

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING & AGENDA
Board of Museums and History
Friday, June 12, 2026, at 9:00 AM

Meeting Location

The meeting will be held via TEAMS conference, accessible via electronic devices connected to the internet with listening and microphone capabilities. Video camera capability will also allow users to watch others in the meeting who are also using a video camera. The in-person option will be held starting at 9AM, June 12, 2026:

Nevada State Museum Las Vegas
309 S. Valley View Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107

To join the Board of Museums & History Meeting:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: [Link to join the meeting.](#)

Meeting ID: 276 321 754 241 92

Passcode: s8Xm2XC7

Dial in by phone

[A link to the dial in phone number \(775\) 321-6111 with the conference ID 376 424 593#](#) United States, Reno

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 376 424 593#

- Meetings are audio-recorded and/or transcribed as part of the public record. Members of the public wishing to call in may do so by dialing (775) 321-6111 and use the phone conference ID 376 424 593#
- Action may be taken on those items denoted “For possible action.”
- At the discretion of the chair: items on the agenda may be taken out of order; two or more agenda items may be combined; agenda items may be removed from the agenda, or delay discussion relating to an item, at any time.

1. Call the meeting to order. Chair of the Nevada Board of Museums & History.
2. Call for the start of the recording of the meeting. Board Chair and staff.
3. Call for confirmation the meeting was properly posted. Board Chair and staff.
4. Call for the roll call of the Board and determination of quorum. Board Chair and staff.
5. Public comment announcement. Board Chair.

Public comment on both agenda and non-agenda items is welcomed by the Board. There are three periods of public comment during a meeting of the Nevada Board of Museums and History: at the beginning of meeting, at the end of meeting, and after discussion of each action item on the agenda, but before voting on the item. No action can be taken during the public comment period.

Because of time considerations, the period for public comment may be limited to 3 minutes at the discretion of the chair, and speakers are urged to avoid repetition of comments made by previous speakers. Speakers, including Board members, must identify themselves before speaking. Public comment options may include, without limitation, written public comment submitted to this public body via mail or email.

6. Acceptance of Minutes. Board Chair and Staff (All items for possible action.)
 - a. March 6, 2026, Meeting of the Board of Museums & History+
 - b. April 21, 2026, Meeting of the Board of Museums & History Finance Committee+
7. Board announcements and meeting dates. (All items for possible action.)
 - a. 2025 Board Meeting Dates
 1. September 11, 2026 (FRI) – Nevada State Museum, Carson City
 2. December 4, 2026 (FRI) – Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
8. Nevada Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs (DTCA). Brenda Scolari, Director. (Informational)
 - a. Department Update. Brenda Scolari, Director.
 - b. Marketing and Communications Report. Mary Ellen Kawchack, Chief Deputy Director, DTCA.
9. Consent agenda. All items, a-d, for possible action. Items may be combined for a single vote. Board members may pull any item for discussion and/or separate vote. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Restricted donation \$18,500 to the NHS from the Paul and Gwen Leonard Charitable Foundation at the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada+
 - b. Restricted donation \$1,000 to the NSMCC from Cora Johnson+
 - c. Restricted donation \$1,325 to the NSMCC from the Annual Appeal drive+
 - d. Nevada State Museum Las Vegas, Curation-Repository Fee Structure Request+
10. Administrator's Report. Daniel P. Thielen, Administrator. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. General Report
 - b. Personnel Updates
 - c. NAGPRA
11. Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. Art Krupicz, Administrator / State Historic Preservation Officer. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Staff Report +
 - b. National Register of Historic Places nomination: Boulder City Navy Hangar, Boulder City, Clark County, Nevada +
12. Chair's Report. Board Chair. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. General Report
 - b. Update on member renewals/appointments.
13. Board Committee Updates (All items for possible action.)
 - a. Finance Committee (Chair: Michelle Schmitter)
 1. FY27 Budget Requests +
 2. Endowment Update
 3. Morgan Stanley Account Update
 - b. Buildings & Grounds Committee (Chair: Bert Bedeau)
 - c. Museum Store Committee (Chair: Jan Petersen)
 - d. Marketing & Technology Committee (Chair: Seth Schorr)

14. Museum Reports (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas +
 - b. Nevada Historical Society +
 - c. Lost City Museum +
 - d. Nevada State Museum, Carson City +
 - e. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Ely +
 - f. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City +
 1. MOU Request+
 - g. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City +
15. Private funds budget adjustments – current year. (For possible action.)
 - a. Changes approved by the Division Administrator
 - b. Changes requested from the Board over \$5,000
16. Board member comments on non-agendized items. (Discussion only.)
17. Future Board agenda items (Discussion only).

Recommendations by Board members regarding topics for future agenda items for the Board can be made under this agenda item. Discussion on proposals for future Board items shall be limited to whether such proposed items are within the purview of the Board. No discussion regarding the substance of any proposed agenda item shall occur.
18. Public Comment Announcement.

Public comment is welcomed by the Board. Because of time considerations, the period for public comment by each speaker may be limited to 3 minutes at the discretion of the chair, and speakers are urged to avoid repetition of comments made by previous speakers. Public comment options may include, without limitation, written public comment submitted to the public body via mail or email. Speakers must identify themselves before speaking.
19. ADJOURNMENT

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.

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.

Board of Museums and History Meeting
SUMMARY OF MINUTES

The meeting was held via TEAMS conference, and in person at 9AM, March 6th, 2026:
Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City
2180 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Timmons, (Former) Chair
Mercedes de la Garza, Chair (Former Vice Chair)
Jan Petersen, Vice Chair
Bert Bedeau
Rochanne Downs
Nathan Harper
Dora Martinez
Michelle Schmitter
Mark Slaughter
Lou Ann Speulda-Drews

ATTENDEES

Brenda Scolari, Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Mary Ellen Kawchack, Deputy Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General
Brian Deem, Administrative Services Officer, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Jen Roger, Director, Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Christopher MacMahon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
Sean Pitts, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Ely
Hollis Gillespie, Director, Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
Daphne DeLeon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City
Tracey Sprague, Director, Lost City Museum
Art Krupicz, Administrator, Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
Robin Reed, Deputy Administrator, SHPO
Jean-Guy Dube, National & State Register of Historic Places Coordinator, SHPO
Kyle Shulz, Research Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Kelly Brant, Membership Programs Manager, Division of Museums & History
Anna Camp, Anthropology Tribal Liaison/NAGPRA Coordinator, Nevada State Museum Carson City
Michael Malone, Administrative Assistant, Division of Museums & History
Amanda Brierton
Kristen Brown
Melissa Hafey
Leikkona Jensen
Charles Timothy McKeown
Diya Patel
Ashley Maden
Bret Scolari
Barry Simcoe
Josh Thieriot
Stevey Weed

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 confirmed 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. Nominations and election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Board of Museums and History. Terms upon election. Chair (For possible action.)
Member Schmitter moved to nominate Member de la Garza for Chair of the Board of Museums & History; Member Petersen seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
Member Timmons moved to nominate Member Petersen for Vice Chair of the Board of Museums & History; Member Martinez and Member Slaughter seconded. During discussion for additional nominees, Member Schmitter nominated Member Bedeau for Vice Chair. Member Bedeau thanked Member Schmitter and graciously declined. Motion to approve Member Petersen as Vice Chair carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
6. Public comment announcement. Board Chair.
No public comment was given.
7. Acceptance of Minutes. Board Chair and Staff (All items for possible action.)
 - a. December 5, 2025, Meeting of the Board of Museums & History.+
Member Petersen moved to approve the December 5, 2025 minutes; Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Member Bedeau abstained, as he was not present. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - b. January 23, 2026, Special Meeting of the Board of Museums & History.+
Member Petersen moved to approve the January 23, 2026 minutes; Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Member Downs abstained, as she was not present. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
8. Board announcements and meeting dates. (All items for possible action.)
 - a. 2026 Board Meeting Dates
 1. June 4-5, 2026 (THU-FRI) – Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
 2. September 11, 2026 (FRI) – Nevada State Museum, Carson City
 3. December 4, 2026 (FRI) – Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
9. Nevada Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs (DTCA). Brenda Scolari, Director. (Informational)
 - a. Department Update. Brenda Scolari.
 - b. Marketing and Communications Report. Mary Ellen Kawchack, Chief Deputy Director, DTCA.
Director Scolari updated on plans for America 250. Chief Deputy Director Kawchack provide updates to members on outreach successes with updated engagement statistics from those efforts.

