

DRAFT MINUTES
STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

NEVADA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION MINUTES

Topic: Commission on Postsecondary Education
Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Time: August 4, 2021 09:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

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Staff Present during Video Conference

Kelly D. Wuest, CPE Administrator
Maricris Wu, CPE Postsecondary Education Specialist
Susan Beckett, CPE, Administrative Assistant III

**Members of the Public, Media and Other Agencies
Present in Las Vegas**

David Gardener, Nevada Attorney General Office Deputy Attorney General
Todd Weiss, Nevada Attorney General Office Deputy Attorney General
Ryan Rishling, DETR
Brian Anderson, Community Ambulance Health Science Center
Heidi Brock, PDH Academy
Scott Campbell, Grand Canyon University
Fred Faridian, Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts
Diane Hale, SW Compliance & Safety Training Institute
Jason Ho, Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts
Chloe Lorenz, PDH Academy
Lisa Nordman, Aviation Institute of Maintenance
Lisa Murphy, Southeastern University
Jason Smith, Laurus College
Chris Stachyra, Community Ambulance Health Science Center
Melvin Valentine Jr., Choice Business Academy
Ted Vanderlaan, Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts
Heather Ziemplansk, Grand Canyon University

**Member of the Commission on Postsecondary Education
Present during Video Conference Meeting**

Sharon Frederick, Vice Chair
Vincent Eade
Thomas Kenny
Jon Ponder
Chris Sewell
Steven Soares

STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
MINUTES

August 4, 2021 – 9:00 A.M.

Call to Order

The meeting was held via Video Conference ZOOM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Commissioner Sharon Frederick at approximately 9:00 AM.

Public Comments

Commissioner Frederick asked for public comment – no public comment.

Written Comments

This is Susan Beckett, no written comments.

Confirmation of Posting

Susan Beckett, for the record, Administrative Assistant III, Employment Security Division, Commission on Postsecondary Education. Yes, proper Notice and Posting were completed for this Meeting. The meeting will be held via videoconference only.

Roll Call

- Commissioner Chair Clark - Excused
- Commissioner Vice-Chair Frederick - Present
- Commissioner Eade - Present
- Commissioner Kenny - Present
- Commissioner Ponder - Present
- Commissioner Rhodes - Excused
- Commissioner Sewell – Present
- Commissioner Soares - Present

Administrator Kelly Wuest: took roll via verbal and video. Confirmation of a quorum.

Adoption of Agenda:

Motion: Commissioner Sewell – Move to approve adoption of Agenda for August 4, 2021.

Second: Commissioner Eade.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, agenda is adopted.

Approval of Minutes May 5, 2021 Meeting

Motion: Commissioner Ponder– Motion to approve the minutes for the meeting that was held on May 5, 2021.

Second: Commissioner Sewell.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Adoption of 2022 Meeting Dates

Motion: Commissioner Soares – Motion to adopt the 2022 proposed meeting schedule.
Second: Commissioner Ponder.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Administrators Report

Administrator Kelly Wuest read the submitted Administrators Report (as submitted in the Public Packet Posting) with the following updates. Quarter three increased to 8,748 students and there are currently 32 unreported institutions. Many of those will probably be zero enrollments where they just didn't do it in a timely manner because there is no penalty for zero enrollments. Additionally, I left off an item for the VA program approvals is actually 684 individual program approved last quarter. Wuest furthered to explain the normal license renewals are at 15 and has dropped to eight. It is taking longer than normal as the staff of CPE only had one clean application (without any kind of intervention and follow-up) to process in the past year and that was Commissioner Clark's institution.

Commissioner Frederick welcomed Ryan Rishling to the commission staff and explained she worked closely with Michelle Hill. Frederick furthered, she attended Hill's seminars she conducted annually for veteran certifying officials the past two years.

Applications for Full Term License

Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Testified: Lisa Nordman, Assistant Campus Director, gave an update and operations information for the institution.

Motion: Commissioner Frederick – A motion that Aviation Institute of Maintenance be granted full-term licensure.
Second: Commissioner Kenny.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Choice Business Academy

Testified: Melvin Valentine Jr., gave an update, background and operations information pertaining to the status of the institution. Explained reasons for request of extension.

Commission Soares updated for correction to information correct the meeting date from August 12, 2021 to August 12, 2020. Administrator Wuest confirmed the need for the correction.

Motion: Commissioner Sewell – A motion that Choice Business Academy be extended for an additional nine-months.
Second: Commissioner Soares.
Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Community Ambulance Health Science Center

Testified: Chris Stachyra and Brian Anderson gave background and updated operations of the institution.

