

**STATE OF NEVADA COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**  
**(BATTERER’S TREATMENT CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

*Thursday, February 19, 2015, at 10:30 a.m.*

Via Video Conference:  
Office of the Attorney General  
Grant Sawyer Building  
555 E. Washington Avenue, Room 4500  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
and  
Office of the Attorney General  
100 North Carson Street  
Mock Courtroom  
Carson City, Nevada

**Please Note:** The Committee on Domestic Violence may 1) address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Committee or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting; 2) combine items for consideration by the public body; and 3) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time. The Committee may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. (NRS 241.030)

Public comment is welcomed by the Committee, but at the discretion of the chair, may be limited to five minutes per person. A public comment time will be available before any action items are heard by the public body and then once again prior to adjournment of the meeting. The Chair may allow additional time to be given a speaker as time allows and in his/her sole discretion. Prior to the commencement and conclusions of a contested case or a quasi judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual the board may refuse to consider public comment.

***Asterisks (\*) denote items on which the Committee may take action.  
Action by the Committee on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table.***

**1. Call to order, roll call, welcome new member, establish quorum.**

Members Present  
Tim Hamilton  
Traci Dory  
Lisa Arnold  
Meri Shadley  
Judge Max Bunch  
Sue Meuschke

Members Absent  
Lt. Jeffrey Hewes

Attorney General’s Office  
Kareen Prentice  
Colleen Platt

Public Present

David Dumar, New Frontier Treatment Center  
Dennis Fitzpatrick, LRS and New Beginnings  
Zachary Larson, LRS Systems  
Riley Kline, Smart Choices

**2. Swearing in of new members.**

Kareen Prentice stated this will be tabled until the next meeting.

**3. Public comment.**

Tim Hamilton asked the public members present to introduce themselves. David Dumar from New Frontier Treatment Center and Dennis Fitzpatrick from LRS and New Beginnings introduced themselves.

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

**4. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding review and approval of minutes of the following meetings (for possible action):**

a) December 11, 2014

Motion: Sue Meuschke moved to approve. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Traci Dory

Vote: All in favor. Motion approved.

**5. Updates by Domestic Violence Ombudsman Kareen Prentice.**

a) Budget

Kareen Prentice has provided the Budget document. Ms. Prentice stated that \$839.44 has been spent in FY15.

b) Court Assessments

Kareen Prentice has provided the Court Assessments document and court assessments are very low at this time.

c) Match

Kareen Prentice asked the committee members to fill out their match forms and hand the forms into her.

d) Administrative Assistant/Reviewer contract positions.

Kareen Prentice stated that the Administrative Assistant and Site Reviewer positions have been combined into one position to save money and the contract is on hold right now.

**6. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding 2015 Committee on Domestic Violence Legislative Report. (For possible action.)**

Kareen Prentice stated the 2015 Committee on Domestic Violence Legislative Report is in draft form and opened it up for discussion. Judge Max Bunch had an addition to the

Administrative Assessment Fees section. Judge Bunch stated under 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District need to add Lander County to Winnemucca and Pershing. Ms. Prentice stated she will add Lander County to the court assessment document. Traci Dory had a few corrections. Ms. Dory stated on page three, the last paragraph before the summary, should be “two members are residents of the county population” instead of three members. Ms. Dory stated that under the Summary of Work section that “combining of duties” is duplicative since it is discussed again in the next section under B. Review, Monitor and Certify Programs.

Motion: Sue Meuschke moved to approve the 2015 Committee on Domestic Violence Legislative Report with changes noted and direct staff to make changes before submitting on March 1, 2015. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Traci Dory  
Vote: All in favor. Motion approved.

**7. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding LRS Systems rural pilot project in Lincoln County update by Judge Cowley. (For possible action.)**

Judge Bunch gave an update on his discussion with Judge Cowley at the end of January that everything is going good and that there is one graduate from the program. Zach Larson gave an update on the LRS Systems rural pilot project. Mr. Larson stated the first group has completed the program with one of the two individuals graduating. The other individual did not graduate because he died prior to finishing his classes. Mr. Larson stated now there are three individuals from the court that are attending the program. Mr. Larson discussed the switch up of counselors and making sure those counselors are properly trained using the iPad and technology.

Judge Bunch asked about the three individuals in the program. Mr. Larson stated there are two females and one male from Meadow Valley. Judge Bunch asked about White Pine County and their involvement in the program. Mr. Larson stated that Judge Bishop from Ely has contacted him to be a part of the program. Judge Bunch clarified that this program will be through July 2015. Mr. Larson stated yes that is correct. Tim Hamilton asked about expanding within the pilot or ending the pilot and moving forward with the program. Sue Meuschke stated extending within the pilot. Traci Dory asked how many people from White Pine County the judge would include in the pilot. Mr. Larson stated no exact number at this time and do not always know who will be ordered into the program; possibly one or two individuals. Mr. Larson stated that Judge Bishop just contacted him recently about being involved in the pilot.

