

State of Nevada Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)
Commission Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2016

In Attendance:

Vance Farrow – Executive Commissioner, State of Nevada WICHE
Fred Lokken – Commissioner, State of Nevada WICHE
Vic Redding – Commissioner, State of Nevada WICHE
Jeannine Warner – Director, State of Nevada WICHE
Dana Westre – Accountant Technician, State of Nevada WICHE
Gregg Ott – Deputy Attorney General (DAG), Office of the Attorney General, State of Nevada

Guests:

Brian Mitchell – Director, Governor’s Office of Science, Innovation and Technology
Edward Ableser – Director, Safe & Respectful Learning, State of Nevada Department of Education
Margo Colalancia – Director, Student Exchange, Regional WICHE, Boulder Colorado
Alyssa Gilden – Postdoctoral Fellow, WICHE Mental Health Program, Boulder Colorado
Tabor Griswold, PhD – Office of Statewide Initiatives, UNR School of Medicine

1. **Call to order.** The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Farrow. This meeting was posted in accordance with the State of Nevada’s Open Meeting Law (OML).
2. **Public Comment.** There was no public comment.
3. **Discussion, recommendations, deliberation and action regarding the minutes from the February 23, 2016 Nevada WICHE commission meeting.** Ms. Warner stated the Regional WICHE office had three recommended changes to the minutes for consideration which were read to the Commission. Commissioner Lokken motioned for approval with the recommended changes; Commissioner Redding seconded. Motion approved.
4. **Presentation on Nevada Psychology Internship Consortium (NV-PIC) updates – Alyssa Gilden, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education’s Mental Health Program.** Ms. Gilden reported the NV-PIC internship submit its self-study for accreditation. They are now waiting for an update from American Psychiatric Association (APA). The current cohort of 4 is moving along. The supervisors’ evaluations of the interns, and the interns’ evaluations of the program and their supervisors all looked very good.

There is currently one intern that is experiencing health issues and she may not complete the year on time. The year runs from August to August and requires 2,000 work hours to be completed during those 12 months. Due to her medical concerns, she may not be able to complete the 2,000 hours needed. NV-PIC is working with Regional WICHE Human Resources and the site itself to see if the year can be extended for her.

Alyssa reported NV-PIC has matched with 4 interns for next year, although the hope was to match with 5. However, 1 slot was moved from Lakes Crossing to Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS) at the last minute.

Dr. Sean Dodge submitted a written report which was read to the Commission by Ms. Warner. NV-PIC has currently filled 3 of its 4 Nevada WICHE funded positions for the next internship year. They continue to seek applications for the 4th internship slot at NNAMHS. However, at this point there is an increasing likelihood that this position may go unfilled for the upcoming internship year. NV-PIC is seeking guidance from Nevada WICHE on how it would like to proceed in the event that the 4th Nevada WICHE slot remains unfilled. There are at least two options that we have identified for consideration. One option would be, in the event that the 4th Nevada WICHE funded position remains unfilled, Nevada WICHE would reduce the funds provided to Regional WICHE next year to fund 3 positions instead of 4. If changing the funding amount for next year creates any difficulties for Nevada WICHE, another possibility would be to apply the full funds for 4 interns by having Nevada WICHE cover the internship costs for the international student at Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS).

Commissioner Farrow indicated the Commission may need to have further discussion, as the likelihood of the allocated slot being filled is questionable at this point. The greater question is in regards to what is to be done with the funding in the event that the slot goes unfilled. What sort of lateral movement does the Commission have in regards to future slots not being filled?

5. Presentation on employment opportunities and demand for qualified social workers in Nevada's K-12 institutions – Dr. Edward Ableser, Director, Nevada Department of Education's Office for a Safe & Respectful Learning Environment.

There are new and exciting opportunities to get licensed mental health professionals into our schools with the passage of Senate Bill 515. Nevada is headed towards aligning itself with the federal legislation of *Every Student Succeeds Act*, which replaces *No Child Left Behind*. Part of the legislation is identifying non-academic indicators in terms of district performance and accountability as ways to gauge success for our students.

