

STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

NEVADA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION MINUTES

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE AND IN PERSON

The public may observe this meeting and provide public comment during the public comment section on Zoom or in person at:

Live Meeting:

DETR – Job Connect
Conference Room
3405 S. Maryland Parkway
Las Vegas, NV 89169

Zoom Meeting:

Topic: CPE November Commission Meeting
Time: Nov 1, 2023, 09:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

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Staff Present during Video Conference

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

Members of the Public, Media, Educational Institutions and Other Agencies Present

Todd Weiss, Nevada Attorney General Office, Chief Deputy Attorney General
Zachary Soard, Assist to Succeed
Amber Richins, Assist to Succeed
Greg Gilbert, Welding School of Nevada
Arlo Thompson
Diane
Jackalyn Copeland
Jerame Ayers
Lorna Harrison

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

Thomas Kenny, Chair
Sharon Frederick, Vice Chair
Nate Clark
Jon Ponder

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
MINUTES

November 1, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.

Call to Order

The meeting was held via Video Conference ZOOM and In Person, DETR – Job Connect Conference Room, 3405 S. Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada 89169. The meeting was called to order by Chair Commissioner Thomas Kenny at approximately 9:39 AM.

Public Comment Phone Option Instructions

For members of the public please note the options for attending this zoom meeting are via web and phone:

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Public Comments

None

Written Comments

This is Susan Beckett, no written comments.

Confirmation of Posting

Administrator Kelly Wuest, for the record, Administrator, Commission on Postsecondary Education. Yes, proper notice was provided for this meeting pursuant to Nevada’s Open Meeting Law, NRS 241.020 and confirmation of posting was received. We are in compliance with the open meeting law.

Roll Call

- Commissioner Chair Kenny - Present
- Commissioner Vice-Chair Frederick - Present
- Commissioner Clark - Present
- Commissioner Ponder – Present
- Commissioner Rhoades - Absent
- Commissioner Clyne - Excused

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

Adoption of Agenda:

Motion: Commissioner Frederick – Move to approve adoption of Agenda for November 1, 2023.
Second: Commissioner Ponder.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, agenda is adopted.

Approval of Minutes August 2, 2023, Meeting

Discussion: None.
Motion: Commissioner Clark – Motion to approve the minutes for August 2, 2023, meeting.
Second: Commissioner Ponder.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Introduction of Kristine Nelson, ESD Administrator

Administrator Wuest for the record, she is not here today. We will put it on the agenda for our next meeting. She is the new ESD Administrator, with administrative power over the Commission. This includes financials and signatory on the State Budget.

Administrators Report

Administrator Wuest gave the Administrator's Report as submitted with the updated additions to total student counts for Quarter 3: Student count is 10,253 with 23 unreported.

Commissioner Clark, along the same lines tied with item number 5 on the demo background. It seems like the backlogs are getting bigger, I guess. I know from my own standpoint we submitted a program change in May. We still haven't heard anything. It's frustrating from the school's perspective. At what point do we think we're going to get caught up?

Administrator Wuest, hiring for the new position is going to help to distribute workload. Next, when the computer system goes online it is going to immediately help with the new applications coming in. Our backlog has not grown but has remained about the same. Each quarter there is a surge of applications because licenses typically expire in February, May, August, and November in relation to the meetings. Right now, we are to the end of April beginning of May. It's one of our challenges and hope to be caught up in the spring. With the VA Agreement, we were assigned one less RBS than last year. Those were very time intensive and are permitted to conduct supervisory visits when there is no RBS identified.

Mr. Clark, I was wondering if we need to do some analytics. Maybe try to address this from a legislative standpoint, because I don't know if everybody's aware how this is impacting schools. I cannot enroll students, so I cannot sell a program that is not accredited because I don't have the state approval. That is lost revenue, and I don't know that the legislature saw that when they wrote these laws, the impact that it is going to create. From a budgetary standpoint, is one more person going to get us where we need to be to service the schools with a license?

Administrator Wuest, the backlog and increase in applications was the argument provided to the legislature to fund the position and the narrative identified delays in processing impacts the revenue and operations of all the institutions. A dollar amount would be helpful to see. This argument was also the reason why we were able to get the computer system. We requested everything to start

in July, but funding only authorized the position starting October. Commissioner Clark, that is all I had.

Applications for Full Term License

Academy For Professional Development

Testified: Jerame Ayers, Owner gave background and stated they started the security programs but have not had any students in those programs. Mr. Ayers furthered with explaining the emergency medical technician and issues with time to get clinical agreements through the hospital due to COVID and ongoing legal issues regarding students in said possible clinicals. They came towards the end of the extensions of the license with Southern Nevada Health District and Ayers will be going back to discuss with them because of the issue with the CPE license they kicked back the application it was just a timeline issue. Regarding EMT, I still plan on doing it. I just must start from step one again. My executive protection and my 30-day Physical Security Specialist is a long story within the last extension I started advertising and did get some for the 14 days. However, we do not have any start dates. I did have enrollments but had some cancel and some lied about their convictions.

Commissioner Frederick on your enrollment agreement is there a question that asks have you been convicted of a felony? Ayers, there is most definitely. However, they lied, and their backgrounds came back and even had a false identity.