10. Consent agenda. All items, a-h, for possible action. Items may be combined for a single vote. Board members may pull any item for discussion and/or separate vote. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Restricted donation \$18,260 to NSMCC from the 2026 Annual Appeal drive+
 - b. Restricted donation \$2,000 to NSMCC from Fidelity Charitable Investments+
 - c. Restricted donation \$1,000 to NSMCC from Cora Johnson+
 - d. Restricted donation \$1,000 to NSMCC from Eugene Hattori+
 - e. Restricted donation \$20,000 to NHS from Community Foundation of Northern Nevada+
 - f. Restricted donation \$1,000 to NHS from Anne T. Simone+
 - g. Restricted donation \$500 to NHS from Janice C. Pine+
 - h. Nevada State Railroad Museum Boulder City request - Amtrack locomotive 315+
 - i. Nevada State Museum Carson City Proposed Pricing Structure+
Member Petersen moved to approve consent agenda items 10a-10i; Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
11. Administrator's Report. Daniel P. Thielen, Administrator. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. General Report
Administrator Thielen provided member Martinez with a 3D-printed model of the Boulder City project, currently under construction. Administrator Thielen presented the financial 'dashboard' of the Division to members.
 - b. Admission and Train Fee Review +
Member Schmitter moved to approve the admission and train fee schedule. Member Speulda-Drews and Member Bedeau seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - c. Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City, Facility Rental Fees+
Member Bedeau moved to approve the facility rental fees. Member Martinez and Member Slaughter seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - d. NAGPRA
12. Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. Art Krupicz, Administrator / State Historic Preservation Officer. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Staff Report +
 - b. National Register of Historic Places nomination: East Fourth Street Historic District, Reno, Washoe County, Nevada +
Member Bedeau moved to approve the nomination. Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - c. National Register of Historic Places nomination: Downtown Winnemucca Historic District, Winnemucca, Humboldt County, Nevada +
Vice Chair Petersen moved to approve the nomination. Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - d. National Register of Historic Places nomination: Aitken House – Florence Crittenton Home, Reno, Washoe County, Nevada +
Member Bedeau moved to approve items 12d and 12e. Member Schmitter seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - e. State Register of Historic Places nomination: Aitken House – Florence Crittenton Home, Reno, Washoe County, Nevada +

- f. State Register of Historic Places nomination: Log Cabin, Hawthorne, Mineral County, Nevada. +
Vice Chair Petersen moved to approve the nomination. Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
13. Chair's Report. Board Chair. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
14. Board Committee Updates (All items for possible action.)
 - a. Finance Committee (Chair: Michelle Schmitter)
 - b. Buildings & Grounds Committee (Chair: Bert Bedeau)
 - c. Museum Store Committee (Chair: Jan Petersen)
 - d. Marketing & Technology Committee (Chair: Seth Schorr)
15. Museum Reports (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City +
 - b. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City +
 - c. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Ely +
 - d. Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas +
 - e. Nevada State Museum, Carson City +
 - f. Nevada Historical Society +
 - g. Lost City Museum +
16. Private funds budget adjustments – current year. (For possible action.)
 - a. Changes approved by the Division Administrator
 - b. Changes requested from the Board over \$5,000
17. Board member comments on non-agendized items. (Discussion only.)
Member Timmons expressed his interest in remaining on the finance committee until his pending move out of the country. Vice Chair Petersen thanked Mr. Timmons for his tireless leadership as chair. Chair de la Garza echoed the sentiment, with great appreciation.
18. Future Board agenda items (Discussion only).
Member Bedeau suggested a clarification of the bylaws and/or policy and procedures for the board be reviewed and confirmed in subsequent meetings of the board.
19. Public Comment Announcement.
No public comment was given.
20. ADJOURNMENT
Chair de la Garza adjourned the meeting.

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Board of Museums and History
Finance Committee Meeting
Summary of Minutes

The meeting was held via TEAMS conference, Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 8:00AM.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Michelle Schmitter, Committee Chair
Anthony Timmons
Mark Slaughter

ATTENDEES

Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Brian Deem, Administrative Services Officer, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General
Daphne DeLeon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City
Hollis Gillespie, Director, Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
Christopher MacMahon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
Sean Pitts, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Ely
Tracey Sprague, Director, Lost City Museum
Michael Malone, Administrative Assistant, Division of Museums & History

1. Call the meeting to order. Committee Chair.
Committee Chair Michelle Schmitter opened the meeting and asked member Anthony Timmons to facilitate the meeting due to an illness.
2. Call for the start of the recording of the meeting. Committee Chair.
Member Timmons requested the recording of the meeting be started. AA Michael Malone started the recording.
3. Call for confirmation the meeting was properly posted. Committee Chair and staff.
Member Timmons asked if the meeting was properly posted. AA Malone confirmed the meeting was posted in accordance with open meeting law.
4. Call for the roll call of the Board and determination of quorum. Committee Chair and staff.
AA Malone took roll and a quorum was confirmed.
5. Public comment announcement. Board Chair.
No public comment was given.
6. Review MDTF Budgeting, FY2027 budget request(s). (For discussion and possible action.)
 - a. Budget Request by Revenue Sources
 - b. Museum Private Funds Budget Review
 - c. List of enhancement requests by budget account.
 - d. List of Positions Funded from the Museum Dedicated Trust Funds*Division ASO Brian Deem reviewed each budget request with the committee, including enhancement requests and funding of staff positions. ASO Deem noted two editorial*

corrections that would be addressed prior to the June meeting for BA5037B (Boulder City Railroad Museum) and 5038 (Lost City Museum).

Chair Schmitter thanked ASO Deem and museum directors, specifically noting the requests were aligned with the mission of the agency.

7. Endowment Resolution (For discussion and possible action.)

Chair Schmitter reminded the committee of past discussions and asked Administrator Thielen to update on what efforts were being pursued by individual museums, and/or the Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs. Administrator Thielen stated that he's pleased with the direction the Board is taking toward an endowment, but that another meeting to clarify some of the open questions would be needed prior to final determinations on the best approach.

Member Timmons expressed his preference for establishing an endowment, acknowledging remaining questions pertaining to the funding. Member Timmons also expressed two concerns; the history of the Nevada Legislature to sweep unused funds into the state budget, and recent attempts to reduce the number of boards and commissions.

Administrator Thielen stated it would be difficult for the legislature to claim restricted, private donations to these budgets. He added that the recent effort to reduce or eliminate boards and commissions was focused on regulatory bodies, which the Board of Museums & History is not. Administrator Thielen noted that nothing has 100% certainty, but that he's confident neither concern would inhibit the intent of the endowment to support state museums. Chair Schmitter acknowledged the reassurances of Administrator Thielen with regard to how the endowment is being prepared.

Member Slaughter moved to establish an endowment and bring the item to the larger board.

Chair Schmitter seconded. The motion carried with members present voting in favor.

8. Morgan Stanley (For discussion.)

a. Deposits to accounts

Chair Schmitter stated the need for clarification on how the money moves between the treasurer's office and the Morgan Stanley investment account, adding that a threshold should be determined for when money is moved. ASO Deem discussed the process of moving funds, and indicated a quarterly review could be established along with a threshold determination.

b. Bretzlaff permanently restricted account

Chair Schmitter mentioned discussions with ASO Deem on the details of the Bretzlaff funds, and suggested having Morgan Stanley delineate those funds from other, unrestricted funds. Administrator Thielen agreed with the need to delineate the funds with Morgan Stanley, and stated the division office recently met with the executor of the foundation to discuss an audit of the account with all parties being current with the status.