Mr. Hamilton asked if there were any recommendations. Judge Bunch stated that the two courts have been approved already so no recommendations at this time just to move forward with the pilot until July 2015. Judge Bunch discussed reviewing this again in July 2015 and maybe LRS Systems can provide a full report at that time. Mr. Larson stated that a full report as well as recommendations can be provided at that time. Mr. Hamilton stated no recommendations so no motion needed at this time.

**8. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding State of Nevada Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics Advisory Opinion: JE14-006 issued on January 7, 2015 regarding “Propriety of Court Employee or**

**Employee's Spouse Providing Court Ordered Domestic Violence Counseling Services.”(for possible action.)**

Kareen Prentice stated this is for your information and has not been discussed. Judge Bunch had a concern in how the opinion affects the court(s). Judge Bunch asked if there is a court that does domestic violence counseling. Ms. Prentice stated that the Las Vegas Municipal Court does. Judge Bunch stated his concern in that someone should notify the Las Vegas Municipal Court on this opinion. Ms. Prentice stated that she can inform the court. Judge Bunch suggested that the Las Vegas Municipal Court may need to write the Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics to say they have a program built into the court. Judge Bunch discussed his concerns regarding how the opinion affects the courts so that their potential written decision from Judicial Ethics allows the court to go forward or stop providing domestic violence counseling services. Sue Meuschke discussed that the court might be able to argue under unless the court employee officials duties or position with the court that providing such counseling services will not result as a conflict of interest of an appearance of impropriety.

Judge Bunch discussed that the court has their own program and that someone could file a complaint against a judge. Tim Hamilton asked a question if this opinion should be sent to all courts. Judge Bunch stated that Judges as well as the Standing Committee do get these updates. Judge Bunch stated to Kareen that she should contact the Chief Judge, Burt Brown, with the Las Vegas Municipal Court. Kareen stated she will do that. Judge Bunch discussed that this may affect courts that want to start a program. Judge Bunch discussed also not having a conflict with Judicial Ethics because it is not the employee in trouble, but the judge and that the judge could be removed from the bench.

Mr. Hamilton asked about the recommendations on this agenda item. Judge Bunch recommended that Kareen contact Chief Judge Brown to see if there are any potential conflicts with this opinion and have the Las Vegas City Attorney's Office look into it as well. Ms. Meuschke asked about other courts that may provide domestic violence counseling services. Ms. Prentice stated that the City of Henderson is reviewing to apply to be a provider. Judge Bunch recommended that Kareen contact the City of Henderson as well on this opinion.

- 9. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding Committee forms per new NAC regulations. (For possible action.) Traci Dory**
- a) Request for Approval of New Supervisor
  - b) Supervisor Qualification Checklist
  - c) Request for Approval of New Provider
  - d) Provider Qualification Checklist

Tim Hamilton opened this agenda item up for discussion. Traci Dory stated she made changes to the existing forms based on the new regulations. Ms. Dory suggested having the Forms Subcommittee review and approve the forms. Sue Meuschke discussed the change of sixty hours and having a discussion about how individuals will provide the committee with that information (i.e. forms or other documentation). Mr. Hamilton had a question pertaining to providing these new forms in the new provider training packet (i.e. how do new providers obtain these new forms). Colleen Platt gave the committee members clarification and to have a dialogue in how to meet these new requirements. Ms. Meuschke discussed in previous meetings that the Attorney

General's Office would develop training, however; with the recent changes need to find out if there is training available and move forward from there. Ms. Platt discussed developing flexibility if the training is not available to meet the requirements. Judge Bunch discussed an e-mail he received from Dennis Fitzpatrick that he could not discuss through e-mail, but now can address and discuss in this open forum. Judge Bunch asked Mr. Fitzpatrick if he would like to comment on the e-mail he sent. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated the program in San Diego covers twenty-eight of the sixty required hours. Mr. Fitzpatrick would like to ask the committee what additional places and programs are available to get training for the additional required hours. Mr. Hamilton discussed having the Forms Subcommittee meet to discuss this further.

**10. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding the following requests for domestic violence continuing education credits and/or formal training (for possible action):**

- a) Application for 3.0 training credits  
Sierra Counseling Center  
"Domestic Violence: Myths and Manifestations"  
November 15, 2014 at University of Nevada, Reno  
(Reviewed by Meri Shadley)

Meri Shadley stated the recommendation is for one training credit for victim services and two training credits for perpetrator services.

