committee.

Executive Director Jackson:

I think the Board is too big. I think that right now we have—we are too large for what we have in place. I think the—I want to remove the liaison factor from that. Take those positions and just push those to the side, because I do believe that they serve a purpose that is very important, but I think we need to look at the voting members and the representation that they have right now. The three parents are set into statute, so those three are, in my estimation, locked. Those are the three. I will tell you that we have been very fortunate over the course of the years with the parents. I think we have been very beneficial from the parents being on our Board. They have been very productive and very good members, and they are able to check their hat at the door, to turn a phrase again.

I think what we need to look at, Senator, is we need to look at who we are representing and make decisions of what the Board makeup would be based on those percentages. As I have stated before, I believe that we look at it from the system of the representation of our charter schools needs to have a voice. They need to have a vote. Our private schools need

to have a vote. That is 2 seats right there of the 12 that need to be changed in one way or another. Where do those changes come from? I think you need to look at the public-school representation on the Board. Right now, the two identified districts are Washoe and Clark that are minus the parents are seven seats. Do they make up over one-half of our schools? I do not believe they do. I believe we need to look at those numbers and say, should we adjust them one way or the other? I do not want to sit down and say it needs to be four for Clark County, it needs to be two for Washoe County, it needs to be one. I think we need to have a conversation. I think the Board needs to look at this and say to themselves, are we willing to change? Change from within is always the best. I think that is a scary topic for some people.

The Board makeup, minus the parents, was established when the NIAA was formed. It never changed; it has always been that way. That was in 19—if I am not mistaken—71. That was 55 years ago. Nevada has changed in 55 years, so I think we need to look at it from that way. I think it is something we can work on. I think it is something we need to work on. I think that legislatively, I think we can work with the Legislature in perhaps rewriting those regulations to meet the dynamic that has changed in Nevada.

Senator Daly:

Thank you. I know there was quite a bit in that Section 27. I will reread it again and I am sure our Chair will be reviewing that when we get to our work session portion of this Committee later in the year. To me, it is like I said, everybody knows I am not a big fan of charter schools, but I think they should be represented as well. I think the private schools, you make a good point. To the extent that a lot of those charter schools are already in Clark County, some of the private schools and there is that breakdown there and you mentioned the stuff about how many student athletes there are, rural versus some of the higher population schools in Clark and in Washoe. There needs to be that balance, I agree. But it seems to me that if you are saying, "We are going to add a charter school deal." And 80 percent of the charter schools are in Clark County, that Clark County is still going to be represented, just from a different perspective or a different set of schools. I would hope you guys could come up with some type of, at least, back of the napkin recommendation on how to look at this so we can propose some legislation. I think the Board is too big with basically 25 people voting and nonvoting people and cannot be managed properly and meet the objectives. That was all I had, Madam Chair. Thank you.

Chair Backus:

Thank you so much, Senator Daly, and I think I am probably the last to ask a couple questions. I am hoping that we can, hopefully, move this along quickly, so short answers would be appreciated if possible. One, I was curious because I keep thinking about this change with Clark County School District principals taking out the football from the NIAA. I keep thinking, is this going to lead to basketball leaving, other sports leaving? My first question is, with respect to liability insurance at sporting events, is that something that the NIAAA covers or does the school itself carry their own insurance?

Executive Director Jackson:

The schools carry their own insurance.

Chair Backus:

Thank you, that was one question. The other question I had was, and I know that you started this conversation today off by you cannot really believe everything you read in the

press. Sometimes I know maybe stories get—it depends who is being interviewed. I was curious, as I understood from what I read, it was the Principal's decision from Clark County School District to pull the football teams out of the NIAA. Did the NIAA Board have any say? Did they decide to say you guys go away? I am just trying to figure out where that line is.

Executive Director Jackson:

The determination to go independent is—the power is within the school.

Chair Backus:

Once the schools decided to leave, I am curious now. I guess we see it as now you are left with the private schools and the charter schools being left. Was this just a default decision? Was there any specific contingency plan to protect the student athletes at the charter schools, the smaller schools, or were you just forced with what you had left over?

Executive Director Jackson:

I am not sure I understand the ask.

Chair Backus:

I was just curious if there was any thought with—obviously, some of our private schools are really tiny, some of our charter schools are really tiny. When I think about in my view—and this is an inherent bias growing up—when Gorman had really strong athletics. In the, it was like early 90s, so following the late 80s. I know how well they are. I mean, their students are recruited around the country when they graduate from high school. I know that they are a really good team, and you are putting them up against smaller schools. Was that just because this was what was left over? I wanted to understand a better understanding of where we are at today.