9. Audit of all BMH oversight funds (For discussion.)

Chair Schmitter stated recent discussions regarding an audit and Administrator Thielen stated the search for an outside auditor was ongoing, but that the division has been compliant with annual state audits. Chair Schmitter added that an audit of the Morgan Stanley account should also be addressed. Member Timmons concurred, with emphasis on transparency as the endowment moves forward.

10. Update on Board Member Stipends.

AA Malone provided an update on progress recording stipend reconciliation, stating some reconciliation was in process, but the resolution would be iterative.

11. Public Comment Announcement.

No public comment was given.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Member Timmons adjourned the meeting.

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NEVADA DIVISION OF MUSEUMS & HISTORY

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NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Catherine Magee Ph.D. | Director
1650 North Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89503

1904 – 2024 *Enriching Lives Through History For 120 Years*

Donation Memo

Date: 5/6/26
To: Mercedes de la Garza, Chair
Board of Museums & History
From: Catherine Magee, Director
Nevada Historical Society
Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, DMH
Re: Acceptance of Restricted Donation

Please, accept \$18,500.00 from the Paul and Gwen Leonard Charitable Foundation at the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada for the NHS Restricted Fund, BA 5035, CAT 55, Project Code 3531 (Paul and Gwen Leonard Fund).

Approval: _____
Mercedes de la Garza, Chair Board of Museums & History Date





NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,
CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Donation Memo

Date: 05/12/2026
To: Mercedes de la Garza, Chair
Board of Museums & History
From: Jen Roger, Director
Nevada State Museum
Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator-NDMH
Re: Restricted Donation

Cora Johnson donates \$1,000 to the Exhibits Program at the Nevada State Museum. Funds are deposited into Budget Account 5036, Category 55, Project Code 3615.
NOTE: The check amount total of \$1,125 includes \$125 toward a membership renewal.

Approval: _____

Mercedes de la Garza, Chair Board of Museums & History Date

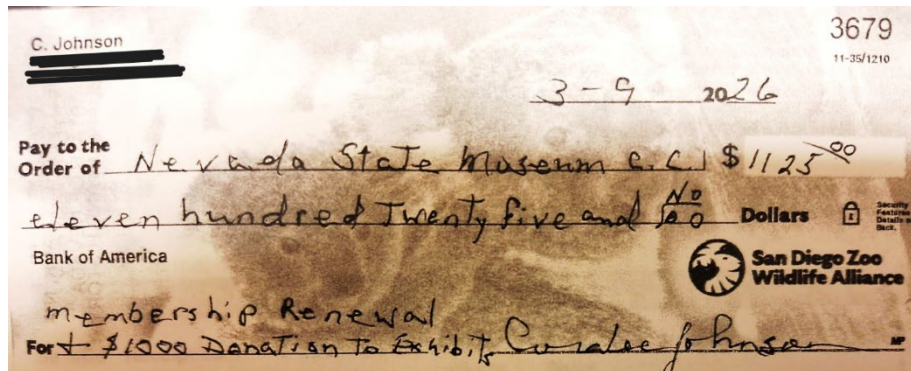


Figure 1 – Check No. 3679 in the amount of \$1,125 made out to the Nevada State Museum for Exhibits and membership renewal.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator
Jen Roger | Director

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,
CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Donation Memo

Date: May 12, 2026

To: Mercedes de la Garza, Chair
Board of Museums & History

From: Jen Roger, Director
Nevada State Museum

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator-NDMH

Re: Restricted Donation – Education Fund

The Nevada State Museum, Carson City, has received an additional \$1,325 in restricted donations for the Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Appeal drive, benefiting the needs of the NSMCC Education Program. Funds were received in the form of checks, cash and debit/credit card transactions.

These funds are deposited into B/A 5036, Category 55, Project Code 3611. See attached pages for check images. No images available for cash or credit/debit card transactions.

Approval: _____

Mercedes de la Garza, Chair Board of Museums & History

Date



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator
Jen Roger | Director

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,
CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

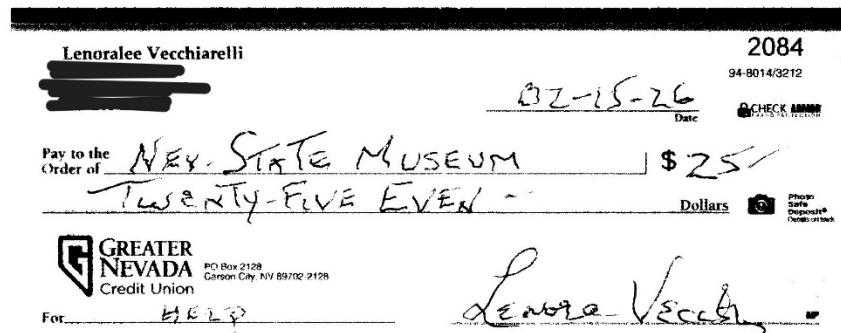
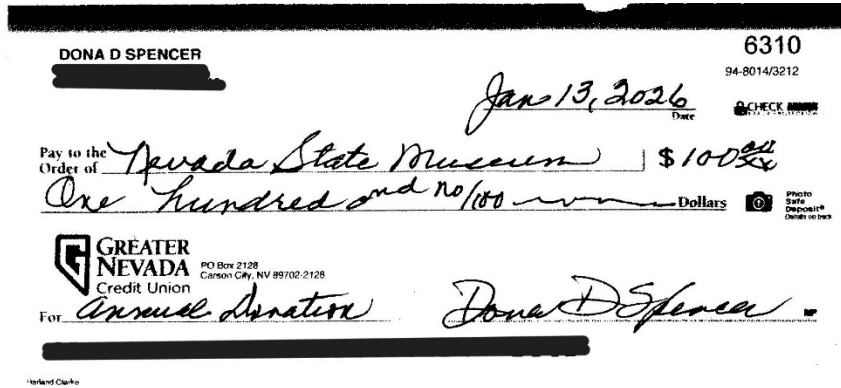


Figure 1 – Checks 6310 and 2084 totaling \$125

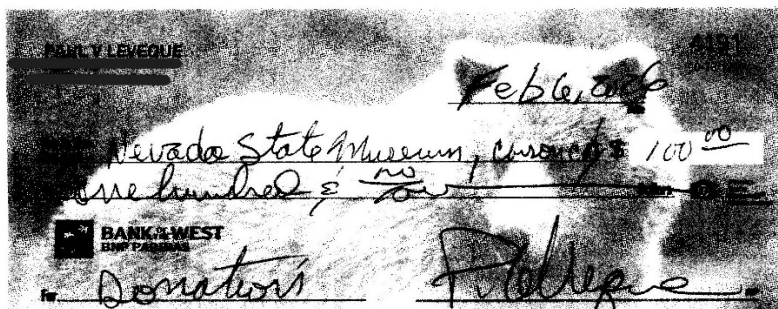
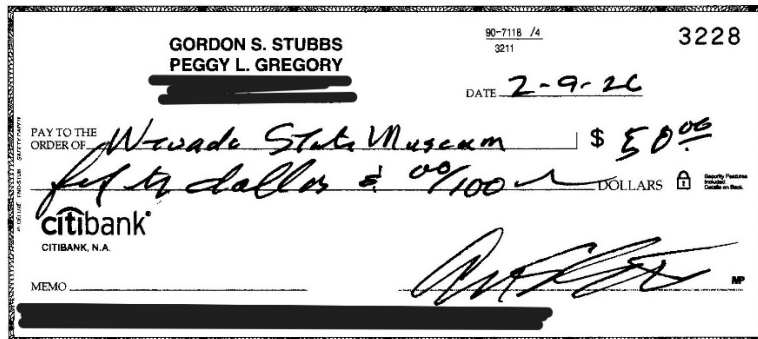


