

**Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health (DPBH)**  
**Child Care Licensing Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Date: April 11, 2017**  
**Time: 1:30 PM**

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
727 Fairview Drive, Suite E  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

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Also available via teleconference  
Call in Number: (775) 887-5619  
Conference Number: 2013  
PIN Number: 0411

**Committee Members Present**

Diane Nicolet, Chair, E L Cord (Carson City)  
Carrie Paldi, Co-Chair, Creative Kids Learning Center (Las Vegas)  
Laurie Ciardullo, Roots and Wings (Las Vegas)  
Shelly Martinez, Roots & Wings (via phone)  
Tiffany Alston, Sunrise Children's Foundation (via phone)  
Rachel Perez, Kids Quest (via phone)  
Andrea Davis, Kids Kottage (via phone)  
Sue Joyner, Dayton Valley Learning Center (via phone)

**Committee Members Not Present**

David Walton, Challenger School  
Andrea Doran, WNC

**Child Care Licensing Staff Present**

Latisha Brown, Program Manager (Las Vegas)  
Alicia Mazy, Administrative Assistant (Carson City)  
Lisa Roberts, Surveyor (Carson City)  
Tammy Hutchinson, Surveyor (Carson City)  
Tiffany Kaplan, Surveyor (Carson City)  
Edith Farmer, Supervisor (Las Vegas)  
Lisa Torgerson, Surveyor (Las Vegas)  
Jennie Ballou, Surveyor (via phone)

**Public Attendees**

Joyce Draege, Mountain View Montessori (Carson City)  
Cody Premo, Milestones (Carson City)  
Heather Premo, Milestones (Carson City)  
Michelle Ayrault, Shelly Bellie's Childcare (Carson City)  
Ryan Putzer, Small Strides (Carson City)  
Jennifer Anderson, Just Kidding Learning Center (Carson City)  
Jason Anderson, Just Kidding Learning Center (Carson City)

Nikole Jacobs, (Carson City)  
Jaedah Andrus, Little Tikes Too (Carson City)  
Jessica Rinetti, Little Tikes Too (Carson City)  
Athena Hardiman, Little Tikes Too (Carson City)  
Tess Figueroa, The Magic of Learning (Las Vegas)  
Thomas Kelly, The Magic of Learning (Las Vegas)  
Donna Einspahr, Mountain View Lutheran (Las Vegas)

**Teleconference Attendees**

Hailey Hamel, The Child Garden  
Karen McLish, Washoe County Social Services  
Jamie Taylor, Washoe County Social Services  
Kristy Baker, Washoe County Social Services  
Elise Henriquez, Washoe County Social Services  
Mike McBride, Child Garden  
Kristen, Saint Albert's Reno  
LeAnn Shelton, UNR  
Sherry Waugh, UNR  
Margaret Oberg  
Jacob Vigil, Government Relations  
Tiffany Applestand  
Lynn Copeland, CSA Headstart

1. **Opening remarks, Introductions Roll Call-Diane Nicolet, Chair**
2. **Approval of meeting minutes from October 11, 2016 meeting-Diane Nicolet, Chair**

**Motion:** Diane asks for a motion to approve the October 11, 2016 minutes as written. Tiffany Alston puts forth a motion to approve the October 11, 2016 CCAC minutes as written. Rachel Perez seconds the motion. All in favor no opposed.

3. **Approval of meeting minutes from January 10, 2017 Meeting-Diane Nicolet, Chair**

**Motion:** Diane asks for a motion to approve the January 10, 2017 minutes as written. Tiffany Alston puts forth a motion to approve the January 10, 2017 CCAC minutes as written. Rachel Perez seconds the motion. All in favor no opposed.

4. **Update from Child Care Licensing-Child Care Licensing Representative**

**Latisha Brown:** CCL has quite a few bills out there.

SB46 backgrounds from the federal government to include assault on a person., drug charges within the last five years, amendment to that if it has anything to do with distribution or manufacturing it will be a lifetime ban.

**Carrie Paldi:** Reach out to Senator Woodhouse because she had a hand in this for out of state checks I thought it was a part of the federal mandate. I think there is some confusion think there are some people thinking there is a bill related to this or that it is in regulation. There are centers I have spoken to because

Child Care Licensing is contacting them stating that they will need to conduct an out of state background check if they have lived in another state within the last 5 years

**Latisha Brown:** The consent and release is for everyone including the non-licensed providers that are receiving subsidies. They are being required to complete a background check as well as a part of the federal mandate. This is not something that went through the lab process, this is a policy requirement.