Executive Director Jackson:

There is a little bit of background that you would need to understand on this one. If you do not mind, I will go there. Our schools are divided into four classifications 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A/5A, 4 and 5, think of them as one. Those are done by enrollment numbers in student population, smallest are 1A, largest are 4A. The remaining schools in football, minus CCSJ in the south, are all 4A enrollment size schools. They are all the same, not the same enrollment size, but they fall in the same classification. Those schools, those seven schools also met together and formulated their schedule, met with us, shared their schedules, and we worked with them in concert.

I will tell you; I have been in Nevada since 1994. I have never seen a group of football coaches come together and work together like this group did. They came together, they built a schedule, and they proposed a postseason. Now, also remember there are schools in the 4A/5A still remaining in the rest of the state, in the Reno, Washoe area. There are still those same size schools. There are three schools that are classified 5A by our success factor, our rubric. Those three are still classified 5A. The four other schools would be classified 4A, but the 4A/5A schools do play a mixed schedule throughout the year. As a matter of fact, some of our 3A schools play 4A schools, and there are a few 2A schools that play 4A schools in football. The safety factor in football will always remain important, but the thought process behind the schedule was not, this is all that is left, let us just put something together. What I said, and what I think the coaches would echo, is the pieces that were left on the board, fit. We put together a new puzzle, and it works. I am very

proud of those schools for coming together and I think we have addressed that issue as well because while the 36 or 38 schools that were in the Clark County School District that went independent, there were still a predominant number of schools that were not, and they still are on the table.

Chair Backus:

Thank you for that. Are you hearing any kind of rumblings if there is going to be any other sport that may want to pull out from the NIAA?

Executive Director Jackson:

I have not heard anything official. I will tell you that I have heard the undercurrent of what we did in football, what is stopping us from doing it and everything else. Do I worry about that? Not from a sense that I am losing sleep, but I do not like the message that sends, and that is just my personal opinion on that. I think the message that we should be sending is what is good for athletics, and I do not believe it is good for athletics. I think athletics teaches us more in loss than victory. We learn to work together, we learn to strive, and we continue to be the number one dropout prevention program in any school district, period. Our kids graduate, and they still will graduate whether they are playing independent or not, but let us all play together.

Chair Backus:

Thank you for that, and I look forward to getting that chart to see what we are dealing with the school participation, also student athlete numbers. Then I just want to also echo, I appreciate the Raiders. I know the state invested in the Allegiant Stadium; it is really nice that you all have that. I look forward to hopefully that A's stadium gets done, that solves your baseball needs for that state tournament, whether it is softball or baseball. Hopefully, we can do that, and hopefully, maybe we can find something up north too, so we are just not heavy on the south.

I really appreciate your time coming here and having a robust conversation about a lot of different issues facing NIAA. We may reach out, but I know probably our last hearing we will probably be looking at recommendations for proposed legislation. It does not stop there. Obviously, we will have the whole next legislative session to talk about maybe some tweaks that need to be made to a bill, but it sounds like we are probably going to be doing something. I appreciate you all for being here today.

With that, I will go ahead and close our Agenda Item IV A. I will give you a moment because our IV B folks are actually down here in Las Vegas as well.

B. NEVADA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (NEVADA REVISED STATUTES 706.1511)

Chair Backus:

We will go ahead and move on to Agenda Item IV B, which is our Nevada Transportation Authority (NTA). Our presenters here—we have obviously Director Sanchez from the Department of Business and Industry (B&I) here with us today, as well as Deputy Commissioner of NTA, Todd Park, and Administrative Attorney of NTA, Mr. Wilburn [sic]. I believe we just have Mr. Park up here, so maybe it will be call a friend if needed.

With that, Mr. Park, if you want to go ahead and make any preliminary remarks, we welcome them, and then I am sure we will jump into some questions.

Todd Park, Deputy Commissioner, Nevada Transportation Authority, B&I:

Thank you for the opportunity, Chair. I have with me Yoneet Wilburn who is with the Nevada Transportation Authority, our administrative attorney. I have a couple of people behind me to phone a friend if I need to.

I just wanted to start off my background. I was a police officer for 34 years before I moved to Nevada and I started in the transportation area. At that time, I was like most people, I think. You wanted to get a ride, you would go get a taxi or you would go get a TNC [transportation network company] and you did not think about anything that was going on behind the scenes and how much it took to get that taxi or a passenger transportation person into that vehicle because there is so much that goes into it that I did not realize ([Agenda Item IV B-1](#)) ([Agenda Item IV B-3](#)).