Figure 2 – Checks 3228 and 4191 totaling \$150



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator
Jen Roger | Director

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,
CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

**PATRICK J. FOSCO
CHERRIE L. FOSCO**
[Redacted]

9841

11-4288/1210 5672

Feb. 22, 2026
Date

Pay to the Order of Nevada State Museum \$ 50.00

fifty dollars & 00/100 Dollars



Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
California
wellsfargo.com

For Membership # 8805 [Signature]

Figure 3 – Check 9841 totaling \$50

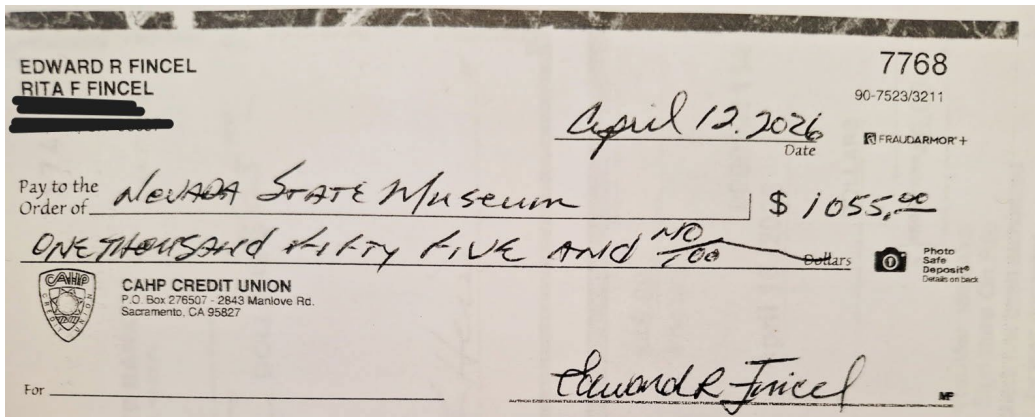


Figure 4 – Check 7768 totaling \$1,055. NOTE: \$1,000 of this check is earmarked for the Annual Appeal. The other \$55 for a senior family membership renewal.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, LAS VEGAS
Hollis J. Gillespie | Museum Director
309 S. Valley View Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89107

Date: 08 May 2026

To: Mercedes de la Garza
Board Members Museums and History

From: Hollis J. Gillespie, Museum Director

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Curation-Repository Fee Structure Approval

The Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas would like the option to accept mission related collections, including from Federal Agencies, and charge a reasonable fee.

The Curator of Collections conducted extensive research this year on the current fees charged by other museums in the region. (Colorado to California). The purpose of allowing us to store materials would be to help the museum build linkages with partner organizations while covering the incidental costs associated with environmental controls, insurance, and staff time. A sample rate sheet follows:

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, LAS VEGAS CURATION FEES

Archaeological, biological, historic, and paleontological collections curated under curation agreements are subject to a yearly payment under the following annual fee schedule, which is subject to an annual increase in line with CPI (Consumer Price Index)

<u>Collection Size</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Cubic foot	\$100.00
0.5 Cubic foot	\$50.00

Open wire shelving (Collections 3) \$500 per shelf

Yearly fees are due January 2nd. Format for compensation negotiable.

This yearly fee will pay for:

- Part-time temporary employee (as and if required, as determined by MUSEUM)
- Secure access space within climate-controlled storage rooms
- Stabilization assessment of the condition of collections
- One time cataloging into Past Perfect including measurements, descriptions, identification, and site information (if applicable)
- Digitization of each/bulk objects and digital storage space
- Free supervised access to the collection for qualified researchers
- Any required federal yearly inventory and report
- Preservation supplies; boxes, bags, custom housing for fragile artifacts
- Preservation maintenance; security, cleaning, scheduled inspections, and pest management
- Restricted curation of associated maps, paperwork, reports, and photographs
- Secure storage of related digital material and provision of access to researchers as appropriate

Approval: _____
Mercedes de la Garza, Chair Board of Museums & History _____
Date



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel P. Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

Hollis J. Gillespie | Director
309 S. Valley View Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, LAS VEGAS

Date: June 12, 2026
To: Board of Museums & History
From: Hollis J. Gillespie, Director
Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects

None to report

Staff Activities

History and Material Culture

Josef Diaz, Curator

Activities summary:

- A new lecture series titled *Common Threads* has been developed, a dynamic new lecture series that will bring scholars and performers to our community each month. This engaging series will spotlight compelling stories and perspectives centered on Nevada and the greater Southwest, creating new opportunities for connection and discovery.
- Our current exhibition, *The New Deal in the New West: On the Road in Nevada with Arthur Rothstein*, continues to captivate audiences and draw strong attendance. The exhibition has been extended through October 2026, offering even more visitors the chance to experience this powerful visual history.
- Research and development are actively underway for *Setting the Stage: In the Footsteps of Domínguez and Escalante*. While the exhibition has been rescheduled for April 2027, the additional time is allowing for an even richer and more immersive experience.
- We are also proud to continue our collaboration with the Centennial Commission on an upcoming exhibit at City Hall. This special installation will highlight the museum's Paiute dictionary alongside meaningful examples of material culture, celebrating the region's heritage and linguistic legacy.

Natural History

Richard Gawne, Curator

Activities summary:

- Rick Gawne and UNLV undergraduate student Skylar Snow represented the Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas at the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology's annual conference in Portland Oregon. The presentations highlighted ongoing research being conducted at the NSMLV and helped to provide much professional exposure needed for the institution.
- R. Gawne's review of *Insect Ecomorphology* by Oliver Betz was published in the *Quarterly Review of Biology*. <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/epdf/10.1086/739730>
- Working with the facilities team, a new natural history working area was completed in the collections space. The physical materials used items obtained from the state surplus warehouse. The new working space will significantly enhance our ability to process specimens and conduct research.
- R. Gawne hosted an annual visit from UNLV's ornithology course.

Manuscripts, Photographs, Research Library

Kassidy Whetstone, Curator

Activities summary:

- Hosted and participated in the quarterly Southern Nevada Agency Partnership meeting to discuss cultural resources and heritage among public government agencies in Southern Nevada.
- Visited the Clark County School District archives to launch collaboration in the management and preservation of school yearbooks. This gives the library a direction in the collecting mission to inform future preservation of existing yearbooks and guided collection of future yearbooks.
- Visited the Spring Mountain Ranch to assist the park interpreter with collections management and preservation practices and upcoming exhibit planning.
- Updated online catalog records for copying into an ArchivesSpace import template.
- Presented at the Clark County Board of Commissioners meeting in celebration of Women's History Month. Discussed local female historical figures, their impacts on the local community, and their collections represented at NSMLV.
- Served as a National History Day judge for the local school Amplus academy. Heard from local students about their research projects and discussed research tools and tips when working with historical primary sources.
- Participated in Nevada Reading Week at O'Roarke elementary school to read a Nevada history book to elementary school students while also discussing the museum's role and a career as a curator/archivist.
- Assisted with an "Archives 101" webinar hosted by a Nevada State Library archives consultant to provide training in archival basics to cultural heritage institutions.

Collections and Registration

Holly Piper, Curator of Collections

Activities summary:

This quarter was an active time for loans for the Collections department, with several outgoing loans returning or being sent out, and with a large effort to improve the documentation of many loaned objects on display in the permanent gallery. There were slightly more research inquiries than usual, with some of those turning into outgoing loans to other institutions. Several collections spaces underwent reorganizing projects with new shelving or the removal of loaned material.

Loans

- Return of outgoing loan to Clark County Museum of 6 objects related to the Soapbox Derby Car.
- Prepared an outgoing loan to Clark County Museum of twenty-six objects related to Women's History in Nevada.
- Prepared an outgoing loan to Clark County Museum of thirty-seven objects from the Howard Hughes Green House.
- Renewed loans with the Nevada State Museum Carson City, and improved documentation of an older incoming loan of 130 objects that have been in Las Vegas since at least 2010. This involved taking over two hundred photographs of the objects, opening exhibit cases to verify the accession numbers labeled on objects and hunting down objects with incorrect or missing location information.