**Carrie Paldi:** I think there is some confusion. People weren't aware of the changes. people are going in and they aren't aware and CCL is calling stating you need a background check from out of state if applicable, we thought that the FBI covered that. Metro and other agencies are not able to direct us on how to do this.

**Latisha Brown:** It's a policy change as a part of the backgrounds. It is up to the individual and the provider to provide that information to licensing. Licensing will not be collecting that information for you.

**Carrie Paldi:** is it possible to have licensing send out what the policy change is?

**Diane Nicolet:** The challenge is several fold. If you hire someone that is 30 years of age and has lived in 3 different states, we don't know how to complete this. the state of Utah states they don't know how to complete this process. Every state has their own process'. Another concern is from student workers. I have 5 international students. I believe we all need guidance on this

**Latisha Brown:** The out of state checks are not slowing down the process. For example, if you are saying that you're from AZ, it's a felony for an individual to disseminate any information on their background to anyone. I am asking for individuals in those types of situation to put it in writing, stipulate the law from that state, notarize the letter and we will accept it. We recognize it's an issue. We aren't slowing anyone down as long as we get the fingerprints done, we get the state reports, FBI, and we know you are in the process of getting your out of state background check. We cannot exercise a recourse if another state prevents you from getting the documentation. We are in talks with our AG. We already get FBI done, do we need it, and we are talking to other states to figure out if it's something that and see if this is something the feds need to look at again. We feel that the FBI background check covers the criteria. We received a few phone calls from some individuals that stated that the state of Nevada is out of compliance and that we need the out of state background checks done. we added that on there with the caveat that we aren't going to hold it against anybody if you're not able to obtain the background check. We just need to document that you had attempted and was unable to accomplish. We can send something out in writing. We have seen a variation of clearances and background checks from other states. As long as we receive something from the other state stating that you have a clear criminal history. We recognize that there are a few issues or concerns with people struggling to obtain the out of state background checks. We will not hold the process up. If we receive a clear FBI check, we are saying you can go ahead and work. I am keeping a list of issues and problems that exist. This way we can present these issues.

**Carrie Paldi:** I think if we had a list of how we can obtain the background checks and who we can contact, then that would be helpful.

**Latisha Brown:** We found a website that has compiled this information already. There are some inconsistencies however. For example, for our state, the list had the contact information for HCQC not NDPS. We are making sure that all the information is accurate before we forward to providers. There is

also another state that compiled information stating where law enforcement agencies are located but there are also some inconsistencies with that list as well.

**Diane Nicolet:** Thank you for the information. I feel privileged to have this level of information. I believe the list would be helpful so that we feel a little more comfortable with this process. In addition, since Washoe County conducts their own licensing, what kinds of challenges do you find?

**Elise Henriquez:** Our information goes to the sheriff's office and the sheriff's office conducts the checks for us.

**Latisha Brown:** Bill AB 346 deals with small child care facilities. These are facilities that care for up to 4 children that would need to join a registry.

AB99-Gender Identity bill. This is something that will be added to your checklist to ensure that you have a procedure in place to ensure that if a child comes to you, and that have a gender question or they feel that if they are a male but feel like they are a female, and they need to use the bathroom, it will be up to the facility to create a policy on how to deal with that. It is especially important for facilities such as Child Haven and Kids Kottage. They see more of this type of situation than a child care center. Every facility needs to have it in writing and how they deal with those types of situations.

AB176-For seasonal and temporary programs. It will not affect licensed facilities. These are for sports teams, football camps, etc. This is a self-attestation to ensure that these facilities have things in place such as safety checklist, background checks, health permits, and policies and procedures in place to ensure the care for the children they have in their care. The issue right now is who will conduct the background checks, who will check the self-attestations, and if the facilities receive complaints, who will go out on these complaints.

**Diane Nicolet:** Does that mean they will be licensed or will they only have oversight?

**Latisha Brown:** It was passed last week which removed licensing altogether, but will have civil penalties if they do not have certain criteria in place.

SB189-Unlicensed facilities are addressed in this bill as well as licensed facilities. Senator Woodhouse was able to speak on this bill at one of our past meetings. Senator Spearman is also working on this bill with Senator Woodhouse. Senator Spearman added some amendments to this bill. This bill addresses the unlicensed child care facilities ensuring that they have trainings and background checks completed. We are trying to ensure who will be verifying these trainings and background checks are completed. In addition, the bill addresses background checks for licensed facilities need to be completed every 2 years and the child abuse and neglect needs to be refreshed every 5 years.