The responsibility I felt as a police officer for safety was huge, but I feel that even tenfold now. At any given time, we have 100,000 people or more trying to take commercial transportation around Nevada. Trying to keep people safe is the highest of priorities for both agencies that I am involved in. It takes so much to do this job, and I think the efficiency that we show—not saying we cannot improve because I think we can—but the efficiency is such a high priority for me. With that, I did prepare a PowerPoint presentation if we could do that ([Agenda Item IV B-2](#)).

Chair Backus:

I do know that because I did look at it. Please feel free to go ahead and do your PowerPoint.

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Actually, I did one PowerPoint for both agencies. I know our next agenda item is—

Chair Backus:

I am happy to combine those two because I think that is why both the ATNC [*sic*] and the Taxicab Authority were brought before the Sunset Committee. I am happy to combine Agenda Item IV B and IV C. We do not need you to repeat both.

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Thank you. I will go ahead and start with just the Nevada Transportation Authority, an overview. We regulate the interstate or point-to-point transportation which includes the charter buses, limousines, household good movers, storages, tow cars, tour buses, nonemergency medical transfers, employer van pools, airport transport services, special services, warehouse permits, transportation network companies or TNCs, and more recently, the autonomous vehicles around the state. We also regulate taxicabs outside of Clark County and I will get to that a little bit when I go to the Taxicab Authority.

Our key functions. We do driver permitting with the exception of the TNCs. We also process carrier applications. We issue certificates of public convenience and necessity and permits. We oversee the administrative and enforcement hearings. We do audits and inspections of our existing carriers and the enforcement of the Nevada state law by our POST-certified [Peace Officer Standards and Training] police officers that we have within the agency.

Our offices are located in both Las Vegas and Reno. We have a three-member commission, the commissioners are appointed by the Governor. Vaughn Hartung is our Chairman, Adam Teti and Louis Csoka are our two commissioners. The agency's funding sources are through TNC assessments, highway funds, permits, fees, and fines. I did on this slide, put our most recent revenue sources if you want to take a look at those.

Our division stats. We have about 500 carriers, we have about 600 certificates, and our TNC driver count is about 32,500, then the non-TNC driver count is about 3,100. Our current governing board, again, the Chairman is appointed by the Governor. The other two commissioners are appointed by the Governor, not any more than two of them will be from the same political party, and at least one of them, but not more than two need to be from Clark County. After their initial term, each one will serve a term of four years. Each member serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The members of the Authority shall give their entire time to the business of the Authority and shall not pursue any other business or vocation or hold any other office of profit. In other words, they are full-time employees for us.

That is my presentation on the Nevada Transportation Authority. I am happy to take any questions if you wish.

Chair Backus:

You know what, why do you not go ahead into the Taxicab Authority and then if our questions can overlap? Hopefully, you will be a little flexible.

C. TAXICAB AUTHORITY (NEVADA REVISED STATUTES 706.8818)

Deputy Commissioner Park, Previously Identified:

Thank you again. Taxicab Authority, we regulate taxicabs in Clark County. It is a state agency, but we are by statute—any county that has 700,000 people or more is the agency—the Taxicab Authority is the agency that oversees that. That currently is Clark County, it seems like up north they start getting closer and closer all the time, but they have not gotten there yet. We also issue driver permits; we fingerprint and do background investigations. We process new license applications, issue the same thing, the CPCN, the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. We also oversee the administrative and enforcement hearings. We have vehicle inspectors; every single cab in Clark County is inspected at least once a year, and any time they get into any type of an accident with anything but error, we have to go out and take a look at those cabs to make sure that they are safe to be on the road again and then also we have an enforcement staff that are also POST-certified police officers ([Agenda Item IV C-1](#)) ([Agenda Item IV C-2](#)).

Our office is located here in Las Vegas. Our board members are appointed by the Governor. Currently, Dan Reaser is our Chair, Rusty Graf is our Vice Chair, J.D. Decker, Lawrence Weekley, and Alex Vazquez are our other members. The agency is a self-funded agency, and the revenues are generated by industry fees. Sorry—call it the drop fee, which is seeded in statute and then a technology fee which we just raised this past year. If I can answer some questions about that, if you have that. We have about, well we have exactly 3,530 medallions. There is 16 cab companies, we have about 4,500 cab drivers and we have about 3,100 cabs that are in service. In 2023, we had 13.8 million rides. Last year, we were at 12.9 [million], so you can see it started to go down a little bit. I can talk a little bit about that too if you would like.