Motion: Traci Dory. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Judge Bunch

Vote: All in favor. Motion approved.

- b) Application for 7.0 training credits  
Dennis Fitzpatrick  
"Slide Guide for Domestic Violence,  
Part 1 of 4, Introduction through Class 4"  
Distance Media  
(Reviewed by Judge Bunch)

Judge Bunch had a question for Mr. Fitzpatrick pertaining to his application. Judge Bunch asked Mr. Fitzpatrick on question thirty-two that states from Class 1 on the test and Judge Bunch asked if it should be from Class 2. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated yes to that correction. Judge Bunch asked Mr. Fitzpatrick on question thirty-two, answer d as to what NSG stands for. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated non-sarcastic grunt. Judge Bunch asked Mr. Fitzpatrick if this should be spelled out. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated yes to spelling his answer out.

Judge Bunch stated the recommendation is for three training credits for victim services and four training credits for perpetrator services.

Motion: Traci Dory. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Arnold

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Sue Meuschke abstained due to being asked to not review this application. Motion approved.

Judge Bunch stated to Mr. Hamilton that Mr. Fitzpatrick had submitted another packet that did not make it on the agenda. Kareen Prentice apologized for missing that second packet. Judge Bunch asked Mr. Fitzpatrick if he understood what that means. Mr.

Fitzpatrick stated that yes he did. Judge Bunch stated that he has done his review on the packet and can recommend for approval once on the agenda at the next meeting. Colleen Platt stated that the committee could hold a special meeting.

- c) Application for 14 training credits  
Relationship Training Institute  
“Staying Ahead of the Curve”  
October 17 & 18, 2014 University of San Diego, San Diego, CA  
(Reviewed by Judge Bunch)

Judge Bunch stated this application is for fourteen hours of educational training credits. Judge Bunch stated that the class is eight hours long and goes from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with one hour and forty-five minutes for breaks. Judge Bunch stated seven training credits for each day for this two-day class and can either attend one day or both days.

Judge Bunch stated the recommendation is for twelve and a half training credits for perpetrator services.

Motion: Traci Dory. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Arnold

Vote: All in favor. Motion approved.

- d) Application for 14 training credits  
Tim Hamilton  
High Altitude Family Violence Summer Conference  
July 14 & 15, 2014, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, AZ  
(Reviewed by Meri Shadley)

Tim Hamilton excused himself as Chair and handed the Chair position over to Traci Dory.

Meri Shadley stated the recommendation is for fourteen training credits.

Motion: Judge Bunch. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sue Meuschke

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Tim Hamilton abstained due to being the applicant.

Motion approved.

- e) Application for 22.75 training credits  
Tim Hamilton  
19<sup>th</sup> International Summit & Conference on Violence, Abuse & Trauma  
September 7-10, 2014, San Diego, CA  
(Reviewed by Traci Dory)

Traci Dory stated the recommendation is for twenty-two point seventy-five training credits.

Motion: Judge Bunch. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Arnold

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Tim Hamilton abstained due to being the applicant.

Motion approved.

- f) Application for 5.5 training credits  
Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence  
“Hanging Out or Hooking Up”  
Ongoing - Statewide  
(Reviewed by Lisa Arnold)

Traci Dory handed the Chair position back to Tim Hamilton.

Lisa Arnold stated the recommendation is for five point five training credits.

Motion: Traci Dory. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Judge Bunch

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Sue Meuschke abstained due to it being her agency for application.

Motion approved.

**11. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding the following requests for approval of new providers and supervisors (for possible action):**

- a) Dwayne Brown, Provider  
ABC Therapy  
Las Vegas, NV  
(Reviewed by Sue Meuschke)

Sue Meuschke stated it is not clear where all the training fits into those sixty hours with the new regulations. Ms. Meuschke is requesting copies of the agendas for trainings.

Ms. Meuschke recommends continuing pending additional information.

Motion: Traci Dory. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Arnold

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Judge Bunch, "I as a judge who may sit in any court may have to rule on any contemptuous actions on any provider, supervisor or program. This statement is continuous for all items in agenda item number eleven."

Motion passes.

- b) Michelli Kaltsas, Provider  
New Beginnings Counseling Center, Inc.  
Las Vegas, NV  
(Reviewed by Tim Hamilton)

Tim Hamilton stated that the application was partially completed as well as for not one but two providers. Mr. Hamilton stated there is not a correct number of CEU's and documented hours of male/female observation.

Mr. Hamilton recommends continuing pending additional information for the provider listed on the agenda.