**Carrie Paldi:** My understanding is that there will be an amendment introduced to the background checks being every 2 years. People should reach out to Senator Woodhouse to let her know your concerns with that piece of the bill. The expenditures related to the background check etc. It's important to speak to Senator Woodhouse about your concerns. The other piece of the bill that I asked for clarification is if someone has a temporary card but not a clearance letter, then they can work under the supervision of the director but that the director doesn't have to be in the room with them at all times. The way that the bill is written, the person with a temporary card would not be allowed to work alone so I want to know if this would affect anyone's business. The supervision of the director has always been adequate in our case, and Licensing did not have something that influenced this bill. I think people need to reach out to Senator Woodhouse and give their opinions and concerns with the bill.

**Latisha Brown:** There are 3 more bills but I have not sat in on those yet and I do not want to give out incorrect information so I will gather all the information on the bills and send it out to on the ListServ.

**Carrie Paldi:** I want everyone to know that they can track and watch the status of these bills on the Nevada legislative website for up to 10 bills. You can login in everyday and see what the status of the bills are. There are some bills that can increase funding for the child care subsidy, which is important to the industry and there is a large price tag associated with this. This is not a Licensing concern, I just wanted to mention the need for the grant.

**Latisha Brown:** Yes, this is something being handled by the Division of Welfare Services and I do not want to speak on something that I'm not that knowledgeable on.

Continue update from Licensing

**Latisha Brown:** We have been very busy with the Legislative session, just so everyone knows: our bills are usually heard on Mondays and Wednesdays and usually in the afternoon. And this is a great time to advocate for yourself. We have been online for a little over a year now and it has been helping us streamline and ensure that we are handling the providers in the same manner. Our licensing numbers had been off for some time and this has helped us correct that, so I will be able to send out the reports for Washoe County and the State, around June or July. Is there any concerns or questions about CLICS?

**Carrie Paldi:** CLICs does not support some of the newer platforms and Internet explorer is getting ready to move to Microsoft Edge which is not supported so I'm wondering if the State needs to look into this because we have such a great program but may not be able to access it. The other thing is the automated reset of the password every 3 months and when you go in to change the password it won't accept the new password so we have to call Licensing to have it reset so I understand the security precautions of resetting the password every so often but when you only have 2 inspections a year, you're changing it every time you log in.

**Latisha Brown:** Thank you, anything else anyone has noticed? No? Okay, we can definitely talk to CLICs and see if we can fix that. I know that they are working on the support, they are talking to Safari to fix that but with anything new there are bounds to be kinks. I did send out the draft of regulations, we delineated out in section 5 the ages and we changed the numbers a little. I know Carrie asked for 14 4 year olds instead of 13. The numbers were moved but we can work on it. Section 5, number 5 we said we would allow for mixed ages and the ratio would be based on the youngest child in the group.

**Carrie Paldi:** On behalf of David Walton, he would like the ratio to be based on the average age of the children in the group, not the youngest age. If you are trying to transition a child into the next age group, then the ratio drops as soon as the child enters the classroom so I think that is a concern. I would have to say I agree with him on this. I do appreciate the separation of the age groups. I would like to see a 3-5 mixed age group ratio if that option is available.

**???:** This would also effect the opening and closing times as the children are often mixed together during those times.

**Latisha Brown:** I thought that the last time we met we were all in agreement for the youngest age but now you are asking for the average age? Because in the minutes, it says that everyone is okay with the youngest child. We are also allowing this to happen all day so long as you follow the ratio guidelines, as we realize that each business is open at different times so a "morning" and "night" won't work for everyone.

**Carrie Paldi:** I think that maybe we should have the average for the beginning and ending part of the day since children are coming in at all different times.

**Latisha Brown:** Well since everyone's day is different it would be hard for Licensing to determine this. So, if we put in 8-10 am, this won't apply to all 500 facilities as some that are open 24 hours and some that open at noon and some that close at midnight. So, we are allowing the facility to mix the ages as they need to throughout the day.

**Edith Farmer:** What we are worried about is if someone has 4 under 9 months old but add an older toddler to the room then they would be at a 1-6 ratio and not a 1-4 ratio.

**Carrie Paldi:** I understand what you're saying, so if someone adds a 4 year old to a group of toddlers then the average age is 3 instead of younger.

**Diane Nicolet:** I think what happens most often throughout all our facilities is that in the morning or evening you have siblings together so you can have a 5 month old and a 5 year old and it will just depend on good supervision during those times. I am okay with the youngest child but right now we have the infants and toddlers as the average age and I wonder if we couldn't consider that?