Our division revenues, I have put those down here as well if you want to take a look at those. The board consists of the five members that are appointed by the Governor. The term of each is three years, and no member shall serve for more than six. Not more than three may be from the same political party, and no elected officer of the state or any political subdivision is eligible for appointment. Each member is entitled to receive a salary of not more than \$80 as fixed by the Authority for each day actually employed on the work of the Authority. Then, while engaged in the business of the Taxicab Authority, each member and the employee of the Authority is entitled to receive a per diem allowance. One of our members, our Chair, does live up in the north country and he travels down for our meetings, so he also gets travel expenses. The Taxicab Authority needs to maintain their principal office in the county of where—the area of the state where it performs most of it is regulation. Like I said, right now it is Clark County.

The last slide I wanted to show is this is not a new topic for these two agencies. These two agencies have been talked about in the Sunset Committee several times. I just highlighted that the NTA in the 2015–2016 Interim, it was recommended to terminate and consolidate the functions of the NTA with the Taxicab Authority in a new Executive division. In November of 2016 they considered it, but it was omitted, and that was for both agencies. That was for the NTA and for the Taxicab Authority. Personally, in March of 2023, I sat in front of this Subcommittee and sunseting was discussed at that time. At that time, it was decided to take a look at modernization instead of sunseting.

With that, I hope I was able to give a little insight into our agencies, and I am happy to answer any questions.

Chair Backus:

Thank you so much for your presentations and I will go ahead and open it up to our members. Do any of our members have questions for Mr. Park? We will go ahead and start and this time on my left with Assemblymember Roth.

Assemblymember Roth:

Thank you. My question—you said that you oversee autonomous vehicles. I am wondering what data is being tracked on that and if we know as a state how many accidents or anything like that is a result of using these autonomous vehicles? I am from the north; we do not have a lot. I do not actually know what is being used down here if there is Waymo or it is the Tesla Loop, or whatever it is, or if it is other industries. I am wondering if we know that kind of data?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

A very good question. We do regulate the autonomous vehicles; it is becoming more and more prevalent. There is quite a process for autonomous vehicles to come into the state and work in our state. They originally start with DMV [Department of Motor Vehicles]; they go through a process there and then they have to come to our agency once they want to start charging money. They come and get a CPCN from our agency, and then we start to regulate them. Right now, Zoox is the only company that is close, I think, to being charging on their app. As far as the safety, we do track those. I do not have those numbers in front of me, but we are happy to provide that for you, but we do track the safety of the autonomous vehicles for sure.

Assemblymember Roth:

I have a follow up Chair, just to clarify. There are companies currently operating in the state that are fully autonomous vehicles?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Yes, Zoox right now is out, it does not even have a steering wheel in it. It looks—it is quite an interesting looking vehicle that you will see running around, but yes, it is fully autonomous. They have not started charging yet, but I understand that is coming soon.

Assemblymember Roth:

Then with the Chair's permission, I would love if we could get that data. just on the safety if there have been any accidents and stuff like that.

Yoneet Wilburn, Administrative Attorney, NTA, B&I:

I am the Administrative Attorney for the Nevada Transportation Authority, not the Taxicab Authority, just so we are more clear. The regulations with regards to both TNCs and autonomous vehicles are pretty clearly defined in both statute and regulation. With regards to both, and talking to autonomous vehicles, there is confidentiality written into our statutes and the crash reports and trip data and all of that for both TNCs and AVNCs [autonomous vehicle network company] are confidential. We cannot share that. That does not mean you cannot specifically ask the company themselves, but written specifically, and it is very specific in our statutes, the information they provide us with regards to crash data, and trip data, and internal data, is only for staff of the Authority, which is the Nevada Transportation Authority. We are not allowed to share it. That is both written for the for the autonomous vehicles, that is NRS 706B as in boy, and NAC 706B as in boy.

I apologize for having my phone up here, but that is how I am looking up the statutes. I will get you that exact statute, and I will read that into the record if you give me just a minute. If you would like to move on to another question—

Assemblymember Roth:

You can I think, follow up with the Committee, I am sure.

Ms. Wilburn:

And I can follow up with the Committee and get you those exact statutes.

Assemblymember Roth:

Thank you so much.

Ms. Wilburn:

You are very welcome.