Collections

- Worked with Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument employees to coordinate the removal of their herbarium specimens (Feb. 3rd) and paleontological material (March 25th) from NSMLV collections space.

Conference

- Attended the Archaeological Institute of America's Annual Meeting 2026

Environmental Monitoring

- Subscribed to eClimateNotebook as a new software to analyze and store environmental monitoring data. Set up account, datalogger location information, uploaded previous years' data.

Learning and Community Engagement

Jordan Canal, Curator

Activities summary:

Discovery Saturdays

This is a weekly, free drop-in program with interactive stations surrounding a theme tied to the museum or a special recognition day. This program offers theme-related educational resources, a hands-on activity, and a chance for guests to learn from our hands-on Education Collection.

Looking forward:

- Continuing to partner with individuals and organizations for future Discovery Saturday programs.
- Special Discovery Saturdays: Ninth Island Day, Unearthed: Fossils of the Silver State, and Holidays Around the World.
- Adding more paid sessions on Discovery Saturdays for small workshop style activities.

Field Trips:

This year we are seeing higher quality field trip experiences and survey results. All thematic worksheets that guide the groups through the galleries on their field trips are aligned with the Nevada Academic Content Standards for Social Sciences and Science. Currently we have six different worksheets that teachers can select from.

Looking forward:

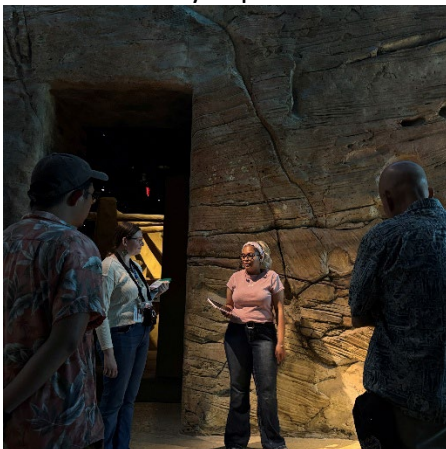
- We are expecting field trips to be affected by Clark County's decision to change all school start times to later in the morning for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Building our Museum Guide program to enhance gallery interactions and tours.

Sensory-Friendly Exploration Hours, Focus Fridays and Group Tours:

The museum offers group tours and early hours for groups as a part of our Sensory-Friendly Exploration Hours for those who would be better served by experiencing the museum without the dimmed lights, sound effects, or crowds experienced during regular museum hours. This Spring, we added Focus Fridays, a program that offers a guided tour focused on a specific theme to the public. So far tours have been on Basketry and Sustainable Economies in Nevada, The New Deal in Nevada, and the History of Tule Springs.

Looking forward:

- Continue to build the Museum Guide program to better manage Focus Friday tours and Sensory-Friendly Exploration Hour visits.



Museum in a Box:

We have completed refurbishing the Civil Rights in Las Vegas Museum in a Box and it is now being reserved and used by schools. Work continues administering the program and recognizing needed updates and additions for the next school year. We expect higher use of this program in the next school year due to the change of school start times across the Clark County School District.

Looking forward:

- Refurbishing our Lost City Museum in a Box.
- Planning for the creation of the Expedition Nevada Museum in a Box. This box will highlight explorers and the trails that brought people to and through what is now Nevada.
- Updating the resources and lessons in our Paleontology & Fossils Museum in a Box to better reflect Nevada's third grade curriculum.



Volunteers:

We are currently scheduling more volunteer events and trainings for our volunteer and Museum Guide programs.

Community Engagement:

We regularly attend festivals and events at the locations of the community organizations we partner with. Spring can be a busy time for outreach with outdoor events and Nevada Reading Week. We also accommodate schools when they request staff to present or speak with their students about our professions, a specific subject, or the museum in general.



Exhibits

Jonelle Wilson, Exhibits Preparator II

Activities summary:

- Onboarded UNLV Regent Intern to assist with Exhibits upkeep and Collections cataloguing.
- Began NSMLV stakeholder meetings for *Dominguez & Escalante* exhibit to discuss scope of exhibit, loaned artifacts, schedule, and budget.
- Met with fire inspector to get estimate on relocating gallery fireboxes to maximize usable gallery wall space.
- Assisted in overseeing the installation of *The Neon in Nature Series presented by Travel Nevada*.
- Brought on finish carpenter, Eric Carr, as vendor to assist with platform and case builds for upcoming exhibits.
- Met with contracted exhibit designer, Caroline Lajoie, to begin brainstorming gallery layout/design for *Dominguez & Escalante* exhibit.
- Wes Sotherland, Exhibits Manager, retired on February 13, 20026.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenue/Expenditure Comparison Narrative:

The museum enjoyed a positive quarter for revenue in its trust budget. The contributions from our retail and event programs continues to grow. Moreover, this is the first year of fee based public programs. To date, we have revenues of \$6200. And will continue to refine our offerings. Again, the lack of an online ticket portal hinders the growth of these programs.

MUSEUM STORE

Lara Brown, Museum Attendant

Activities summary:

- Store sales were good this quarter, slightly above last fiscal year. March sales were exceptional at \$12,114.25
- Lara has had to raise prices on several items due to increased wholesale costs. Fortunately, this has not seemed to affect store revenue.
- Purchasing was steady this quarter, mostly re-stocking bestsellers. Lara brought in a few new items including “Canimals” which are plush animals in a can and jewelry from two local artists. All are selling well. The store would like to feature more local artists; this is something Lara is going to pursue next fiscal year.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Membership this quarter has remained flat compared to previous quarters. We did hold a one-year discounted membership for CCSD teachers, and the response has been good. Deadline to join expired at the end of April.

ATTENDANCE

The museum has received more visitors than at this time last year. Owing to strong marketing from DCTA as well as the Springs Preserve has driving total site attendance records. We still expect a change in attendance when the Springs closes their Origen Gallery to become an interactive Colorado River Basin space. Both museum and Springs will continue to look for all opportunities to minimize declines in visitors.

FUND RAISING

Our most consistent donor, the 32 Club, raised about \$25K to support the transportation between museum and schools for the Museum in a Box program this quarter. Since their founding five plus years ago, they have reached over \$130k in support of this legacy program.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

Joe Lombardo | Governor

Daniel P. Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Catherine Magee | Director

1650 North Virginia Street

Reno, NV 89503

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Date: June 12, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Catherine Magee, Director
Nevada Historical Society

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects

- HVAC and Roof replacement CIP projects continue. The projects began on October 7, 2024, and remain incomplete.
- The Security, Life Safety, Electrical, Seismic Retrofit, Envelope Maintenance, and ADA upgrades CIP projects began May 12, 2025, and are projected to conclude May 2027.

Due to construction projects, the NHS closed to the public on January 1, 2025. The Research Library closed to the public on May 9, 2025.

Nevada Historical Society On The Go! Off-site events

While our building is closed, we continue to share the stories of Nevada through our Nevada Historical Society On The Go! Off-site events. In conjunction with community partners, NHS programs are hosted at venues throughout the community and virtually. Knights of Pythias host Writers' Wednesday, Washoe County Library System and the Sierra View Library host our Nevada History Lecture series and our American Gaming Archives Fireside Chat series, the ever-popular High Noon with Neal Cobb is hosted by Washoe County Library System, and Docent Council Lectures are hosted by KNPB.

Construction Preparation and Monitoring

All NHS team members moved and protected collections for construction. All NHS team members monitored construction workers working in NHS collection areas.

NHS Docents assisted staff with construction preparation projects including equipment assembly, collections cataloging, and rehousing.