**LeAnn Shelton:** I think we should keep with the youngest kid in the classroom because there is too much room for abuse with the average age.

**Haley Hamel:** What if it was written to only be for those under 2 since when children are being moved it is usually those from 2 -5 years old.

**Latisha Brown:** We had that written out before but it was a no-go, but I understand what you are saying as we already had that broken down. But we had some concerns within the industry with how things were written so this was a good compromise for us.

**Haley Hamel:** I thought the concern was that the separation meant that 2 year old and three years old could not be together.

**Latisha Brown:** So, in this what would you like us to consider?

**Carrie Paldi:** I think that the part that was concerning to people was the minimum age gap of 2 years and that this would prevent siblings being together at the end of the day.

**Haley Hamel:** Doing it based on the youngest child is going to lead to problems in the beginning and ending part of the day so I was proposing that we use the youngest age of the children for those under 2 and that for those 2 and up and use the average age.

**Diane Nicolet:** I understand, and I think the transition point you made is very important.

**Carrie Paldi:** I think that is a good compromise to help solve some issues that people have.

**LeAnn Shelton:** I appreciate everyone's attempts to compromise and I would be more willing to do so if the age limit were moved to 3 years old. I am not comfortable with it being under 3.

**Diane Nicolet:** I would like to hear from some of our practitioner to hear their comments on positive/negative impact.

**Jamie Taylor:** I am with LeAnn on this with the combining the 2 year olds in the average age ratio leads to more difficult supervision and I think it should go to the lower ratio. I think more classrooms would say that they were transitioning and we would see a lot more 2 year olds in the 3 year old classroom.

**LeAnn Shelton:** I think this needs to be looked a developmentally as there is a big difference in an older 2 and a young 3 year old.

**Lynn Copeland:** The ratios for head start are lower than this so it is not something we would need to comment on but I think that the developmental level is important because I think the school needs to be able to meet the needs of the child even if their age might say otherwise.

**Carrie Paldi:** LeAnn did I hear you correctly that you would be more comfortable with those under 3 having the youngest age ratio and those over 3 have the average age?

**LeAnn Shelton:** My preference would be the youngest age no matter what but if I had to compromise, then yes that is what I would prefer.

**Carrie Paldi:** Licensing, do you think that is an appropriate compromise?

**Latisha Brown:** I understand where everyone is coming from, and I worked in the industry so I do not see the issue with the youngest age. We did it at the few schools I worked at and it was okay. I am looking at it from different directions also taking into effect supervision, and what we have seen that effects our children. But again, I understand where everyone is coming from so I will take this back to the drawing board and consider it.

**Lisa Torgerson:** I have been a provider for well over 20 years and have never seen a center use anything but the youngest age of the child as was the regulation in Washington. It was worked fine and safely all the time. It is also quality care that we are looking for and something that we need to be heading towards.

**Lynn Copeland:** I want to applaud everyone for their important and Licensing for working with everyone on this. We utilize quality care and maintain the ratios set forth by Head Start for our federal funding and would like this to be taken into consideration.

**Carrie Paldi:** Our goal is to come up with something that works for everyone and not everyone is going to be happy but we also need to look at what is feasible and find something that everyone can live with. I believe that Licensing's goal is to come out here today with a working document that can be turned around in time for the Board of Health in June.

**Latisha Brown:** LCB has already said that they will not look at our regulations until July 1<sup>st</sup> which is after the Board of Health so I am trying to do an Errata and I am just trying to wait and see what happens.

**Michelle Ayrault:** What would be the capacity if I had a room with birth to 24 months with 2 staff? As it is written, I would go to the youngest age and that would mean I could only have 8 with those 2 staff, correct?

**Latisha Brown:** Yes

**Michelle Ayrault:** To touch the financial status of this, I currently have 8 children in my infant toddler room and am having a hard time finding quality staff. What this does is makes me lose about 7 kids which is \$40K a year. I would then have to cut back on taking those younger children, and that would severely impact the community as we just had another child care center close. And lastly, I would have to raise my

rates to compensate for what I'm losing and that burden would fall on the parents. I would like to see an average age as it would benefit my center. I think we are pushing people back into the family care centers again that are not licensed.

**Diane Nicolet:** As we think about that impact, Latisha can you think about group size and capacity and see if that has anything to do with what Michelle just said?

**Latisha Brown:** You can use the entire size of your room as long as you maintain ratio and group size and let your surveyor know how you have broken it down.