Chair Backus:

I would just want to echo that if it is possible—because I know sometimes there is a level of confidentiality with obviously specific data, but sometimes we can broadly get data that would say of all the autonomous vehicles there have been two incidents per year. If that is

acceptable, great, if not, we will just take a look at that statute. I am going to go up to Carson City to Senator Daly, and then probably come back down to Las Vegas for some questions. Senator Daly, we are kicking it up to you for a few questions.

Senator Daly:

Thank you, Madam Chair. I think mine are pretty straightforward. Just looking at the one slide you showed where the Sunset Committee had made a recommendation, I think in the 2015–2016 Interim. I think the recommendation was to create a new Executive division at that time. Do you recall on what the issue was and why it did not get through, from a recommendation to the Legislative Commission? Was somebody opposed? Because apparently, like this time, both agencies are in agreement that consolidation would be in order. The good news is that the Sunset Committee is no longer a Subcommittee to Legislative Commission, so we can move forward if we pass something out of this board—or Interim Committee. Can you shed a little light on that? Was the problem over a new Executive division or something else?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Thank you, Senator, for the question. I think that consolidation of the two agencies has been talked about for many years. I have been here since 2017, like I stated, I have been in front of this Committee before talking about sunset. There is a lot of movement towards the consolidation of the two agencies right now. Why things have not happened in the past, I really cannot speak to that. I was not here, and I was not involved in those sessions, but I think that there is an appetite for it. I think that there are portions of the industry, and maybe even more than what I am aware of right now that are interested in seeing the consolidation of the two agencies. Going back to my initial statements where we talk about efficiency and safety, I think it is imperative that we move in that direction, and I think that this is a big step towards doing that.

Senator Daly:

Thank you and it is not really all, I guess, that important if on what happened before, just sometimes you can learn from it. Our Committee has changed so we do not have to go back to the Legislative Commission. We have recommendations we can make from here, so that is a change. A couple of questions along those lines. I do not know why there was a recommendation before for a new Executive division, which to me seems unnecessary and creates an extra burden and step if you have an existing transportation authority. Nevada Transportation Authority, which oversees taxicabs everywhere in the state except for Clark County apparently, that you would not just make that transition into the existing scheme under the Transportation Authority.

A couple of questions there, is the mechanisms that both entities use for licensing, for vetting, for collecting the fees, enforcement, and I know you talked a little bit about hearing boards and stuff. Is most of that parallel anyway or already being done under the Nevada Transportation Authority so it can be easily transferred over?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Very good question. There are so many parallels between the two agencies. There are differences as well, such as taxicabs up in Washoe County. They can have six passengers minus the driver, in Clark County they can have six drivers that does not include the driver, so you can have seven passengers. The medallions in Clark County are not the way things are regulated up in Washoe County. Obviously, the revenue sources are different, so there

are differences. But I think across the board overall, both agencies are really doing a lot of the same type of regulation, and I think it would be a fairly easy transition. It is just going to take some rolling up of the sleeves and digging in getting that done.

Senator Daly:

Understood. Is a lot of the things you just mentioned about passengers and that kind of stuff, is that in regulation or is it actually in statute?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

It is actually in statute.

Senator Daly:

If we were making changes to statute to merge it in, we would have to reconcile those differences and then probably have a clause in any piece of legislation that says, "Now you have to go back and make your regulations to conform to what the new statute is."

Second question or separate. Just thinking ahead if this is going to happen. You have the existing Nevada Transportation Authority; nothing would really change there except you would take on additional duties. The Taxicab Authority duties, powers, resources, everything would transfer over. Does the Taxicab Authority currently have any debt structure, any outstanding bonds, or anything like that, that would be impacted by a change that would take some time to transition? Or is there no debt and it is just a matter of consolidating an account? Oversimplified, but—

Deputy Commissioner Park:

If we can make it simple, I would really like to. Right now, the Taxicab Authority is sustainable. The Legislature, last session, was able to expand our technology fee and the way that we could use it. The Taxicab Authority Board, back in, I believe it was February of this year, raised the tech fee, which really helped the agency because it was financially in some pretty tough shape. But because of that technology fee increase, we are sustainable now. I guess I worry that one big event, another COVID or something like that would just really hurt the agency again. We are definitely looking at the revenue streams and how we can combine those along with the Nevada Transportation Authority budget so we can try to make that as smooth of a transition as we can.

Senator Daly:

You do not have any outstanding debt or anything like that? Or no bonds have been issued that would be impacted by the interruption of the revenue stream from one agency to the next?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

We do not.