Commissioner Frederick asked do you find with Covid that you have more prospective students that are interested in serving in health sciences? Mr. Stachyra replied, well it is kind of interesting, this last class list went down a bit. Earlier we had classes that had waiting lists. It seems like it is slowing down a bit. There is no shortage of interest in our programs thought.

Commissioner Ponder asked what are the starting salaries? Mr. Stachyra replied the nice thing is that we are able to offer student who are in our classes that are not even certified, pay as ambassadors at \$11.00 and when they graduate then they are also beginning as an EMT at \$11.00 per hour.

Motion: Commissioner Sewell – A full-term license be issued to Community Ambulance Health Science Center.

Second: Commissioner Eade.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts

Testified: Fred Faridian provided a background and updated operations of the institution. Jason Ho and Ted Vanderlaan also attended and were available for questions. Mr. Faridian furthered with student from the institution volunteer to cover a skilled nursing care facility when staff walked out during Covid. They received recognition from the local news as local heroes. Ted Vanderlaan explained marketing has been a challenge.

Commissioner Frederick stated pertaining to marketing your community outreach and publicity from the assistance provided by using students to volunteer cannot be bought. Congratulations.

Commissioner Soares asked, is your training for LPN? Mr. Vanderlaan replied, the LPN program is in the main campus in California, in Nevada currently it is MRI only. However, we will be working towards expanding. Commissioner Soares furthered, have you seen a greater need for medical assistants, phlebotomy, and those types? Mr. Vanderlaan, we cannot view those types of programs, but I can say we saw a challenge due to the extended unemployment compensations.

Motion: Commissioner Soares – The provisional license for Gurnick Academy of Medical Arts be extended for an additional twelve-months.

Second: Commissioner Sewell.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Laurus College

Testified: Jason Smith, gave an update on the operations and background of the college.

Commissioner Kenny, one little comment those are some cool new programs that you guys are doing the video production and stuff like that is interesting stuff. Mr. Smith replied, we are very excited about that Dr. Kenny, and if you kind of look behind me, you can see I've done this before and audio video so that was IT and was kind of my big push. It did it with the International Academy of Design and Technology so very excited about it.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny – Motion to grant full term license for Laurus College.
Second: Commissioner Soares.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Southeastern University

Testified: Lisa Barranco gave an update on the operations and background of the university.

Commissioner Ponder, could you elaborate a little bit more on what those partnerships look like with the churches and have you developed relationships of partnerships with churches here in Southern Nevada. Ms. Barranco replied, so the partnership is basically it's a legal agreement and it says that we provide the education, the opportunity or the vehicle for the student who are there as part of their church members to get a fully accredited two or four year degree in ministry A lot of our students will take that education and they will either go and grow with a newer church or they'll go internationally and do ministerial work that type of thing. That's the basic partnership so we don't have to go to the expense of establishing a campus they have a building and they take care of that overhead. Then our students mainly start out there online. We end up doing face to face classes when we have enrollment that are greater than 15. Then we can go to the expense of pulling a faculty member locally in.

Motion: Commissioner Sewell – A three-month extended provisional license be granted to Southeastern University.
Second: Commissioner Eade.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

SW Compliance & Safety Training Institute

Testified: Diane Hale, President gave an update of the operations and background of the institution.

Commissioner Ponder asked what the duration and content of the courses for example the manufacturing program? Ms. Hale replied, for the manufacturing it is about 64 hours, so the students going to get their OSHA 10, electrical safety, lockout tag out because in manufacturing there are a variety of injuries that occur

such as being shocked and or electrocuted which means you die or having fingers chopped up. So, we talk about machine guarding, hazardous chemicals. Everybody forgets the hazardous chemical input, but in manufacturing there is always chemicals.

Motion: Commissioner Ponder – A full-term license be issued to SW Compliance & Safety Training Institute.
Second: Commissioner Sewell.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Applications for Initial Provisional Licensure

Grand Canyon University

Testified: Scott Campbell, Executive Director of State Compliance and Heather Ziemlansk, Assistant Dean for the Prelicensure Program and the College of Nursing and Health Care Professional. Mr. Campbell provided the background of the university and furthered with information and updates pertaining to Nevada.