**Michelle Ayrault:** So, in my 2 year old room I currently have 11 kids so you're saying I would have to hire someone for those 2 extra kids? Having all those kids in one room would be chaos if I were to break it down like that.

**Latisha Brown:** You can only have as many children in the room as there is room for the children based on its measure.

**Michelle Ayrault:** But you're saying I can only have 9 kids in the class or a max of 18.

**Edith Farmer:** There is no max, it is up to the size of the room.

**Michelle Ayrault:** Correct but I would have to hire another staff member for those 2 extra children and I cannot afford to.

**Latisha Brown:** I do not want you to think that we do not hear you but we are looking at all facilities and trying to maintain safety for the children. I will take all of this back with me and try to come up with something if I can.

**Nikole Jacobs:** My biggest concern is the group sizes; I do not think I understand what this means in relation to the capacity of the room. So, if my capacity for my infant room is 17 ages 0-12 months. Does this mean I am capped at 8 and lose the 7 or can have 17 so long as I have staff for the 1-4 ratio?

**Latisha Brown:** The latter.

**Nikole Jacobs:** So, I can staff 1-4 ratio and fill the classroom? That was my biggest concern because if I was capped at the 8 then I would lose over \$200K a year.

**Latisha Brown:** That is the capacity of the room, so if your room has a capacity of 17 then you can have that many so long as you are staffed according to the ratio and group size.

**Edith Farmer:** What the group size does, is ensure that the children are with the same caregiver.

**Latisha Brown:** For example, we visited a facility at night and there were 2 staff members and the children were all mixed but the staff members could not identify which children were theirs. We want to avoid this and want people to be able to identify which children they are watching.

**Lisa Torgerson:** We are not saying that the children cannot comingle either, we are stating that we want the caregivers to be responsible for a set number of children to ensure supervision.

**Nikole Jacobs:** Would we have to separate our rooms at all? To have these groups? Or do we just need to alert the teachers that if social services comes then they need to be able to state which children are under their direct care?



**Latisha Brown:** That is the compromise as in the beginning we wanted these separate groups but we are allowing for the capacity and for the social mingling of the children.

**Nikole Jacobs:** That just clarified everything. I am okay with staffing for the 1-4 so long as I do not lose spots in my center.

**Latisha Brown:** I will clarify number 4 to make sure everyone understands that you can mix.

**Jennifer Anderson:** Our infant room is huge. It is 1500 square feet. It is licensed for 40 infants. We have 0-15 months and they are all separated with a pony wall. Will that change your ratio on the 2 sides of the pony wall?

**Latisha Brown:** That is considered 2 different rooms.

**Jennifer Anderson:** It is currently considered one big room.

**Latisha Brown:** Here in Southern Nevada, we measure 2 different rooms if you use a pony wall for separation.

**Jennifer Anderson:** Can we include specifics? If you build a pony wall, how big does it need to be? Does it classify as 2 rooms? How big does a room have to be in order to be considered 2 different rooms with pony wall subdivision? We will run into this issue in the future I feel, if we don't address it now.

**Latisha Brown:** You're saying that the pony wall should be a specific height in order for this to be considered a separate room?

**Jennifer Anderson:** Yes, that's what I'm saying. Clarification that if you have one big room and you are using pony walls to subdivide a room, then it would be considered 2 different rooms.

**Latisha Brown:** You still need to measure from wall to wall and that's how you get your numbers. If your room is subdivided, then you shouldn't be affected in your numbers. Are you afraid that it will affect your numbers?

**Jennifer Anderson:** My concern at this point is that we have 0-15 months in that room. If we are using an average age, you will still run a 1:4 ratio but sometimes in the morning and afternoon I am running ratios based on the average. If I have 0-9 months, that will make the entire room a 1:4. If we have one 4 month old, but we still have 14 fifteen month olds then it changes my staffing. Currently we have a small pony wall that we would like to make taller hoping that it will qualify but I am not sure that it does. If we make a larger pony wall so that the room is subdivided, then we can put 0-9 months on one side and the 15 months on the other side to separate out those ratios. Technically, they are still in the same room. That's my goal.

**Latisha Brown:** I think that's fine. Like I stated, the pony walls are considered a separation currently. Pony walls are utilized in a lot of facilities currently and licensing looks at that room as 2 different rooms. The height of the wall does not matter.

**Jennifer Anderson:** Can we put that in there that if you have one room and you subdivide using pony walls, that those are considered different rooms?