Senator Daly:

Well that makes it simpler, just FYI [for your information]. Thank you. That was all Madam Chair.

Chair Backus:

We will come back down here. I will go to Senator Rogich.

Senator Rogich:

Thank you for being here. If the goal is to consolidate, what I am looking at is, is there a transition plan that we can review that reflects the cost savings and perhaps protects the Clark County taxi specific oversight enforcement hearings and existing reserves and fee revenues and things along that nature? Do you have that at this point?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

We are in the process of developing all of that. Policy papers are being written; the budgets are being examined. It has been a heavy lift, and it is something that we have been working on. I do not think that I have a final version to share with you yet, but we are working on that, and I think we would be happy to share that when we can.

Senator Rogich:

Thank you.

Chair Backus:

I will go to Assemblymember Hafen.

Assemblymember Hafen:

Thank you Chair and thank you, guys, for being here today. Lots of really good questions, the one question that I have is how we could, as the Legislative body, make your life easier and the individuals that are under you, the taxicabs, et cetera. Are there rules and regulations that we could modify to help streamline things? Maybe that will be in the policy paper you guys are going to bring forward soon. One thing that I noticed in traveling is I could go on the Lyft and Uber app in other states, and I can actually get a taxicab right then and there and choose either Uber or XL or whatever the other options are, and then there was a taxicab. I was like, that is kind of neat. We do not have that in Nevada. Why is that? Is that something that you guys are looking at trying to bring forward to us to change, or are there other regulations or statute changes that are needed to modernize and streamline both the Taxicab Authority and the NTA?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Thank you for that. We are actually in a pilot program where we are using the Uber app, and you can get a taxi on the Uber app under XL. There are definitely regulations, and we have done workshops at the Taxicab Authority to try to bolster that process. I also believe that we want to take a look at it statutorily in this next legislative session to be able to seat that. A little bit better than just regulation. The program is working; it is working well. I think every single taxicab company in Clark County now is on that program in the pilot program, so we are monitoring it. I would just say that it is working well.

Assemblymember Hafen:

Just quick follow up. I went on the Uber app, tried to figure that out. You have to go under XL and then there is an option under that for the taxicabs? It is not because I will just give

the example. I was in Washington, D.C., and it was just UberXL and then taxicab. I could just click taxicab, so I did not see it on the app. I am not saying it is not there, it just was really hard to see. For me, I just want to help streamline things and make it more efficient for you, and the members, and the individuals, because I did see the loss of revenue. I think that it is a trend based on advances in technology and just not keeping up. I appreciate it.

Chair Backus:

Next, we will go to Assemblymember Orentlicher.

Assemblymember Orentlicher:

Thank you Chair. Thank you for the presentation. I am glad to see there is support for consolidation. My question is, as long as we are thinking of consolidating. Are there services that could easily fit within the Transportation Authority, besides Taxicab, that we could also think about bringing in? One in particular as I was looking down on slide two, the list of different kinds of transportation you regulate; charter buses, limos, et cetera. I did not see delivery services. Is that under special services or what about the DoorDash that comes from my local restaurant to my house? What about the Amazon driver that comes from the local warehouse to my house? Are they in here under special services or some other category? Anyway, that is what I am curious about.

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Thank you for the question. That is not under our purview. We do not regulate those. The property that we do regulate are through tow trucks and household good movers, and then everything else is passenger transportation. The Uber Eats and things like that we do not regulate that.

Assemblymember Orentlicher:

Are they unregulated? Again, if not, should you be regulating them? If they are being regulated somewhere else, is that a good idea to have it somewhere else? Is this something we need to look at?

Ms. Wilburn:

For example, you brought up Amazon delivery. We regulate passenger and property transportation, meaning that the public can go out and hire these people. Me, as a member of the public, or all of you as a member of the public, can go out and hire a household good mover or can go out and hire someone to take you if you do not want to drive your own car. Amazon delivery, I cannot go out and hire the Amazon delivery. I do not think it would be a good idea to seek those services under the Nevada Transportation Authority because we are very much passenger and property transportation. It would mix in and it would not align with our agency's goals.

Now I cannot speak to it, but just as a general business perspective, the Amazon delivery is part of the business. Amazon owns the cars that are delivering it, they are insuring them, and they are doing that and no one else. The drivers are Amazon employees. Like I said, we are strictly passenger and property transportation, meaning the public has access to these services, where the other ones that you are asking about, the public does not necessarily have access to those services in the sense of getting into the car, or you are taking my

stuff. Stuff is being brought to you. It is very different, and I do not think that our statutes and regulations are seeded to regulate any of those.