Collections Storage

The NHS is no longer able to collect Nevada's history due to insufficient collections storage space. In addition to this, at the end of January 2025 the NHS lost over 3000 sq ft of free collection storage space. In an emergency collections move, all the collections were moved to temporary storage at the end of January 2025. Catherine continues to look for 3000 sq ft collections storage for these collections, the price per square foot for leased space for collections is estimated to be between \$0.76 - 1.41/sf. When an appropriate location has been found, Catherine will be requesting funds from DMH Board controlled monies to pay for the yearly lease.

Staff Activities

History Curator Activities Summary:

- Shery continued to work on *Gilded Age* exhibit and plans for exhibit gallery reinstallation
- Shery continued her work on the NMA board
- Shery continued to work on America 250 programming
- Shery continues to work on public engagement via social media, newsletters, and scheduling programming
- Shery was interviewed by News Channel 4

Archivist and Collections Technician Activities Summary:

- Sarah continued working with docents and volunteers to process archival materials
- Sarah continues her work as a board member for Nevada State Historical Records Advisory Board
- Sarah and Theresa continue to add data to Nevada Archives Navigator, an NEH grant-funded project in collaboration with the Nevada State Archives to create a discovery portal that enables the public to search for collections from multiple institutions
- Sarah and Theresa continued working with docents, other NHS staff and volunteers at off-site collections

Collections Manager/Registrar Activities Summary:

- Debra continued working with docents and volunteers to process artifact materials
- Debra continues to deal with loan requests
- Debra continued working with docents, other NHS and DMH staff, and volunteers at off-site collections
- Debra and Kristina, with docent assistance, moved 400 baskets from the NSMCC to the NHS and rehoused all baskets at the NHS

Education Curator Activities Summary:

- Kristina continued to schedule off-site educational programming
- Kristina continued to coordinate docent programming and collections work
- Kristina continued working with docents, other NHS staff and volunteers at off-site collections
- Kristina and Debra, with docent assistance, moved 400 baskets from the NSMCC to the NHS and rehoused all baskets at the NHS

Administrative Assistant/Store Manager/Membership Coordinator Activities Summary:

- Ramit continued working at off-site events selling memberships and store merchandise
- Ramit continued working on membership, budgets, and store needs
- Ramit continued working with docents, other NHS staff and volunteers at off-site collections

Director Activities Summary:

- Catherine continued to oversee two ongoing construction projects
- Catherine continued short-term to long-range planning and strategies
- Catherine provided conservation consultation for Nevada Museum of Art for their upcoming Virginia City exhibit

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenue/Expenditure Comparison Narrative:

Ramit, Administrative Assistant and Store Manager, fulfils special orders for the Museum Store and sells memberships and merchandise at off-site events.

MUSEUM STORE

Museum Store Sales Narrative:

Ramit, Administrative Assistant and Store Manager, fulfils special orders for the Museum Store and sells memberships and merchandise at off-site events.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Membership Program Narrative:

Due to construction projects, the NHS closed to the public on January 1, 2025. We typically increase membership during onsite events. We had 3 new memberships and 67 renewals. We also have institutional memberships with 29 renewals.

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance Narrative

Due to construction projects, the NHS closed to the public on January 1, 2025.

We held 12 free offsite and virtual programs with a total of 420 attendees. (January: 89, February: 126, March: 205)

We did not participate in any community events this quarter.

FUND RAISING

Narrative

We received a total of \$797.77 in donations this quarter



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel P. Thielen | Administrator

LOST CITY MUSEUM
Tracey Sprague | Director
721 S. Moapa Blvd.
Overton, NV 89040

LOST CITY MUSEUM

Date: June 12, 2026
To: Board of Museums & History
From: Tracey Sprague, Director
Lost City Museum
Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
January 1, 2026 - March 31, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects

Lost City Museum completed the rewiring of the whole museum with new Cat6 in January. The museum was able to connect to the local fiber internet. The upgrade has greatly improved the phone system and the speed of the internet at the museum.

Staff Activities

Specialty Tours:

Tour with Bureau of Reclamation – 8

Tour with Nevada State Parks – 50

Nevada Territory visit - 11

Onsight events: 1/17 - Pottery workshop with SHPO – 12

1/31 - Archaeology Day – 130

1/23 and 1/24 - Bone ID workshop with Virginia Lucas – Red Rock Search and Rescue – 52

2/28 – Native American Heritage Day – 424



Exhibit overhaul – the addition of Spanish language QR codes for the 1935 and 1981 galleries, and a refresher on some of the text panels with updated information.



BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenue/Expenditure Comparison Narrative:

Lost City Museum is not expending funds excessively. Except for the store, we expect to be under in every other category regarding spending.

MUSEUM STORE

Museum Store Sales Narrative:

Jan. - \$9494.90, \$9.24 per customer
Feb. - \$10722.57. \$7.69 per customer
Mar. - \$9544.18, \$7.91 per customer

In FY26, the Museum Store is already averaging higher sales compared to the previous year. The second quarter was \$3,394.45 higher than it was in FY2025.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Membership Program Narrative:

The Lost City Museum membership program is comparatively down for the 3rd quarter compared to FY26. The staff who manage the membership have been sending out postcards and emails to remind current members to renew. We also implemented changing postcards with upcoming events to encourage attendance.

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance Narrative

145 higher than Q3 of FY2025, on track to meet and possibly surpass last year's numbers. Attendance has been steadily increasing since FY2022.

Revenue will be higher than FY25 due to the increase in admission that started July 1, 2025.

EVENTS AT LOST CITY

Noted above in general activities

FUND RAISING

Currently no major fundraising is happening at Lost City Museum or with the Lost City Museum Docent Council



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator
Jen Roger | Director

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,
CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Date: June 12, 2026
To: Board of Museums & History
From: Jen Roger, Director
Nevada State Museum Carson City
Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
January 1, 2026 - March 31, 2026

Quarterly Reports

Natural History

During this quarter, work continued on development of the Modern Mining Exhibit in coordination with the Nevada Division of Minerals. Progress also continued on the Abandoned Mine Adit Diorama, including refinement of exhibit text and video, acquisition of photographs and display objects, and coordination with NSM Exhibit Program staff regarding construction and installation. Research and text development also advanced for Riveting America, the Nevada State Museum, Carson City contribution to the America 250 celebration, including identification of mineral specimens from the Natural History Collection for potential exhibit use. As NSMCC Safety Coordinator, I assisted in coordinating Defensive Driving training for staff, conducted AED readiness checks, and inspected and restocked First Aid stations across museum facilities in compliance with Nevada Division of Risk Management requirements. I also completed the Nevada Risk Management in-person Defensive Driving course during this quarter.

Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Center:

During the first quarter of 2026, the Nevada State Museums' Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Center continued to support a wide range of public programs, collections care initiatives, exhibition projects, and research activities. Public outreach efforts included participation in the "Hair, Makeup and Me" program in collaboration with the Nevada Historical Society and local library partners, as well as a presentation for the NSM Friends organization highlighting the ongoing *Nevada Fashions and the People Who Wore Them* book project.

Significant progress was made on grants, loans, and exhibition-related work during the quarter. Under the Nauman Grant, a purchase order was submitted to Steel Fixture for five new metal storage cabinets to improve collections storage capacity. Staff also played a major role in the development of the *Riveting America* exhibition by writing exhibit text, designing and acquiring a horse blanket for display, coordinating a loan with Dangberg Historic Park, and mounting, transporting, and installing two pairs of historic overalls for the exhibition.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator
Jen Roger | Director

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,
CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Anthropology

Anthropology staff worked to prepare for the replacement of the HVAC systems at the Curatorial facility (1026 Topsy Lane). This included removing metal shelving, moving and rehousing collections, and digitally tracking where those collections were moved in the associated databases. Staff prepared for NSMCC's America 250 exhibit, Riveting America, by writing text, and researching and preparing artifacts for display. Rachel prepared, updated, and closed out loans (i.e., Churchill County Museum, University of Oregon, Sand Harbor), assisted with research requests (Texas A&M University, BIA, BLM, and Nellis), cataloged donations, and processed Sub-Terra Heritage paleontological collection for curation. April arranged donation of NSM Anthro Tule Springs publication overstock to Ice Age Fossil State Park. Anna served on the search committee for NSMCC's Curator of History. A highlight of this quarter was giving a tour and meeting with twelve members of the Sampson family. Dewey Sampson's cradle board is being used in the American 250 exhibit and meeting with his family allowed for us to consult with the family prior to putting this artifact on display.