**Latisha Brown:** I will look at getting that information in there, yes.

**Carrie Paldi:** Shelly (Shelly Bellie's), do you feel like all of the things that have been talked about are covering your issue or do you still have the same issue?

**Michelle Ayrault:** No, I will still have the same issue. If you are telling me that my 2 year olds and my 3 year olds can be mixed but the ratio will go down to the 2 year olds, then basically I will end up losing children.

**Carrie Paldi:** I am not trying to go back to the age groups that cannot be together. Could we say that if you are under 3 years of age and you have a room that is under 3 years of age that you could have be 2 different age groups. You could have a group of birth to 9 months, and a group of 9-24 months, which would still give you the 4 and 6 but in the same room just separate groups. Do you see what I am saying? As oppose to going to the youngest age of the children could we say all classrooms under the age of 3, as long as there is not more than a 2 year age difference, you could have different group rates.

**Lisa Torgerson:** Define separating the children because how are we as surveyors going to go in and observe a group of 0-18 months or 0-9 months, and they are intermixing, (inaudible). That defeats the purpose.

**Carrie Paldi:** I am just trying to see if this helps solve the issue that Michelle is having. Michelle, is that something that would be feasible for you? I am just throwing that out there. Normally when we think ratios, we think the room. Could we say you can have a group of this age and a group of this age as long as there is not too big of an age span?

**Michelle Ayrault:** It would make it closer financially for me. Again, in my center, I don't have bathrooms in every classroom. I have diaper changing stations. When I look at the 2 and 3's, I would prefer the 2-3 years a 1:12. That would put me at my capacity. I look at this like I don't have another room to do 2 more diapering stations. My 2 and 3 year olds are mostly not potty trained and that's why they are all in that room. I like the ratio 1:12 but I would like to see it next with the 1-2 year olds. I hear what you are saying. If I have a mature 3 year old, honestly, they will be added to my 4 year olds. They are at a different level. I understand what you are trying to do and you're trying to do your job but there are special circumstances that make it hard for us. I have some mature 3 year olds that have been potty trained since 2 ½ and they have been brought up. They are already writing, coloring, cutting and doing some of the things that some of their peers are not doing.

**Latisha Brown:** I am not trying to negate the development capacity that you are talking about but I am trying to cut away as much as possible from the supervision piece as I can and I don't know how much more I can cut away from that. I am listening to every avenue that I can possibly hear and will go down every way that I can help everyone out. However, I think everyone is in agreement that development and safety are important and it's trying to find that happy medium between safety and development. Again, I hear everyone's thoughts and I have written everything down. I will go back to the drawing board and see what I can come up with. Again, we have been discussing this going on 2 years now. It will come down to what you can deal with at this point. This is something that we have to do; it must be done. I am wondering when this will be ok? This has been a few drafts already. When will we be ok to move forward?

**Lisa Torgerson:** Like Latisha said, no one is trying to negate this. This is a challenge. When I owned my own child care business in Washington, it hurt my business too. I'm not going to lie, it did. It's scary. It's scary to be in business for yourself. Even if you are working for the corporate world it's scary when you

don't meet the bottom line. What's even more scary is that we have children that are being seriously injured. I am not speaking about scrapes and bruises; I am talking about broken legs and concussions.

**Michelle Ayrault:** I feel like the good daycares and the daycares that are represented here today don't do that. Maybe this is regarding the bad facilities and maybe that's their fault. They should be shut down. I should have to be financially responsible for that and losing children to make that happen. I think at that point you are pushing the good daycare facilities right out the door.

**LeAnn Shelton:** I have been in this industry for 25 years. I think it's really important for us, as the leaders in this community to, like you said, these are the good folks that are here. We have to take the community perspective and I see where licensing is coming from. We have been trying to increase licensing standards in Nevada for so many years. We are one of the worst states in the nation for regulations. If we aren't going to raise the regulations and make things a little bit harder for folks and those of us that are really good at what we do to adjust to make us better, then how this profession itself going to progress? We have got to put these standards in place. I really believe that the safety of children is incredibly important. The majority of those of us that are here today are cognizant of that. We have to look at this community as a whole and say, there are serious injuries that are happening and there are individuals cutting corners already when the corners are already so shallow. I believe we have to adopt the more stringent standards in order to be seen as the professionals that we are. Businesses adjust all of the time and we will have to adjust.