Assemblymember Orentlicher:

I understand the distinction with Amazon, but getting back to DoorDash. Sometimes I get it through Uber, but if I do not; are you not getting the DoorDash driver that I hire?

Ms. Wilburn:

Again, the driver is through the company, and I myself am not getting into the car. They are delivering their product to the consumer. The consumer themselves is not trying to use the transportation to get somewhere or to take something that is personally mine. That is, for example, household good movers or tow cars. You are taking property that is actually a consumers, and you are taking it. That is where the distinction is with the DoorDash and Uber, you are delivering a product of a company to a person versus everything we regulate is the individual themselves is contracting to use these transportation services. I hope I have been clear. If not, I can try and be clearer.

Assemblymember Orentlicher:

I understand the line you are drawing. But in terms of me as a consumer, I am not sure functionally it matters whether I do not own the good until—to me, once I have paid for that meal, it is mine. They charge me before it gets there, so it seems like an artificial distinction. If they are not being regulated, that seems like it could be a problem if it is just out there without us thinking about it.

Chair Backus:

Next, I will go to Senator Lange.

Senator Lange:

Thank you. I wanted to follow up on your pilot program that you were talking about. One of the things that Uber does is teen accounts. If you cannot go pick up your child from school, they can do a teen account. I am wondering if that is something the Taxicab Authority could put in that pilot program, so that parents could set up teen accounts. They go—people that have those accounts that are the drivers go through more intense background checks and stuff. Is that something that you would look at?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Thank you for that question. I know that several of the cab companies are taking a look at those types of programs that are prevalent from around the country. I am aware that there are these types of programs in other jurisdictions. We do not have that here right now, but I am certainly open to looking at a pilot program on something like that.

Senator Lange:

I have actually used that with my teen. My grandson lives with us, and it actually works very well. The app communicates with the parents or the guardian as to I can follow the whole route and see everything that is happening. I feel more comfortable and safe about that, because it is always kind of scary to put your child in a car with a person you do not

know. I think it is worth looking at, especially in a city like ours where it is a 24-hour city and there is so much going on and parents are working different hours and stuff.

Chair Backus:

Thank you. I have a couple of questions for you all. One in response to my colleagues' questions like inquiring about DoorDash and stuff. I have been reading that Uber is starting point-to-point transportation. I, as an Uber person, can put a good into an Uber vehicle that could be then transported across town. Would that fall under the NTA through the NTC's [*sic*] oversight?

Ms. Wilburn:

I have not heard of that service yet, and that is something I would need to look into because household good movers are very much codified and written into our statutes and regulations. I do not know that would fall under a household good mover because it is very specific. You have to move a household good. I do not know that would necessarily fall under it because I understand while it is my property and I am transporting it; it is not necessarily something that you would find in my house. For example, if you need Uber to—if you are an attorney—if I need to get files over to another attorney's office, if I can put it in a locked compartment in an Uber and get it over there. That would be something that, at this point in time, I do not believe we would regulate. If it was something that the Legislature or industry was looking at, I would believe there would probably need to be more regulations and statutes seeded into our chapter in order to regulate things along those lines.

Chair Backus:

Thank you for that because I am sure—when I think about, when I have read it in the context is how it could be used to probably move illicit goods. That is what I was concerned about when I read about this point-to-point transportation.

The other thing I have a question for—and Mr. Park, obviously as a former police officer, I think you will be well equipped to talk about this. One of the things that we hear about, and I think this is why the NTC [*sic*] and the Taxicab Authority primarily were brought before Sunset, was because of the financial issues that we discussed during the regular session in our money committees. One of those that we always hear about is those operating illegally in this space. I wanted to hear from you, if these two were combined, would that create a situation where we would have more of a robust situation for investigators to crack down on those that are not licensed, that are operating outside of either?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Thank you for that question. That is something that is forefront in all of our minds, is the illegal transportation that is going on. People do not understand the pitfalls to getting into an unlicensed, unvetted vehicle and the dangers that are associated with that. I have a small staff in both agencies; combining those are going to make that better. I still feel like we are understaffed for that. We do the very best we can. I know that illegal transportation is something that is discussed with me on—if not a weekly basis—a daily basis, from the industry. Obviously, illegal transporters are taking money out of the certificated carrier's pockets. More importantly, just the safety aspect of if you get into an accident and you are in an illegal transporting vehicle, the insurance is not going to take care of what it needs to take care of. Trying to protect the consumer is so important, and I think just the

combination of putting the two agencies together would definitely help that, but I also think that we need to do even more.