Dr. Ableser addressed the Commission surrounding the importance of having qualified social workers in our Nevada K-12 educational institutions. Some key points presented are the benefits to having qualified social workers in our Nevada schools to help students overcome many barriers such as:

- Helps students with physiological needs (clothes, shelter, hygiene, shoes)
- Helps students with emotion safety needs (anti bullying)
- Creates positive school climate that is accepting of all students
- Helps identify and provide treatment to students exhibiting mental illness
- Helps students and their families with special needs in Special Education programs
- Helps students and families who are gifted and talented become more engaged
- Helps English Learners with more community resources

- Assist in Title 1 programs by connecting families to community services and resources

A school Climate Survey was administered to 244 schools to measure student perception about their school culture and environment. The survey helped determine where awards were to be allocated. Dr. Ableser stated that Nevada's schools were awarded 164 social worker positions to 123 schools (up to 4 awards in large population schools).

Currently, 130.5 social workers have been hired. The professional licensure ranges from community health workers to psychologists. There are some locations that are having difficulty filling their positions. These are primarily rural districts but also include some urban district awards. Part of the struggle filling the remaining positions is the lack of the number of qualified professionals to meet all levels of implementation, primarily treatment. The Department of Education (DOE) is currently working with DHHS, the state licensing boards, the university system on the expansion of their tracks and their programs, and other programs and agencies. Dr. Ableser's vision is to work in collaboration with the Division of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for future expansion of this program. He is hoping to have DHHS assign the awards so that trained licensed professionals can be placed in the schools and bill Medicaid for the services. Hopefully, this would draw down a 5:1 or 6:1 match based on Medicaid's formula for services provided in schools.

Commission Farrow said he is interested in the laddering credentialing steps are within the field of social work to determine what the timelines were for the required achievement of those ladder steps, and also what sort of avenues that WICHE could potentially look at with regard to supporting social work in the future and at what level could potentially be considered along that ladder path. Looking at that as an incremental step-by-step way to achieving the highest level within social work.

Dr. Ableser stated he would love WICHE to consider this need and the future investment in the growth of the program as a workforce. They are simply not there from a clinical perspective that can provide treatment at a location of least restrictive environment with Nevada's kids. He would welcome WICHE's engagement in the work that is being done, and look to find ways to especially to meet the needs of rural Nevada towns that are struggling to gain a professional in their community.

The Commission thanked Dr. Ableser for his attendance and presentation.

6. **Presentation: Occupational Demand with Results from the Graduate Medical Education (GME) and Nursing Surveys – Dr. M. Tabor Griswold, Health Services Research Analyst, University of Nevada's Office of Statewide Initiatives.**

Dr. Tabor Griswold addressed the Commission on the topic of health workforce demand in Nevada and recruitment and retention. The primary factors driving the need for continuing health care workers in Nevada are based on population growth and aging, reform-related insurance coverage expansions, and economic growth (the "Tesla Effect"). Secondary factors are demand and need, systematic changes, and science and technological change with the impact of telehealth. Of note is that there is an anticipated 1,602 jobs increase over 10 years for physicians. Demand has not really changed over the past 10 years.

A survey conducted by her office found that the primary recruitment and retention issues are:

- Family needs
- Training
- Need/Shortage of workers
- Compensation for workers
- Non-competitive salary
- Licensure issues, reciprocity
- Personal networking to find their position
- Internet postings
- Recruiters
- Sense of place of education and training; embeddedness

Dr. Griswold provided some 2015 job postings data with registered nurses ranking highest and physical therapists (in Washoe County) ranking second. She reported that about 50% of physicians completing UNSOM graduate education in a Nevada remain in the state. Of those registered nurses completing NSHE programs, around 87% remain in the state.

There were no questions or comments. The Commission thanked Dr. Griswold for her attendance and presentation.

7. **Presentation on the Regional WICHE's *Statistical Report: Academic Year 2015-2016* including regional workforce needs and PSEP trends and activities of other regional states – Margo Colalancia, Director of WICHE Student Exchange, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.**

Ms. Colalancia provided a few key points on the statistical report for the Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP). There has been a decline in the use of the program, primarily due to the flat state budgets, and small increase to the support fees to keep up with tuition increases. There has been a proliferation of public professional health care programs opening across the country, and typically when a state has a public program they stop supporting in that area. The hope is those funds would be diverted to other areas. Another area identified, in her opinion, why Nevada students decline WICHE support is because of the 25% payback.

On the subject of the best use of WICHE funds, Margo applauded Nevada. Of all the states she speaks with, Nevada's WICHE office is directly involved with examining workforce needs. In particular, the Commission decided to fund in Physical Therapy even though Nevada has a state program. The Commission realizes there is such an unmet demand that it makes perfect sense to fund in this field as well as other programs.