**Carrie Paldi:** Again, we do echo the sentiments and agree that we do need changes to our regulations. I don't dispute that these are important. I also feel that we need to look at the things that are concerning. I hear some of the concerns from Carson, Dayton and some of the rural. The issues that Shelly Bellie's is facing are very serious. There is already not enough space in that community for people. If she loses some of her ability to provide some of that care, then where do the children now go? Now they are in unlicensed child care. I think we need to look at all sides of the spectrum and we all need to understand that these are definitely important and we are moving in the right direction, but we also need to make sure that we aren't forcing good people out of business. We cannot leave our children going to unlicensed, substandard facilities where they are in unregulated care.

**Latisha Brown:** One of the biggest points that we are trying to make is that even in licensed care, things happen. We go into the licensed facilities and that's where we see the broken legs. That's where we see children that have been left outside and suffered from heat stroke. This is where we find people that shouldn't be working around children are working around children. These are all things that are happening in licensed child care. We are doing as much as we can to put safeguards in place. I won't pretend like every safeguard will be met, I am not going to pretend that every single safeguard will catch everything. What I am asking for is to come to a reasonable compromise at some point. When I say reasonable that means you have to be able to say, I am not completely happy with the changes but I know that we need to move forward. The change doesn't stop here. It doesn't mean this is what we will be saddled with forever. It means this is where we start. It is called progress and evolution. We can evolve. On the licensing side, what we have been trying to convey is a willingness to aid you in that evolution. I am trying to explain that change is imminent, it's needed and we have to do it. As an industry coming together I am hoping that we can find some sort of common ground. I know what I have learned throughout this entire process is that I won't be able to make everyone happy. I have tried very hard to do so. What it comes down to, is like what LeAnn has stated, that we have to come together as an industry. We have to come together the best that we can. That's all that I am hoping for. I really want you to know

that I hear you and I am writing everything down. I will do my best to fit what I can in. if when we get done with this meeting and the next draft comes out and you see that she didn't put in there what I had asked her to, it's not because I didn't try.

**Carrie Paldi:** I think that where we started and where we are now shows that there really is an effort going into this. We are in a very different spot now from where we started. Our concerns have been heard. If the regulations pass as written currently, am I going to say am I 100% happy with it, no, but am I happier than a year ago when I first saw them? I am.

**Latisha Brown:** I would like to talk about the trainings. Mrs. Nicolet had written me regarding this issue about combining hours and possibly dropping some classes, and that maybe the medication class does not have to be taken by everyone just specific persons in each school that administer medication. What the feds are looking for is for these classes to be delineated out. They will be delineated out as they are; however, we have been working with the Nevada Registry. They are prepared to combine classes so that you get the hours you need. This is not to say that you have to take only a shaken baby syndrome class. You can take a shaken baby syndrome class that is combined with recognizing and reporting child abuse. You will get credit for that class that covers all of those subject topics. We have to be able to show the Feds that the particular topic was adequately trained. So, I have to keep these delineated out that way however the Nevada Registry is already working on combining the classes. I think they have already done it. They are just waiting for these to go through. As far as the medication piece, it's a one time and done. Everyone has to take it but not everyone has to administer medication. It's awareness and knowledge. I think this will be ok. This will count toward their hours. It's good to have this knowledge base should something happen. This is one class that you have to take and you only have to take it one time.

**Carrie Paldi:** I want to say that I appreciate the transportation piece if this. The individuals that don't provide transportation won't have to take the class. I want to say I appreciate the effort.

**Latisha Brown:** SB189 addresses DUI's being added to our background checks as well. This could potentially become a prohibiting crime. Everything else is pretty much the same. Is there anything else anyone would like to go over?

**Haley Hamel:** I am a small center in Reno. We will be accepting 3 year olds in 2018. We get a lot of calls for that age group. I will have to remove 8 children and lose \$825 a month in my toddler age group classrooms. I do not think that kicking out 8 children from a good center is what is best for the community.

**Latisha Brown:** Ms. Hamel, you are the one that suggested the average age group for those over 2 and the youngest for those under 2, correct?

**Haley Hamel:** Yes, but his would not help me during the majority of the day.

**Latisha Brown:** So, this would cause you a hardship where they stand?

**Haley Hamel:** Yes, because my rooms are too small to add teachers in there for only a few children.

**Diane Nicolet:** I understand the dilemma, but I believe that the staff to child ratios are too high.

**Latisha Brown:** Do you want them lowered?

**Diane Nicolet:** No, I believe it is a testimony from both sides of the spectrum and that we should try these current numbers. But, I do think they are too high.