NAGPRA Report/Activities

Anthropology staff made significant headway on NAGPRA efforts this quarter. They sent out consultation letters to 39 tribes in Nevada and surrounding states requesting consultation for the addition of 20 ancestors to the National Park Service NAGPRA inventory. We also updated tribal contact list for 39 tribes. We responded to four requests for consultation and held three consultation meetings to discuss repatriation and duty of care responsibilities. Anthropology staff also assisted BLM Nevada State office and BLM, California Applegate office with records information requests related to their NAGPRA holdings at NSMCC due to current turnover in BLM staff.

Registrar

During the first quarter of 2026, staff continued standard collections management activities, including accession and deaccession processing, loan renewals, research and donation requests, collections care, database maintenance, budgeting, and inventory work. Research assistance and file cleanup for the historic photograph collection also continued throughout the quarter.

Significant progress was made in collections documentation and inventory efforts. With assistance from a Manpower employee, 13,105 PastPerfect records were updated, including the scanning of historic photographs and photography of artifacts, while more than 350 new records with images were added to the database. Staff also inventoried 344 objects, including a number of items from 1948 and 1969 that had never previously been entered into a database. Three donated map cases from Resource Concepts, Inc. were installed in the basement history collections with assistance from facilities.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator
Jen Roger | Director

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,

CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Registrar (continued)

Additional projects included completing the Sandoval partial deaccession and returning objects to the Nevada State Library and Archives, processing the Nevada Milk Bottle Collection, and continuing artifact rehousing and inventory work.

Gift Shop

During the third quarter, retail sales showed strong growth despite a decrease in the total number of items sold. Overall revenue increased significantly due in large part to the continued success of medallion sales and strategic pricing adjustments.

Medallion sales experienced substantial growth. In January, the museum increased medallion pricing by \$10 in response to rising silver costs. Despite the price increase, demand remained strong. The release of the Capital Christmas Tree medallion in January proved especially successful, serving as a major draw for museum visitors and generating a notable increase in mail-out orders.

Although no special events were held during the quarter, significant planning and development work took place behind the scenes.

The museum store also expanded its offerings by adding several new local vendors, including locally produced organic honey, further supporting regional businesses and diversifying merchandise selections.

Additionally, the store launched sales of educational 3D printed objects, with all proceeds designated to support museum education programs. This initiative not only created a new retail category within the store but also directly contributed to the museum's educational mission.

Exhibits

During the first quarter of 2026, major progress was completed on the Mine Adit Diorama and related exhibition projects. Staff finalized the abandoned mine entrance diorama, including forced perspective elements, lighting, faux rock work, ground layout, rails, carts, gravel, plants, and animal features. Interactive and multimedia components were also completed, including the touchscreen kiosk and app, video and sound systems, projection effects, captions, animated graphics, and the installation of a quartz vein touch element. Additional fabrication work included constructing and finishing a protective fence barrier and incorporating reclaimed barn wood finishes to enhance the exhibit environment.

Work also continued on the *Riveting America* exhibition through artifact acquisition, mount fabrication, interpretive text development, and exhibit planning meetings. On February 13, 2026, staff met with Leslie Goechia of Nevada Gold Mines to review the mine adit exhibit and discuss development of the second phase of the *Modern Mining* project.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator
Jen Roger | Director

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM,

CARSON CITY
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Additional activities included leading an AARP museum tour with Dr. George Baumgardner and continuing regular maintenance of the historic coin press, including die setup support for public minting days.

Facilities

Facilities was mostly occupied with the CIP at the Marjorie Russel Clothing and Textile Center. The CIP encompassed the replacement of the HVAC system. Once that was completed, Facilities turned their attention to the Indian Hills Curatorial Center CIP. HVAC was installed and all three rollup doors were replaced. That CIP is ongoing.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY **NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM**
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel P. Thielen | Administrator

Sean Pitts | Director
1100 Avenue A
Ely, NV 89301

EAST ELY RAILROAD DEPOT MUSEUM

Date: June 12, 2026
To: Board of Museums & History
From: Sean Pitts, Director
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum
Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
January 1, 2026 - March 31, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects:

Ely has put a hold on all building projects for the foreseeable future. It makes little sense to put money into buildings that the Governor has determined to give away.

Staff Activities:

It has been a quarter of different research requests. We were referred as the source of information regarding Swedish Immigrants for a project commissioned by the Embassy of Sweden in Washington DC. It was a stretch since no employees of the Museum have Swedish ancestry. We pulled every resource in our collection and reached out to members of the community who belong to that cultural group. Sean provided the historical backdrop and other community members filled in their cultural experience. The production company was pleased with the information we were able to provide on a ten-hour timeline.

Sean was the featured speaker for eastern Nevada's America 250 video project. The film crew was hired by White Pine County Tourism to preserve the mining history of the area. NSRM-Ely provided narrative, stories, photos, and video of the 20th century copper mining that provided the copper that lit the nation. No word yet on when this will be available for viewing.

Sean was the virtual speaker for the Nevada Historical Society's High Noon Lecture Series in April. It was a significant honor to be asked. The program featured the White Pine Mining District in Hamilton, Nevada in 1869. Known as "the shortest lived but most intensive mining boom in American history" the presentation illuminated the history of eastern Nevada's first mining rush. There were numerous positive comments from across the State with a number of people requesting a guided tour of the area.

Accordingly, we continue to make plans for this summer's Heritage tours to the historic White Pine Mining District that surrounds the Hamilton area. We are working with the local sporting goods store who will rent electronic bikes for those who want to tour the ghost town of Treasure City. The road to that town is washed out and unless one wants to hike two miles at 9,000 feet in elevation, e-bikes are the only way to access this significant part of the area. We are setting the dates for these tours now.

Staff time is spent preparing for the closure of the Museum. It's a difficult task, but one we hope will strengthen the other museums in the State system.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenue/Expenditure Comparison: See Division provided information.

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance seems to match previous years.

FUND RAISING

No action in this area.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

Joe Lombardo | Governor

Daniel P. Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Christopher MacMahon | Director

601 Yucca Blvd.

Boulder City, NV 89005

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM, BOULDER CITY

Date: June 12, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Christopher MacMahon, Director
Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
January 1, 2026 – March 31, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects:

Construction on the museum's visitor center is now in its final stages. Over the past quarter much of the work transitioned to the building's interior and finishes on the exterior, including landscaping. New tracks were installed in January. Substantial completion is anticipated mid-May, with all punch list items addressed by the end of the fiscal year.

Due to long-lead times and design complications, the water tower and water crane elements have been delayed to November 2026.

Fabrication on the visitor's center exhibits began in April. Fabrication and installation will continue through August. We anticipate opening the visitor center to the public in September 2026.

Museum Programs

The museum conducted its annual open house on February 28 showcasing the museum's varied activities and programs. Presentations were given by Restoration Specialist Braden Brickman on the restoration of U.S. Army 1855, and the on-going refurbishment of excursion car 501. Director MacMahon gave an update on the visitor center construction and provided an overview of the museum's master plan that will guide future expansion at the museum. The open house was attended by approximately 400 guests.

The museum hosted 11 school tours totaling 972 students between January 1 and March 30.

Rail Bike tours saw significant ridership with the beautiful spring weather. Over the quarter, 520 bikes were rented with 1,583 riders.

Staff Activities

Restoration Specialist Brickman traveled to Western Rail's yard in Spokane, WA to evaluate potential locomotives for lease.

