



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY  
OFFICE OF THE LABOR COMMISSIONER  
NEVADA STATE APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL  
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**NEVADA STATE APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL SIMILAR PROGRAMS  
MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 8, 2026**

Nevada State Apprenticeship Council (NSAC) members present: Chairman Archie Walden, Vice-Chairman William Kephart, Steve Ingersoll, Samantha Dugan, Mandi Wilkins, Jordan Krahenbuhl, Elaine Silverstone, Anna Reynolds, Dr. Dana Ryan.

Also present: Toni Giddens, Brett Harris, Greg Ott.

**1. Call to Order.**

Chair Walden called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

**2. Roll Call and Quorum.**

Per direction from Chair Walden, State Apprenticeship Director Giddens took a roll call and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

**3. Verification of Public Posting.**

Director Giddens affirmed pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Section 241.020, the Nevada Open Meeting Law, that the agenda and notice for the meeting were properly posted.

**4. Public Comment.**

Chair Walden advised that public comments related to specific program proposals would be held until the relevant agenda item was heard. Chair Walden called for any other public comment. Hearing none, Chair Walden closed the first public comment.

**5. New Program Standards and Apprenticeship Agreement.**

Chair Walden called for a representative of The Children's Cabinet to present their proposed program. Lela Gonzales and Brianna Cambra, representing The Children's Cabinet, presented a proposed registered apprenticeship program focused on upskilling the early childhood education workforce. The program emphasized mentorship-based on-the-job learning, related instruction through prescribed college coursework facilitated through Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), as well as stackable, portable credentials aligned with TMCC certificate programs, and wrap around supports,

including community health worker services. Chair Walden asked if there was set funding for this program. Lela Gonzales stated that yes they did have initial funding through the ABA grant, but they would be doing additional fundraising to ensure the implementation of the program. Chair Walden also asked regarding the curriculum, as the program did not appear to have anything set. Ms. Gonzales stated that there are prescribed classes as outlined in the proposed standards. Brianna Cambra added that the prescribed classes would not only lead to a portable certificate but also increase the career ladder of program completers by two full rungs and make them eligible for promotion to Site Director. Chair Walden asked for any further questions from the Council. Dr. Dana Ryan asked if they had investigated a partnership outside of TMCC, she stated that WNC has the same program and has funding through DETR for the coursework and would be interested in partnering with them as well. Ms. Gonzales stated that they had only reached out to TMCC for the pilot cohort but would be interested in partnering with them as they expand. Chair Walden asked who represents the apprentice in any issues. Ms. Gonzales stated she would be that person as the Program Coordinator. Chair Walden asked for or a motion to approve the Children's Cabinet program. Mandi Wilkins motioned to approve. Steve Ingersoll seconded the motion. Chair Walden called for a vote. Motion carried.

#### **6. Public Comment.**

Chair Walden opened public comment on the proposed program by Air Conditioning Trade Association. Hearing none, public comment was closed.

#### **7. New Program Standards and Apprenticeship Agreement.**

Chair Walden called for a representative of Air Conditioning Trade Association (ACTA) to present their proposed program. Tony Creighton, Senior Operations Director, Jill Mojica Executive Director, and Duke Diltz, Training Director, presented ACTA's proposed time-based apprenticeship program. ACTA described its intent to operate as a complementary, non-joint apprenticeship program aligned with Nevada statutes and federal apprenticeship requirements. Chair Walden asked for a representative of Sheet Metal 26 in Northern Nevada to present their opposition. Nathan Ring, Council for the Northern Nevada Sheet Metal Apprenticeship Fund, reviewed the submitted opposition including an incomplete alignment with O\*NET Sheet Metal worker standards, lack of demonstrated equivalency to existing joint apprenticeship programs, discrepancies in related instruction hour calculations, an absence of clearly identified Nevada-based contractors, wage progression concerns, and specifics about the curriculum and instructor qualifications. Chair Walden asked for Sheetmetal 88 JATC to present their opposition. William Nobriga, Council for the Sheet Metal 88 Apprenticeship Training Fund, stated that they also submitted a letter, and that many of their concerns mirror Mr. Ring's. He also added that there were a couple additional concerns including the qualifications of the instructors, and the non-joint administration, and asked that the program not be approved. Chair Walden asked if there were questions from the Council. Jordan Krahenbuhl asked about the programs manuals and if they have manuals for each year of the apprenticeship. Duke Diltz responded that the program trains from the basics and stated their online curriculum is broken out by year. Mandi Wilkins made a statement that it appears the Air

Conditioning Trade Association is not registered with the Nevada Secretary of State, and that they did not provide a list of contractors where the apprentices would go to work. She stated that ACTA's website only lists California contractors, so it appeared to her that they were training apprentices in Nevada for California contractors. Mr. Diltz stated that they have had Nevada contractors asking for Nevada apprentices. Bill Kephart referenced NRS 610.144 3(c) and asked if ACTA was aware of all applicable collective bargaining agreements. Chair Walden asked for a motion to approve the ACTA program standards. Jordan Krahenbuhl motioned to approve, there was not a second motion by the council. Chair Walden then asked for a motion to deny the program. Bill Kephart motioned to deny the program. Steve Ingersoll seconded the motion. Mandi Wilkins abstained due to her position on the Sheet Metal 88 Joint Committee. Chair Walden called for a vote. Motion to deny carried.

**8. Public Comment.**

Chairman Walden called for public comment. Hearing none, Chair Walden closed this item.

**9. Adjournment.**

Chairman Walden adjourned the meeting of the Nevada State Apprenticeship Council at 10:16 AM.