**Sue Joyner:** I respect Diane's comments but it is difficult in rural areas to find people who want to spend the time and money to take these trainings for such a low pay as we can't charge as much as Reno. The way the ratios would change, we would lose at least 20 children. I would encourage the centers the centers to join QRIS and become accredited because isn't that when we would raise the standard, in those programs? 'e been told that Licensing is the minimum standards.

**Latisha Brown:** We are beneath the standards of QRIS.

**Sue Joyner:** I feel like if we keep raising the standards then Licensing will reach the level of QRIS and accreditation when they should not be.

**Latisha Brown:** I understand but we are not meeting nor suggesting you meet QRIS because we know that it is not possible for every center to do that.

**Carrie Paldi:** I don't love everything here but I think that this is something we can live with. I don't want to be doing this again in 2 years so I think we need to find a compromise and move forward with the regulations.

#### **5. Appointment of any open Committee positions and term limits-Diane Nicolet, Chair**

**Diane Nicolet:** Appointing new positions and term limits. Did we receive any applications?

**Latisha Brown:** No ma'am.

**Carrie Paldi:** Family care home person for the North is the current open position, and in June we will have another position open. We need to reach out to people and programs to see if there is anyone we can find. The other thing we need to look at is Rural providers. It's extremely important we get more Rural input.

Sue is willing to switch to the at large position for the rural. Sue's current position 'for profit' would be easier to fill than the rural provider position. During the meeting in July, the council will be looking for a Northern home provider and a Northern for profit or rural representative.

Jennie Ballou states that she has a provider in Winnemucca that is a home care provider that may be interested in joining the council. Jennie will provide the information to Diane to reach out to the provider.

#### **6. Update and discussion of Regulation Review focus areas and recommendations-Diane Nicolet, Chair**

**Diane Nicolet:** I'm glad to hear that the Registry will be looking at this because I believe we need to resources to help get us through all of this. I also like how we combined 2 items during this discussion, #4 and #6. So, council members, do we want to make a motion for Latisha to go back to the drawing board and have updates by the next meeting?

**Carrie Paldi:** If you work on it again Latisha, how realistic is it of occurring? Have the Feds reached out to give a time line?

**Latisha Brown:** We are on a corrective action plan and have already missed the deadline for this plan. So, if I go back and make these corrections then I am not sure if we will make the Board of Health in June but I will try to do the Errata and see what happens.

**Diane Nicolet:** So, do we want to make a motion to move toward a review of the corrections?

**???:** How much time does the errata give us?

**Latisha Brown:** This will be used instead of LCB to get us to the June Board of Health. I need to make sure I can do that before I proceed.

**Carrie Paldi:** I think we need to specify what we need to add or change because I think that there are things that Latisha thinks she can do and what she cannot do. Should we repeat what the regulations are and the corrections mentioned today? So, we can see which corrections can be made without holding us back.

**Latisha Brown:** I am going to try and look at the youngest age group, for children under 2 and the average age for those over 2 because I think that might be something we can work in. I'm not sure about the pony wall and the inclusion of a new section, I am not sure how that will work.

**Tammy Hutchinson:** The person that mentioned that is under Washoe County's jurisdiction and they can be more restrictive than we are so I'm not sure if that falls under us.

**Jamie Taylor:** If someone has a pony wall then we can make that a separate area, just to clarify.

**Latisha Brown:** So maybe we do not need to add this.

**Carrie Paldi:** Maybe there can be some clarification with your staff as to what the pony wall represents?

**Latisha Brown:** I believe we already do.

**Carrie Paldi:** So, the primary errata would be the changes in the youngest age ratio being under 2 years of age and the average age for those above 2.

**Motion:** Diane asks for a motion to recommend the council move forward with the Errata that the ratios be based on the age of the youngest child for those under the age of 2 and the average age of the children be used for those over the age of 2. Carrie Paldi puts forth the motion. Laurie Ciardullo seconds the motion. All in favor no opposed.

## **7. Legislative Action Updates-Diane Nicolet, Chair**

## **8. Future Agenda Items-Diane Nicolet, Chair**

- Opening Remarks, Introductions, and Roll Call
- Approval of meeting minutes for April 11, 2017 meeting
- Update from Child Care Licensing
- Appointment of any open Committee positions and term limits
- Update and discussion of Regulation Review focus areas and recommendations
- Legislative action updates
- Future agenda items

- Update from council members
- Public comment
- Adjournment

**9. Update from Council Members**

**10. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**11. Adjournment-*Diane Nicolet, Chair***

Meeting adjourned at 3:59p.m.