Director MacMahon was invited to present an update on the visitor center's construction to the Boulder City Republican Women's luncheon.

Director MacMahon gave multiple interviews on Las Vegas news networks pertaining to the Rail Bike program.

Director MacMahon gave an interview to the Nevada NBC affiliates for their American 250 programming on how railroads shaped the early history of Las Vegas. The segment was aired in both Las Vegas and Reno.

Donations

Nothing to report

MUSEUM STORE

Museum Store Sales Narrative:

Our small store continued to show strong sales despite its size thanks to the careful guidance of Administrative Assistant Tiane Marie. Sales could have been stronger, but the store had to be closed multiple times over the quarter due to on-going software issues with Big Harry Dog and their slow to respond customer service.

Due to low inventory, staff have decided to close the museum store May 1 to begin transitioning the store to the visitor center rather than incurring a large inventory purchase near the close of fiscal year.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Membership Program Narrative:

Membership is run through the Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance Narrative

The museum saw strong attendance in the display pavilion over the third quarter with 10,650 guests walking through the display pavilion and 4,980 guests riding the museum's trains. The museum did not operate trains in January to facilitate maintenance and annual inspections in compliance with state and federal laws.



Visitor Center Exterior May 2026



Locomotive 844 tests clearances on the new siding for the visitor center passenger platform.

Memorandum of Understanding

By and Between

The State of Nevada, Acting by and through the Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City, an Institution of the Division of Museums and History, and The Nevada Board of Museums and History,
And
Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway, Inc., a Nevada nonprofit corporation

WHEREAS, the Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City (hereafter NSRMBC or Museum) is a cultural resource dedicated to educating the broadest possible audience about the contributions of railroads and railroading to the development of Nevada. This mission is realized through the collection, preservation and interpretation of significant locomotives, rolling stock, artifacts, photographs, documents and ephemera directly relating to railroads and railroading in Nevada.

WHEREAS, the Nevada Board of Museums and History (hereafter BMH) is empowered to establish categories of memberships in the NSRMBC, the fees to be charged for memberships, fees for admissions to the institution, fees for train rides provided by the NSRMBC, and policies and charges for the incidental use, rental and lease of the buildings, equipment, fixtures and other property of the NSRMBC.

WHEREAS, the Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway, Inc. (hereafter FNSR), is a non-profit corporation duly organized under Chapter 81 of the Nevada Revised Statutes on June 27, 2007, and is a non-profit organization within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

WHEREAS, the FNSR is organized and operated to educate its members and the public, and to provide support to the operations and programs of NSRMBC within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code.

WHEREAS, the State of Nevada acting through the NSRMBC and the FNSR desire to enter into this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") in order to identify the roles and responsibilities of each party as they relate to the Western Rail, Inc. locomotive lease and contract.

NOW, therefore the State of Nevada and FNSR mutually agree to the following:

TERM: This agreement shall be valid and effective from May 2026 to June 30, 2031, unless modified in writing signed by the parties hereto.

ACTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FNSR: The parties hereto agree that the FNSR:

1. Shall pay \$4,590.00 per month to Western Rail, Inc. in accordance with written lease-to-own agreement for EMD-SD28-3 #652 for the duration of the five-year lease, or until the lease is terminated.
2. If the Museum and Friends agree to purchase the locomotive before the term of the lease expires for the fair market value identified within the lease agreement, approval must be granted by the Board of Directors of the Friends and the Nevada Board of Museums and History.
3. The Friends will loan locomotive #652 to the Museum for the duration of the lease-to-own agreement.

ACTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF NSRMBC: The parties hereto agree that NSRMBC:

1. Shall be responsible for the cost of transporting the locomotive to the museum.
2. Shall be responsible for the regular inspection, maintenance, and care of locomotive #652 for the duration of the lease.

- a. Funds for maintenance or unique parts may be requested by the museum director to the Friends Board following existing procedures and subject to the approval of the Friends Board.
3. Locomotive shall be insured by the State of Nevada Risk Management.
4. Shall be responsible for complying with all laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of railroad equipment.

INDEMNIFICATION: To the fullest extent permitted by law, the State of Nevada shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend FNSR and its members from and against any claims that relate in any manner to train operation or museum volunteer activities, as if the individuals providing said volunteer service are employees of the State within the scope and meaning of NRS 41.0339 provided that said activities reasonably appear to be within the course and scope of the public duty assumed by the FNSR or volunteer, appears to have been performed or omitted in good faith and was done under the control and direct supervision of the NSRMCC and in furtherance of the NSRMBC's mission or business.

MODIFICATION: The agreement shall not be modified without the written consent of the parties.

TERMINATION: This agreement may be terminated by either party, with cause, upon 60 days advance written notice.

Signed:

**Christopher MacMahon, Director
Nevada State Railroad Museum Boulder City**

Harris Seorti, President FNSR

**Mercedes de la Garza, Chairman
NV Board of Museums and History**

**Dan Thielen, Administrator
Nevada Division of Museums and History**

**State of Nevada, Attorney General
Approved as to form**



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel P. Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM
Daphne DeLeon | Director
2180 S. Carson St.
Carson City, NV
89701

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM, CARSON CITY

Date: June 12, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Daphne DeLeon, Director
Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report for FY26 Q2 to the Board of Museums & History
January 1, 2026, to March 31, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Staff Activities

Staff:

Chris De Witt Chief Mechanical Officer retired on March 5, 2026. Museum with support from the Friends of the Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City held an event at the Museum to honor Mr. De Witt's contributions to his 40+ year career at the Museum.

Programming Updates

History:

Curator Michalski's efforts to have the Museum participate in the Nevada State Historical Records Advisory Board grant program was successful. The Museum will receive training and consultation from a professional archival consultant; assistant in surveying the Museum's archival collections and support to produce at least one collection-level finding aid by December 31, 2026.

This project will leverage the Museum's acquisition of its own PastPerfect instance earlier in the fiscal year and result in online access to the Museum's archival collections in FY2028.

Education:

Curator Pointer participated in a collaboration with the Nevada State Museum Carson City to hold a Nevada Museum Teacher Institute June 22-26, 2026 in Carson City. Participating teacher will receive instruction in the development of project-based learning units, in-depth exposure to the museum's collections and the Nevada stories they tell. Teachers will create project-based learning units that are rooted in the museums' collections and collaborate with education curators to plan implementation of learning units in the 26-27 school year. Implementation will include a pre-museum visit instruction, museum visit and post-museum visit work. Established educational programming continues to gain traction.

Childrens Programs

Field Trips: 3 (47 students)

Whistle Stop Stories: 174 participants

Museum participated in Nevada Reading week (March 2-6) by inviting Andrew Fueling, Carson City School District Superintendent and Lisa Schuette, Carson City Supervisor to guest readers.

STEAM Sundays: 89 participants

Adult Programs

Behind the Rails Lecture Series: 56 participants

Restoration Shop:

Restoration Shop staff worked with retiring Chief Mechanical Officer Chris De Witt to complete as many projects as possible and document what was completed. Museum started the process to hire the next Chief Mechanical Officer.

Outreach/Events

Museum staff and members of the Friends of the Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City planned the annual Eggstravaganza. This special event officially starts the 2026 Train/Motor Car Ride season.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenues traditionally are lower in this quarter due to the suspension of train/motor car rides. This quarter is focused on maintenance of artifacts (locomotives, cars, other rolling stock) and infrastructure (cleaning the train tracks, repairing fixtures, etc.) and planning programming for the calendar year. Revenues predictably increase once the train/motor car season starts in April 2026 with Eggstravaganza.

ATTENDANCE

As with revenues, attendance numbers are traditionally lower because of the suspension of train/motor car rides. Numbers predictably increase once the train/motor car season starts in April 2026 with Eggstravaganza.

FUND RAISING:

Museum and Friends of the Nevada State Museum Carson City started planning for 2026 fundraising events.