

STATE OF NEVADA

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DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF NEVADA BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS STANDARDS
NEVADA STATE CERTIFIED COURT REPORTERS BOARD

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, February 13, 2025
Start Time: 5:30pm
End Time: 6:20pm

Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present Via Zoom:	Heidi Konsten	William LaBorde	Kevin Diamond	Salli Phillips
	Linda Shaw	Debbie Uehara	Alexander Nagle	Carla Bywaters
	Celeste Perla	Debra Morris	E-Depositions	Jualita Stewart
	Kathy DiLorenzo	Kele Smith	Kimberly Farkas	Lori Judd
	Peggy Elias	Taylor Lane	Tia Ely	

ITEM #1: **Meeting Called to Order and Board Member Roll Call:**

Without motion, Heidi Konsten called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

Board Members:

Heidi Konsten	Present
William LaBorde	Present
Kevin Diamond	Present
Linda Shaw	Present
Salli Phillips	Present

ITEM #2: **Public Comments:** No public comments.

ITEM #3: **Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion by Salli Phillips: That the Board approves the meeting agenda in its entirety.
Motion seconded by William LaBorde, all in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #4: **Approve Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Kevin Diamond: That the Board approves the December 9, 2024 open meeting minutes in its entirety. Motion seconded by Linda Shaw, all in favor, motion moves forward.

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Motion by William LaBorde: That the Board approves the January 31, 2025 closed meeting minutes in its entirety. Motion seconded by Kevin Diamond, all in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #5: Ratify the January 31, 2025 Certification Exam Results: Debbie Uehara reported there were 4 applicants registered and appeared for the exam. No incidents to report. After grading each exam at the January 31, 2025 closed meeting, it was confirmed that 3 applicants passed the exam and 1 applicant failed the exam. No further comments.

Motion by Kevin Diamond: That the Board ratify the test results from the January 31, 2025 certification exam. Motion seconded by Linda Shaw, all in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #6: Continuing Education Credits by Providing Pro Bono Work: Carla Bywaters, CCR #866 presented her proposal for certified court reporters to earn continuing education credits while providing pro bono court reporting services. NAC 656.400 encourages each court reporter to cooperate with and donate services to organizations that provide legal services to indigent persons, including, without limitation, programs for legal services described in NRS 12.015. The program was well received by the Board. Ms. Bywaters and Debbie Uehara will finalize the outline and procedures to earn these credits and inform the certified court reporters of Nevada. No further comments.

Motion by Kevin Diamond: That the Board approves the program to earn continuing education credits by providing pro bono court reporting services. A court reporter may earn 1 general credit per 3 hours of court reporting services and not to exceed 4 general credits per reporting period. Motion seconded by William LaBorde, all in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #7: NVCRA's Program to Earn Nevada Law Credits: Kim Farkas, President/Treasurer of the Nevada Court Reporters Association presented their proposal to earn 1 Nevada law credit at their March 2025 Spring seminar. They will host a 90-minute seminar featuring NVCRA's lobbyist Joseph Guild, Esq. His presentation will include his role as a lobbyist, procedural process at the state legislature and share the background of SB 191 and how Nevada court reporters can support their proposed legislation. A Q&A session will follow his presentation. No further comments.

Motion by Kevin Diamond: That the Board approves NVCRA's Spring seminar program held on March 29th and 30th in Las Vegas. The Board will award 1.5 Nevada law credits for this program. Motion seconded by William LaBorde, all in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #8: Senate Bill 191 – Provisions Relating to Court Reporters and Court Reporting Firms: Kevin Diamond stated the genesis of this matter; when the Board appeared before the Sunset Subcommittee, Senator Daly expressed an interest in sponsoring a bill for the Board. The Board's previous sponsor Senator Hammond was appointed as the new Executive Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation by Governor Joe Lombardo so the Board was very excited to accept Senator Daly's support. Senator Daly was very interested in some of the issues the Board has faced in the past years.

5135 Camino Al Norte, Suite 270 North Las Vegas, Nevada 89031
Phone: 702-487-8787 Email: NVCCRB@gmail.com Website: crptr.nv.gov

Having no prior knowledge of the bill, SB 191 caught the Board by surprise. The Board was not aware of the bill draft request until it was brought to the Board's attention by Senator Daly when it passed and became a senate bill. Mr. Diamond clarified that the Board did not have any part in combining the Board's bill with NVCRA's bill. NVCRA hired lobbyist Joseph Guild to represent NVCRA. It was never the intent of the Board to capitalize the services of Mr. Guild. Mr. Diamond expressed his confusion regarding the formation of the bill. Kim Farkas, NVCRA's President express the same confusion along with their lobbyist Mr. Guild.

Debbie Uehara thinks Senator Daly might have referred to the Board's previous bill, SB 160 (regulating legal videographers) and used it as a guideline to formulate SB 191. Representatives from the Board and the Legislative Regulations Committee will meet with Senator Daly on February 14, 2025 and hope to get clarification and direction. An open meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2025 to review and discuss the outcome of the February 14th meeting. No further comments.

Motion by Kevin Diamond: That the Board task William LaBorde and Peggy Elias to revise SB 191 and present their proposals at the February 19, 2025 open meeting. Motion seconded by Linda Shaw, all in favor, motion moves forward.

- ITEM #9:** **Executive Secretary's Report:** Debbie Uehara reported the Board has approximately \$10,000 to last through April. Renewal fees should start coming in to build up the Board's revenue. Nikki Haag Deputy Director of Boards and Commissions received the Board's letter of hardship on December 11, 2024. No response or direction from their office. No further comments.
- ITEM #10:** **Public Comments:** Kim Farkas sought clarification on agenda item #6; is the Board awarding Nevada law or general credits for pro bono work. Heidi Konsten confirmed the Board will provide general credits. Peggy Elias questioned if the housekeeping rules were to be included in the SB 191. Heidi Konsten referred this matter back to agenda item #8.
- ITEM #8:** Peggy Elias sought clarification; does the Board want to include the proposed housekeeping rules in their review when revising SB 191. Without motion, the Board directed Peggy Elias and William LaBorde to include the proposed housekeeping language in SB 191. No further comments.
- ITEM #11:** **Next Scheduled Meeting and Agenda Items:** The next open meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2025 at 5:30pm. Agenda items will be determined at a later date. No further comments.

Adjournment: Motion by Linda Shaw to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by William LaBorde. All in favor, meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.