

## Board of Museums and History Special Meeting Summary of Minutes

The meeting was held online via TEAMS conference,  
Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 8:30 AM

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Timmons, Chair  
Bert Bedeau  
Rochanne Downs  
Nathan Harper  
Daniel Markoff  
Dora Martinez  
Jan Petersen  
Michelle Schmitter  
Mark Slaughter  
Lou Ann Speulda-Drews

### ATTENDEES

Brenda Scolari, Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs  
Mary Ellen Kawchack, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs  
Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General, Nevada Office of the Attorney General  
Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History  
Sean Pitts, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum Ely  
Daphne DeLeon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City  
Dr. Christopher MacMahon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum Boulder City  
Brian Deem, Administrative Services Officer, Nevada Division of Museums & History

1. Call the meeting to order. Chair of the Nevada Board of Museums & History.  
*Board Chair Anthony Timmons called the meeting to order.*
2. Call for the start of the recording of the meeting. Board Chair and staff.  
*Chair Timmons requested the recording of the meeting be started. AA Michael Malone started the recording.*
3. Call for confirmation the meeting was properly posted. Board Chair and staff.  
*Chair Timmons asked if the meeting was properly posted. AA Malone the meeting was posted in accordance with open meeting law.*
4. Call for the roll call of the Board and determination of quorum. Board Chair and staff.  
*AA Malone took roll and a quorum was confirmed.*
5. Public comment announcement. Board Chair.

*No public comment was given.*

6. Update on the status of the Nevada State Railroad Museum Ely. Division Administrator.  
(Informational)

*Administrator Dan Thielen read a summary provided by Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Harry Ward. Member Petersen asked for clarification if the request was to revert property to the City of Ely. DAG Ward stated his understanding is that any transfer would need to be to a public entity, not private. Member Bedeau expressed his concerns over the preservation of the building and artifacts. Member Bedeau inquired as to what could be done to communicate those concerns to the appropriate audience. Administrator Thielen stated the Board has an advisory capacity with the State of Nevada. DAG Ward confirmed the Board's parameters and stated the Board could not take action without taking formal action, such as drafting a statement.*

*Member Markoff inquired about the details of the case and proceedings.*

*Member Speulda-Drews stated the museum is the state's resource, not the City of Ely's resource, and suggested a statement be delivered.*

*Chair Timmons shared that he had reached out to the Governor's office and reminded that if no further special session is called, it would be two years before Nevada State Legislature would review the subject.*

7. Public Comment Announcement.

*No public comment was given.*

8. ADJOURNMENT

*Chair Timmons 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 notice, 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](mailto: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.

We are pleased to provide reasonable accommodation for members of the public with a disability who wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please contact the Nevada Division of Museums and History by calling (775) 687-7340 at least two days prior to the meeting.