Commissioner Soares, Mr. Campbell I do have a background in education, I did come from the Department of Education. I understand there are some things going on. However, if you are unable to answer please let them know. One of the things that I remember from my work at the department was composite scores, and I had seen where the department had reduced your composite score from 2.2 to 1.5. Are you of what it is now? Mr. Campbell replied, I can't tell you our current composite score, but I do know that prior year it was 1.5. I don't know what it is off the top of my head right now. Commissioner Soares furthered, I think it was the 2019 that was 2.2 and dropped to 1.5 do you know the reason behind that? Mr. Campbell, I think that was a byproduct of our transition back to nonprofit status in large part, we didn't have a hefty development aspect going on and the calculation, as I recall it is different from nonprofit to profit. Commissioner Soares, so you are working on a plan to raise that score? Mr. Campbell, yes, indeed.

Commissioner Soares, the other part was I had read your auditor report and coming from audit compliance within that department, of course, naturally I have questions. One of the things that your auditor said that they did not look at the organization internal control on financial report, do you know why that was limited? Mr. Campbell responded, I would speak to that, if I could, I really wouldn't be able to speak to that. I'd have to request our chief financial officer for some information and unfortunately, she could not join me today. Sorry, for not having that information for you. Commissioner Soares, maybe if you can follow up with us later, that would be great. Mr. Campbell, absolutely.

Administrator Kelly Wuest, can I ask what the follow up Commissioner Soares is looking for, so we can provide it to the Commissioners. Commissioner Soares, the

follow up on why the auditor did not look at the organization's internal control and financial reporting. Mr. Campbell, I will get back to you with that information.

- Motion: Commissioner Sewell – That a twelve month provisional license be granted to Grand Canyon University to offer the Accelerated Bachelor of Science degree in Registered Nursing contingent upon approval of curriculum by the Nevada State Board of Nursing, staffing, facility approval and surety in the amount of \$540,000.
- Second: Commissioner Ponder.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

PDH Academy

Testified: Heidi Brock, Director of Education and Chloe Lorenz, gave background information about the program and institution.

Commissioner Sewell asked, why did you select Nevada? Ms. Brock we are in the process of expanding to multiple different states nationwide and Nevada was a state that it seemed that there were not a lot of providers offering courses like what we would like to provide. That is one of the main reasons.

- Motion: Commissioner Ponder – Motion for a twelve-month provisional license be granted to PDH Academy to offer the Nevada Salesperson Pre-licensing and the Structural Inspection Pre-License programs contingent upon curriculum approval, receipt of surety bond in the amount of \$13,000, facility and personnel approval.
- Second: Commissioner Sewell.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Applicants for consideration of Added Program

Northwest Career College

Testified: Thomas Kenny, updated that he is changing roles from Commissioner to institution role. He gave a background and update of the institution. Explained the desire for entering the pre-licensing of real estate.

- Motion: Commissioner Soares – That Northwest Career College be granted approval to offer the Real Estate pre-licensing program contingent on increasing surety in the amount of \$350, curriculum approval and personnel information.
- Second: Commissioner Eade.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Commissioner Kenny abstained from voting, motion carries.

Elections

Election of Officers

Commissioner Frederick stated she received an email from Chairman Clark, and he did say he would be willing to serve again as chair. Frederick furthered; do we have any other commissioner that would like to be considered for chair? No response. We would need a vote and a question would be do you feel more comfortable sending your vote to our administrator instead of expressing your vote verbally. Commissioner Soares, I do not have any problems here. Commissioner Ponder, I don't either. Commissioner Frederick okay verbally is okay. I did not want to hurt any feelings and nobody else is interested in serving as chair? Commissioner Ponder, negative. Commissioner Kenny, I think you have done a tremendous job in your respective positions. Commissioner Frederick, oh, I was going to railroad you into it. So, and then is there anybody interested in vice chair? No response.

Commissioner Frederick, so I'm okay with keeping that one. I am not sure if I should address this to our DAG or the Administrator if we do one vote for both positions, or should it be separate. Deputy Attorney General David Gardner, either apart or I am fine if you do both at the same time if it is very clear that nobody else wants the positions. I want to make sure that we are not pushing anybody out. If there are only two nominees for both positions, I have no problem doing one vote today. Commissioner Frederick, Mr. Gardner thank you for joining us today with your expertise we appreciate it.

Commissioner Frederick, we have a nomination for Chair Nate Clark, and we have a nomination for Vice-chair Sharon Frederick and there are no other interested commissioners for these offices. I would like to ask for a vote for both offices at the same time, all in favor?

Results: Unanimous.

Public Comment

None.

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Frederick. Time: 10:16 a.m.