Margo suggested Occupational Therapy as a field for funding consideration. The projections indicate a 27% growth from 2014 to 2024. The support fee is a little over \$15,000 per year with two years of full support, plus six months of clinical in the third year. The degree is moving from a masters to a doctorate. The WICHE Model would have to be adjusted to a 3 year model.

Margo presented a few ideas on promoting the program in Nevada to hopefully increase the applicant pool, particularly in Physicians Assistants and Pharmacy where the application numbers are low:

- Talk with pre-health advisors to see how to increase competitive applicants
- Work with professional associations within the state
- Access biomedical students' pipeline programs

Margo reiterated these were just suggestions on how other states have increased their program applicant pool.

Margo thanked the Commission for their time and the opportunity speak with them and to learn more about what Nevada is doing.

Presentation taken out of order relating to agenda item #9. Commissioner Farrow requested permission of the rest of the group to allow Bob Potts with GOED make his presentation out of order. Having heard no objections, and as requested by Commissioner Farrow and Ms. Warner, Mr. Potts provided location quotients on health and medical occupations.

Mr. Potts provided the Commission a chart with numerous health care occupations that included Nevada's projected job growth, ranking compared to the national average, jobs needed, the location quotient, and other information. Mr. Potts provided detailed information on occupations and the 2015 number of individuals working in particular professional fields in the state. The 2020/2025 projected job growth was determined using traditional time series forecasting, which is taking the same patterns of the past and project into the future, without changing anything. Mr. Potts believes this gives an incomplete picture because Nevada is trying to diversify the economy with health and medical care. The "location quotient" is a point statistic that takes the concentration of jobs in the state and divides it by the concentration in the United States. If the point is 1.0 or higher, the concentration in Nevada is higher than the national average. In whole, Nevada is only about 70% of the national average (column J).

Commissioner Farrow requested the spreadsheet be emailed to him and to Ms. Warner. Receiving no further questions or comments, Mr. Potts was thanked for his time and presentation by the Commissioners.

- 8. Organizational and reporting structure of the State of Nevada Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) and the Governor's Office of the Western Regional Education Compact (WREC) in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT); proposed revision to the Nevada WICHE commission-approved WREC organizational chart (ref: NRS 397; 2015 Senate Bills 76 and 195).**

Commissioner Farrow stated changes need to be addressed in the WICHE organizational chart given WICHE's placement within OSIT within the Governor's Office. Mr. Mitchell was thanked for his attendance and availability to address questions.

The most recent Commission-approved organizational chart from August 2015 and the proposed modified organizational chart were in the meeting packet. A quick discussion identified the differences between the two charts and what is being suggested regarding WICHE's presence under the umbrella of the Governor's Office.

Ms. Warner stated the organizational chart is required for the biennial budget submission. It is important to provide clarification, and establish clear lines to determine roles and functions to ensure the cohesiveness of the program.

Mr. Mitchell stated SB 195 passed last session moving WICHE from NSHE to the Governor's office. The Governor has since put WICHE under the Office of Science and Information Technology (OSIT). Mr. Mitchell has a council similar to the WICHE Commission that he staffs, the STEM Advisory Council. The OSIT office organizes the meetings, does the minutes, agendas. The Council has some statutory obligations, and OSIT assists them. This relationship is similar to the relationship the WICHE office has with the Commission. The Commission directs the office staff what to do with regard to the programs that are in WICHE's mission. The Commissioners are obligated to direct the use of funds for those programs, and the WICHE staff supports the Commission in that. When it comes to organizational matters, such as human resources, WICHE staff works for the Governor's Office just like Mr. Mitchell. Those lines were somewhat different when WICHE staff worked for NSHE, as Commissioner Redding served as both a supervisor and a commissioner, and this may be where there is some confusion.

The proposed organizational chart more accurately reflects where WICHE fits within the Governor's Office. The staff are here to carry out the directives that the Commissioners feel should be done with the programs. As long as they have been in the Governor's Office, they have been working very hard and he assumes they are doing what they are supposed to.

Commissioner Redding made a motion for approval of the new organizational chart. He pointed out that WICHE has always been a round peg in a square hole trying to figure out how to make the agency work administratively with its programmatic line of reporting to the Commissioners. This organizational chart finds the perfect balance of having a program and program director reporting to an office director. The structure gets a coordination and synchronization with related programs under the Governor's Office but still having the Commission very well represented to carry out its statutory duties. Commissioner Redding moved for approval of the proposed chart. Commissioner Lokken seconded, and then asked for some discussion on this item.

Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Ott provided clarification to martial the statutes in existing law. He sees the organizational chart with the straight line from the OSIT director to the WREC director as representing the administrative functions, and the dotted line representing programmatic directives from the Commission. Mr. Mitchell stated the organizational chart correctly depicts everyone under the Governor, who appoints both the Commissioner and

the OSIT Director. The division of responsibilities is that the Commission directs the WICHE staff in matters pertaining to the WICHE program, and OSIT serves administrative functions and office things. As Mr. Mitchell receives any direction from the Governor about workforce programs or coordination, then he brings it to the WICHE director or Commission for discussion, and ultimately for decision by the Commission.

Commissioner Farrow thanked DAG Ott and the OSIT office for supporting the Commission while the director was out on extended leave. It is an exact implementation of how this is a successful way to interact to see that the mission and vision of the Commission is working well. Mr. Mitchell gave all the credit to Ms. Westre, who did 3 or 4 different jobs while the director was out. She worked very admirably on her own, and she will be missed.

Commissioner Redding stated as the senior commissioner understands the oddness of having the 3-member statutory Commission calling the programmatic shots, but they still need to have someone signing purchase orders, travel and leave slips. Commissioner Redding would like to give Commissioner Lokken, as the junior commissioner, an idea of what specifically the chart shows, what tasks the OSIT director would be approving, and what tasks come to the Commission for vote.

Commissioner Lokken stated he does not see the organizational chart doing what it is supposed to be doing, and in formal minutes it needs to be spelled out very clearly. A dotted line is a secondary line in organizational charts. He sees the Commission as substituted by Mr. Mitchell's program. The Commissioners are appointed separately, but he does not have a clear sense of the relationship with the WICHE Director, or his role as a commissioner, or what role he has with the OSIT director based on this organizational chart. Commissioner Lokken has been working with organizational charts most of his life, and this is not what this chart says to him. One thing that makes it confusing is, you don't see a dean reporting to a dean, you don't see a chair reporting to a chair, you don't see a director reporting to a director - they are at the same administrative/supervisory role. You cannot, by definition of any administrative manual he has ever seen, have one in supervisory role over the other. Ms. Warner clarified that structure does not exist in the state at this time. WICHE is an agency and is required to have a director, and that may change in the future, but at this time it is required.

Mr. Mitchell stated when WICHE was with NSHE, it is his understanding the Mr. Redding served as the Executive Commissioner of WICHE and as supervisory authority for the WICHE staff. For a number of reasons, Commissioner Redding came to meet with Mr. Mitchell and Mike Willden of the Governor's Office and recommended, along with Senator Hardy, that for a variety of reasons WICHE was a better fit over at the Governor's Office. Before that, it was in the State and was moved to NSHE during the recession as a way to cut some costs and provide some administrative efficiencies. The WICHE staff and program are now housed within the Governor's Office, and the Governor has directed the line of authority through Mr. Mitchell to manage the day-to-day activities of the WICHE staff. It just so happens there is a director reporting to the director, that is the way the Governor set it up and so that is the way it is operating. The WICHE office needs some programmatic oversight as well as someone to manage the office. The Governor's Chief of Staff has delegated that on the administrative side to Mr. Mitchell. It does not represent a huge amount of his time,

as the WICHE staff operate with minimal oversight as they carry out the requested duties from the Commission. Using the example of the STEM Council, Mr. Mitchell reports to the Governor's Chief Strategy Officer, Dale Erquiaga, who gives Mr. Mitchell direction in his functions, and he also handles his leave requests and his other administrative matters that are beyond his authority to do so. Mr. Mitchell also sits on a Governor and Legislatively appointed council, he staffs their meetings similar to the WICHE staff. Ultimately, Mr. Mitchell reports to the Governor, and ultimately the WICHE staff reports to the Governor. As the division of responsibly goes, the Commission has statutory responsibility to manage the program and the Governor's Office has authority over the staff.

Commissioner Lokken asked what role the Commission has over the evaluation of the Nevada WICHE Director. Mr. Mitchell said he would consult with the Commissioners, however, he evaluates the Director. The Director has supervisory responsibility over the Accountant Technician 1, so the Director of Nevada WICHE would do the Account Technician 1's evaluation.