Commissioner Kenny, I am going to summarize my understanding of it with EMT, you are starting over again with the application process trying to get through that. The Physical Security Specialists, it seems like that one is moving and with the Executive Protection Specialist, it seems like you are trying to drum up some interest in enrollments. With this understanding it is that this would be kind of our final extension here that we would need to get classes going in the next six months for these programs.

Motion: Commissioner Frederick – The provisional licensure for Academy of Professional Development be extended for an additional nine months with the condition that training commences no later than six months from the date of this meeting or the license will terminate.

Second: Commissioner Ponder.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Genevieve Training Center

Testified: Jackalyn Copeland gave background information and explained they began to have students starting in June. There were findings and I made corrections.

Motion: Commissioner Clark – A motion that the provisional license for Genevieve Training Center be extended for an additional six months.

Second: Commissioner Ponder.

Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Applications for Initial Provisional Licensure

Assist to Succeed Las Vegas

Testified: Dr. Zachary Soard, gave background as he was raised here in Las Vegas and a double graduate from UNLV bachelors and then dental program in 2014, purchased his first dental office in 2016 and began looking for dental assistants. Soard then purchased additional dental offices throughout the valley and struggled acquiring qualified staff which lead him to the path of wanting to open a school.

Commissioner Ponder asked about recruiting students, how they would locate them. Soard, we hope to do most of our advertising via our dental websites with a career section for people that are interested in the field. We will also be having brochures in our offices and using other marketing social media such has Facebook and Instagram reels targeted to that demographic.

Commissioner Kenny, do you have externship site agreements lined up presently? Or is that in development for the future? Soard, it is in development, we do have some verbal agreements, but nothing written yet. Commissioner Kenny, my next question is pertaining to placement and career services assistance. Who is going to be the person responsible for helping students with private or place assistance afterward. Soard, my assistant Amber Richins and I will use the contacts we have created in private practice over the last ten years to help assist in placement and also in the externships.

Commissioner Ponder asked what is the entry level starting salary for someone who has just recently graduated from the Dental Assistant Certificate? Soard, it would be in the \$15-\$16 range.

Motion: Commissioner Ponder - A motion that a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Assist to Succeed Las Vegas to offer a Dental Assistant certificate program contingent upon receipt of surety bond in the amount \$15,600, facility, and personnel information.

Second: Commissioner Clark.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Las Vegas Bartending School

Testified: Arlo Thompson gave background information about the school. He currently resides in Los Angeles and works for a company called National Bartender Staffing with a network of bartending schools in California but would love to open one in Nevada. The program is a basic program, they are going to learn the basics of mixology, alcohol awareness training, different spirits and have a knowledge of that. There is going to be classroom work as well as lab work. We will build our

mock bars in a location so that can have a full use bar with food coloring and colored water in bottles that will be set up to look like an actual bar and you can practice all the things learned before you take your exit exams to finish the program.

Commission Ponder, do you have job placement that is available, are you working with local bars or casinos for those opportunities mentioned? Thompson, not yet that is something we are working on and will look into as well.

Commissioner Frederick, do you have anything in place for your graduates if they need refresher training or perhaps information on new cocktails that are being developed? Thompson, yes, we have in our catalog there is an open policy, if you need it or feel like you have been away for a little bit, and you are feeling rusty you are more than welcome to spend any lab time you want refreshing your skills and things like that.

- Motion: Commissioner Clark - That a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Las Vegas Bartending School to offer the Bartender certification contingent upon receipt of facility approval, personnel, and surety bond in the amount of \$10,000.
- Second: Commissioner Frederick.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Welding School of Nevada

Testified: Greg Gilbert, Owner, gave background information on his experience that began in 1997 in Elkhart, Indiana with the fabrication side of welding and teaching at JATC. Due to a labor shortage and difficulty finding qualified workers opening a school seemed to be the next step.

Commissioner Ponder, where do you recruiting from and what is the entry level starting salary for people completing the program? Do you offer job placement? Gilbert, the starting wage is usually between \$17 and \$20 an hour. Regarding the recruitment, we are going to do the standard Facebook, website, and outreach with my church and local high schools. Pertaining to job placement we are going to use monster.com, indeed, and look for other places that are hiring. We also plan to do open houses for placements and recruiting.

Commissioner Clark, I noticed in the descript of the programs that the curriculum is designed by the American Welding Society following the Sense guidelines. It's a good foundational curriculum but it also mentions that the students will have the ability to become certified welders through AWS. Is the school an accredited test facility with AWS? Gilbert, I am working on that right now. We are not accredited yet but are working on the process to do that. Commissioner Clark, I would encourage you to make sure you do not advertise that they are going to be certified until you achieve that accredited test facility because you could find yourself in

court defending yourself over the difference between accredited test facility and non-accredited test facility is the title of that qualification test. Gilbert, thank you, understood.

- Motion: Commissioner Clark - A motion that a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Welding School of Nevada to offer a certificate program in AWS Sense Welding contingent upon receipt of surety bond in the amount \$104,000, facility approval, and personnel information.
- Second: Commissioner Frederick.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Public Comment

Commissioner Ponder, I wanted to publicly say thank you. Kelly, Maricris and Susan, all three of you do just a tremendous job. Susan, thank you for handling the crisis mode and the beginning and I know you are doing a lot in the background to make sure we could get this meeting done today.

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Kenny. Time: 10:47