Motion: Traci Dory. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sue Meuschke

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Judge Bunch, "I as a judge who may sit in any court may have to rule on any contemptuous actions on any provider, supervisor or program. This statement is continuous for all items in agenda item number eleven."

**12. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding the application for certification renewal from the following agencies (for possible action):**

- a) Great Basin Counseling Services  
Reno, NV  
(Reviewed by Sue Meuschke)

Sue Meuschke stated she reviewed the packet except for the sliding fee scale that was noted as attached, but it was not attached.

Ms. Meushcke recommends continuing pending additional information.

Motion: Traci Dory. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Arnold

Discussion. Meri Shadley asked if the agency would be approved contingent upon receiving the sliding fee scale. Ms. Meuschke stated she would like to see the sliding fee schedule before approving the agency.

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Judge Bunch, "I as a judge who may sit in any court may have to rule on any contemptuous actions on any provider, supervisor or program. This statement is continuous for all items in agenda item number eleven."

Motion passes.

- b) Safe Nest, TADC  
Las Vegas, NV  
(Reviewed by Traci Dory)

Tim Hamilton excused himself as Chair and handed the Chair position over to Sue Meuschke.

Traci Dory stated she reviewed the packet and there were three staff members that did not get their maximum in person trainings compared to their distance media. Ms. Dory explained that these three staff members had more hours in distance media for training than they did in live training. Ms. Dory stated this is against the regulations.

Ms. Dory recommends continuing pending additional information including getting live trainings in place.

Motion: Lisa Arnold. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Meri Shadley

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Judge Bunch, "I as a judge who may sit in any court may have to rule on any contemptuous actions on any provider, supervisor or program. This statement is continuous for all items in agenda item number eleven." Tim Hamilton abstained due to it being his agency for application.

Motion passes.

Sue Meuschke handed the Chair position back to Tim Hamilton.

**13. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding new program (for possible action):**

- a) Smart Choices Certified Domestic Violence Treatment Program  
Las Vegas, NV  
(Reviewed by Meri Shadley)

Meri Shadley had a question on the application pertaining to the staff person being supervisor only. Ms. Shadley asked if it needs to be verified who will be providing the groups. Tim Hamilton stated there needs to be a male/female treatment team. Ms. Shadley stated that the application does not include that information. Mr. Kline stated there are four people certified, but did not include that in the application.

Ms. Shadley recommends continuing pending additional information and verification of appropriate treatment team.

Motion: Sue Meuschke. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Traci Dory

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Judge Bunch, "I as a judge who may sit in any court may have to rule on any contemptuous actions on any provider, supervisor or program. This statement is continuous for all items in agenda item number eleven."

Motion passes.

- b) Churchill Council on Alcohol & Other Drugs dba New Frontier Treatment Center  
Fallon, NV  
(Reviewed by Tim Hamilton)

Tim Hamilton stated there is a crucial part of the application missing in reference to supervisor and provider fees and observations. Mr. Dumar stated that crucial part was forgotten as part of the application.

Mr. Hamilton recommends continuing pending additional information.

Motion: Sue Meuschke. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Traci Dory

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Judge Bunch, "I as a judge who may sit in any court may have to rule on any contemptuous actions on any provider, supervisor or program. This statement is continuous for all items in agenda item number eleven."

Motion passes.

**14. \*Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding request for additional program location (for possible action):**

- a) New Beginnings Counseling Centers, Inc.  
Henderson, NV  
(Reviewed by Traci Dory)

Traci Dory recommends approval.

Motion: Sue Meuschke. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Meri Shadley

Vote: All in favor. Abstained: Judge Bunch, "I as a judge who may sit in any court may have to rule on any contemptuous actions on any provider, supervisor or program. This statement is continuous for all items in agenda item number eleven."

Motion passes.

**15. Comments from Committee Chair, Tim Hamilton.**

Tim Hamilton stated that he is stepping down as Committee Chair.

**16. \*Discussion, recommendation and possible action regarding election of new Committee Chair. (for possible action)**

Tim Hamilton nominates Traci Dory as Committee Chair.

Motion: Sue Meuschke. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Judge Bunch

Traci Dory accepted the nomination.

Colleen Platt asked if there were any other nominees. Mr. Hamilton asked for any discussion.

Vote: All in favor. Motion passes.

Traci Dory will be the new Committee Chair.

**17. \*Discussion regarding future agenda items and future meeting dates.(for possible action).**

A special meeting will be held on March 16, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. via teleconference  
The agenda items will be the continued pending agenda items from this meeting.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held on May 7, 2015.

**18. Public comment.**

There was no public comment.

<p><b>Note:</b> No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)</p>
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**19. \*Adjournment. (For possible action).**

Meeting adjourned.