Commissioner Lokken stated the program is being left out and that is 85% of the job. Commissioner Redding offered a suggestion. When WICHE was under the State, the director was evaluated directly by the Commission. Under the current Open Meeting Law, the evaluation would have to be noticed and be a part of the public meeting which Commissioner Redding does not recommend. The WICHE director is evaluated on her success in carrying out the Commission's initiatives. It is up to the office director to assimilate that. The OSIT director (office director) evaluates the individual, the Commission evaluates the work plan and progress.

Commissioner Lokken stated this is really undefined in a lot of ways. Commissioner Redding agreed it is a strange structure. Does the OSIT director have responsibilities over the program role, which is most of the WICHE director's job? Commissioner Redding stated the OSIT director is responsible for how the WICHE director carries out the directions of the Commission. Commissioner Lokken feels better with this information documented in the minutes. He continued by stating with the current organizational chart, there are 3 commissioners who have no relationship Mr. Mitchell. So, the next question is, if the Commission should be proposing funds to the Governor, is that a conversation they have with the WICHE director or with the OSIT director? Right now it doesn't look like the Commission is supposed to have a conversation with Mr. Mitchell. Clearly the Nevada WICHE Commissioners were appointed by the Governor, but it doesn't seem like they have a direct line to the Governor, although the organization chart suggest that relationship. There must be an intermediary that the Commissioners go through if they have suggestions that would not concern Mr. Mitchell but won't go directly to the Governor, but to some other staff member in the Governor's Office.

Mr. Mitchell stated those are excellent questions that he has not contemplated. Regarding performance reviews, what has been proposed is excellent, the director should be judged on carrying out the duties of the programs and should constitute the majority of the evaluation as it is the majority of the director's duties. The organizational chart reflects that the Commissioners were appointed by the Governor; the OSIT director is also appointed by the Governor; and, the Governor has given the OSIT office the oversight authority over WICHE.

Mr. Mitchell reassured the Commissioners he does not intend to tell the Commission how to spend their money or how to run its programs. When it comes to making recommendations to the Governor, either programmatic or budgetary that go beyond the scope of the authority that the Commission has, he is happy to be that conduit up through the channels to make those recommendations. He believes that is what the Governor has intended by placing Mr. Mitchell in his role of authority. Again, he does not intend to get involved in how the Commission runs its programs or what the WICHE staff does on a day-to-day basis. If the Commission wants to reorganize the organizational chart in a way that makes better sense, Mr. Mitchell is open to whatever the Commission wants to propose.

Commissioner Lokken said the chart looks like a work in progress. He asked, if Ms. Warner steps down, what roles does Mr. Mitchell have and the Commission in the rehiring of the Director position, as evaluation goes with the nature of the job design, the title, etc. He feels the organization will get worked out over time, and appreciated the opportunity to articulate his questions. Mr. Mitchell is open to continuing to work towards coming up with something that makes sense to everybody. He will do some research on his end for a more clear answer to Commissioner Lokken's questions and concerns, and the agenda item can be postponed until the next Commission meeting with a different organizational chart that makes more sense to the Commission.

Commissioner Lokken asked if this is all written in stone; meaning, when a new Governor comes in, does the new regime have the ability to make changes to the decisions, practices and protocols already made when it comes to the Nevada WICHE Program? He did not expect an answer, but was putting the question out there for future contemplation. Mr. Mitchell referred to statutes for information. What is "in stone" is WICHE reports to the Office of the Governor. How the Governor chooses to delegate his authority is up to each individual Governor. This is how it works as long as Governor Sandoval wants it to. When a new Governor is elected, he or she may continue with the current structure or make new arrangements. Mr. Mitchell doesn't know if any of us will be around then, so we will be cross that bridge when we come to it.

Commissioner Farrow tabled the conversation, and would like to continue this conversation at the next meeting to allow for a more understandable flow of information from the Governor's Office through the Commissioners, OSIT, and the WICHE director and staff, and to better illustrate from the perspective of the organizational chart how the Commission will take all of that into implementation. The Commission will also get some feedback from whatever information Mr. Mitchell can provide, or perhaps conversations can be had with Mr. Willden on a conference call. Commissioner Farrow stated he is throwing out options, as he is very curious and Commissioner Lokken brings up some very good points. It would be important and incumbent on the Commission to track these questions down and get a better understanding of what the organizational chart should look like, not just for their sakes but for the folks that come beyond them, to give enough thought to put on paper and have it make sense as best they can.

Director Warner asked what is to be done with WICHE's procedures, and office processes established from being under the state, such as timesheets, signature authority for capped expenses? Does the commission-approved organizational chart still stand if tabled? Mr.