Chair Backus:

Thank you for that. I know we received a really cool chart of a proposed combined NTA org [organization] summary. Looking at that, I had two questions. One was, is this a fold-in from both sides? From the Taxicab Authority as well as NTA? I just wanted to make sure; I was curious if it was representative.

Deputy Commissioner Park:

Yes, that is not with any major enhancements. That is just basically—I use the word squish—that is just us squishing them together.

Chair Backus:

That is a great terminology. You were being very inclusive of both. With this, I noticed one of the recommendations because I have heard the sides from both sides. One likes the appointed commissioners that are not full-time employees, others really do like the three full-time employee oversight. I saw the combined was a recommendation of five part-time. But just working with our state's budget, I know sometimes it is really hard to fill those part-time positions. Is there any thought or consideration about maybe making a couple of those positions full-time? It is just a little more flexibility with that.

Deputy Commissioner Park:

You bring up some very good points. I have been considering a lot of those. I know Director Sanchez and I have had discussions about this. There are several issues here. One, with the Nevada Transportation Authority, the three full-time commissioners right now, sometimes quorum is an issue. We need to go to more members than just three. But as a full-time employee that costs money, that costs a lot of money. I think the thought is having a five-member board that is paid more than the \$80 that the statute calls for. We have looked at models from other state agencies of other boards where—Gaming Control for instance—they have a pay scale that is more attractive I think than \$80 a month plus your per diem and a travel budget.

Chair Backus:

Thank you for that and it is also still an appointment to serve on these wonderful boards and commissions. That was my last question. I am going to look to other folks to make sure anyone had any other further questions for you all. I do not see it. Was there anything we ask that you may want to add in any concluding remarks?

Deputy Commissioner Park:

I would just say thank you for the opportunity to allow me to talk with you about both agencies. I think it has been a unique situation having me run both agencies. I also have a chief of enforcement that is running both agencies. Having worked at the Nevada Transportation Authority and then going to the Taxicab Authority and now running both, I have gotten a perspective that a lot of people probably have not been able to see. I just appreciate you guys taking the time to take a look at this again because it is such a hot topic, has been for so many years. I just think it is something definitely that needs to have a good examination on it.

Chair Backus:

Thank you for that and we thank you for handling both of those today as a combined agenda item. With that, I am happy to close Agenda Item IV B and C.

AGENDA ITEM V—PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Backus:

We can go ahead and move on to our last, [Agenda Item V](#), which is public comment. I do not believe I see anyone here in Las Vegas that wishes to give public comment at the end of our meeting.

I will go up to Carson City. I am not sure if anyone joined us up in Carson City. I do not see anyone. With that, last but not least, we will go to AVH. AVH, is there anyone on the phone line wishing to give public comment today?

AVH:

Thank you Chair, our public lines are open and working. However, there are no callers at this time.

Chair Backus:

Thank you, and I can go to our very last agenda item which is to close our meeting. Thank you everyone for your participation this morning.

The following written public comment was submitted for the record:

- Eduardo Martinez ([Agenda Item V](#)).

AGENDA ITEM VI—ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Weitzel
Research Policy Assistant

Haley Proehl
Senior Principal Policy Analyst/GIS
Specialist

APPROVED BY:

Assemblymember Shea M. Backus, Chair

Date: _____

MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER/ENTITY	DESCRIPTION
Agenda Item IV A-1	Haley Proehl, Senior Principal Policy Analyst/GIS Specialist, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB)	Background Information
Agenda Item IV A-2	Pamela Sloan, President, Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA), Board of Control	Review Form
Agenda Item IV A-3	Timothy J. Jackson, Executive Director, NIAA	Follow-Up Information
Agenda Item IV B-1	Haley Proehl, Senior Principal Policy Analyst/GIS Specialist, Research Division, LCB	Background Information
Agenda Item IV B-2	Todd Park, Deputy Commissioner, Nevada Transportation Authority (NTA), Department of Business and Administration (B&I)	PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item IV B-3	Todd Park, Deputy Commissioner, NTA, B&I	Review Form
Agenda Item IV C-1	Haley Proehl, Senior Principal Policy Analyst/GIS Specialist, Research Division, LCB	Background Information
Agenda Item IV C-2	Todd Park, Deputy Commissioner, NTA, B&I	Review Form
Agenda Item V	Eduardo Martinez	Written Public Comment

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