



SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Board of Museums and History Finance Committee

The meeting was held via MS Teams, Tuesday, May 12, 2025, 8:00 AM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Michelle Schmitter, Chair
Anthony Timmons
Mark Slaughter

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mercedes de la Garza
Seth Schorr

ATTENDEES

Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Stewart Terry, CFO, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General, Nevada Office of the Attorney General
Hollis J. Gillespie, Director, Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
Christopher MacMahon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
Daphne DeLeon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City
Tracey Sprague, Director, Lost City Museum
Anna Camp, Acting Director, Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Michael Malone, Administrative Assistant III, Nevada Division of Museums & History

1. Call meeting to order. Committee Chair.
Committee Chair Michelle Schmitter called the meeting to order.
2. Call for the start of the recording of the meeting. Committee Chair.
Committee Chair Michelle Schmitter called for the start of the meeting recording.
3. Call for confirmation the meeting was properly posted. Committee Chair and staff.
Administrative Assistant Michael Malone confirmed the meeting was posted in accordance with open meeting law.
4. Call for the roll call of Committee and determination of quorum. Committee Chair and staff.
Administrative Assistant Michael Malone took roll and confirmed a quorum was present.

5. Public comment announcement. Committee Chair.

No public comment was given.

6. Review MDTF Budgeting, FY2026 Budget request. (for possible action)

5037B Only 1 attendee (DT conf. w/DD)

Member Timmons addressed concerns over volatility in the economy as it informed a conservative approach toward the enhancement requests. Member Timmons added that the Board may revisit some items at a future date when state and national economic considerations become more clear. Member Slaughter concurred with the judicious approach.

Committee members and Administrator Thielen reviewed the enhancement requests with museum attendees providing context when needed. Items discussed included the number of museum staff attending conferences and the timing of key purchases, such as software.

Member Timmons moved to approve the enhancements as presented, with the following adjustments:

1. The Nevada Historical Society reprice their three enhancement requests with more conservative amounts.
2. The three enhancements for Nevada State Museum, Carson City (NSMCC) be declined
3. Out-of-state conferences should be limited to one attendee

Member Slaughter seconded.

Chair Schmitter asked for discussion on the motion. Director Daphne DeLeon offered information pertaining to Budget 5036, Enhancement Unit #1 (augmentation for the staff position at NSMCC), stating that the position is premised on membership revenue coming in to fund the additional \$22,291. The position manages memberships, and also the NSMCC coin press. NSMCC is balancing forward just under a half million dollars in unrestricted funding; partly memberships, store sales and coin press. This position has been approved to be augmented by the State, but funding is a Board determination. Administrator Thielen added that the position increasingly demonstrates the ability to pay for itself. Chair Schmitter stated she'd be in favor of funding the position. Member Slaughter stated his preference to approve.

Member Timmons agreed to amend his motion, although stating he would not be in favor. The motion was amended to accept the adjustment to Budget 5036, Enhancement Unit #1, as recommended for the Nevada State Museum Carson City. Member Slaughter seconded the amended motion. The motion was approved with Chair Schmitter and member Slaughter in favor, and member Timmons opposed.

Administrator Thielen provided highlights for the remaining budget discussions. Member Timmons stated he did not have issues with the main budgets, but reiterated his concerns about the broader economy. Member Slaughter asked for clarification on funds not utilized. Administrator Thielen confirmed the trust fund money is completely controlled by the Board of Museums & History, and future expenditures would also be determined by the Board.

Member Timmons moved to approve the FY2026 BA 5033 as presented and be put to the full Board for approval. Member Slaughter seconded. The motion passed with the majority of members present, including the chair.

7. Board members directing State salary into endowment. (for possible action)
AA Malone informed the committee that the current process to donate Board meeting salaries to the endowment would be more cumbersome than writing a check to the Division, or a specific museum, and receiving the tax memo as a regular donation. AA Malone stated that multiple State agencies are undergoing changes to their procedures, and he would apprise the committee and Board for improvements to the process.
8. Public Comment Announcement.
No public comment was given.
9. ADJOURNMENT
Committee Chair Schmitter adjourned the meeting.

NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS

<https://notice.nv.gov>

<http://museums.nevadaculture.org>

NEVADA DIVISION OF MUSEUMS & HISTORY

412 E. Musser St., Suite 2, Carson Street, Carson City 89701

The public may acquire this meeting agenda and supporting materials, pursuant to NRS 241.020(2) by contacting Michael Malone, Administrative Assistant III, Division of Museums and History, (775) 687-7340, ext. 301, or via email, to mpmalone@nevadaculture.org.

Supporting documents are available from the Nevada Division of Museums and History at 412 E. Musser Street, Suite # 2, Carson City, Nevada 89701.