Mitchell said the organizational chart stands, and the DAG confirmed. Regarding state procedures, Mr. Mitchell said that for things like making purchases, he prefers those to go through OSIT, especially things for the office directly related to running the program. Administrative costs goes through OSIT, programs goes through the Commission.

DAG Ott further clarified at under SB76, money in the account “shall” be used by the Commission to pay administrative expenses of the Nevada Office of WICHE. That is consistent with what was described as the Commission setting forth a budget and then the budget to be executed by staff and approved by whoever is in agreement.

9. Western Regional Education Compact’s 2017-2019 Biennial Budget Request and selection of Nevada WICHE Commission/Nevada Governor’s Office of the Western Regional Education Compact’s supported health care fields and financial support.

Ms. Warner stated, in the interest of time, she will not do the budget presentation prepared for the Commission containing information providing the Governor’s Strategic Plan, where the state is financially, and budget requirements, and go directly to the Commission’s proposed modifications to the Administration and Loan & Stipend budgets.

The next budget deadline for the Commission is May 16, 2016 for proposed enhancements. There are two ways for an agency to receive an enhancement: by receiving an invitation from the Governor; or, pitch its own and then the Governor’s Office will notify the agency if the idea is accepted. Ms. Warner stated the WREC Office has not received an invitation for a budget enhancement. If the Commission would like an enhancement considered, “concept requests” are due May 16, 2016.

Ms. Warner explained there is a reimplemention of the “2x cap” rule applied towards the FY2016 budget. If the commission would like to go over that capped figure, it needs to make a request. She displayed the spreadsheet prepared for the Commission in which different fields, slots, and support fee amounts can be entered to demonstrate the impacts any adjustments to the Loan & Stipend program and budget will make. Finally, a required 5% budget reduction plan must be proposed. The Agency Request Budget is due September 1, 2016.

Commission Farrow stated we have some decision regarding slots, return on investment, and the additional points raised earlier in the meeting. The Commission has budget space for some proposed fields not currently listed, such a social work, nursing, or changing physical therapist numbers.

Commissioner Redding suggested for the May 16th concept request, a lot of compelling arguments and data from presenters have been heard. Would it be appropriate to send in a Concept Request to look at the kind of impact that can be made with a very small budget? WICHE is not going to solve the health care shortage, but in some of the smaller fields WICHE can make a big impact for not a huge investment on the state. Should the contents include some sort of ratios, program impact and data that shows what this means to the state of Nevada? Mr. Mitchell stated that was correct, the idea is to get the request in early to see if you hit the mark, rather than having agencies all submit budgets late in the fall and

find they missed the mark and that's not the direction they want to go. It's best to get this done early. The Governor's Office can then give feedback whether they like the proposal or not, or would like a modification to the proposal. Commissioner Redding suggested making the Governor's Office aware on a scale of what WICHE programs can do.

Commissioner Farrow asked if there is the ability to apply economic impacts for each of the professional slots. Ms. Griswold stated a report was done by their office for WICHE in 2007. The IMPLAN economic multipliers used in the report must be purchased from Dr. Tom Harris, each occupation has its own multiplier, and there is a cost. The report was done when the economy was robust, and we have a robust economy again, so Ms. Griswold believes those same numbers in the older report can be used and the numbers brought forward. Ms. Griswold stated Ms. Warner did a lot of research to pull the numbers together, and Ms. Warner confirmed it was a large but insightful project. Ms. Griswold said inputs have to be collected again and there is a cost to that. But, that would be a great way to request money, to do the economic impact of the WICHE program again for the designated professions.

Commissioner Redding moved to submit a concept statement that will identify by program or field incremental costs per; hypothesize to the best of our ability based on current available economic impact information; submit a request to the Governor's Office identifying this is scalable; and, decide what kind of impact that can be made with very small dollars. The Commission looks forward to building something that would complement the Governor's workforce or health initiatives for the Executive Budget. Seconded by Commissioner Lokken. Approved. Commissioner Farrow asked Ms. Warner if she required any additional information to put this project together. Ms. Warner stated she needed to review the proposal closer and will let the commission know.

10. **Director's Report.**

Ms. Warner stated the *2016 Health Care Career in Nevada* manual has been released and is available in printed and online versions.

The PSEP support fees are proposed to be increased by 1.7% at the May 2016 Regional Commission.

11. **New business, including but not limited to proposed future meeting dates.** There was no new business. Future meeting dates to be determined.

12. **Public comment*.** None.

13. **Adjournment.** Having no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.