



Native American Employment Plan Advisory Council

Quarterly Meeting (#2) – Via WebEx
May 18, 2022, 10:00AM-12:00PM

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 A.M. by Council Chair Andrew Johnson, Council Chair. Chair Johnson led the meeting with a prayer.

II. Roll Call – Chair Johnson conducted the roll call.

A. Council Members

Native American Employment Plan Advisory Council				
ATTENDANCE ROSTER: COUNCIL MEMBERS				
Members	Present			Absent
	In person - Chicago	In person- Springfield	via WebEx	
Johnson, Andrew (Chair)			X	
Boyd, Nichole			X	
Beaudet, Matthew				X
Poirot, Pete				X
Silas, Pamala M.			X	
Stanley, Susan			X	
Vigue, Kim			X	
White Eagle, Wendy				X

Total: 5 members present, 3 members absent. Quorum was achieved.



B. Agency Representatives

Native American Employment Plan Advisory Council				
ATTENDANCE ROSTER: Agency Representatives				
Agency	Representative	Present		
		In person - Chicago	In person - Springfield	via WebEx
Central Management Services	Mark Mahoney			X
	Demoya Gordon			X
	Patricia Santoyo-Marin			X
	Sarah Kerley			X
	Corey Anne Gulkewicz			X
	Patricia Young			X
	Ayesha Patel			X
	Mayra Magaña			X
Illinois Department on Aging	Cheryl Barrett			X
Department of Children and Family Services	Jose Lopez			X
	Ellen Williams - ICWA			X
Illinois Department of Human Services	Amelia Gavina			X
Illinois Department of Innovation & Technology	Vickie Simpson			X
	Jason Barth			X
Illinois Department of Employment Security	Stanislav Volkhovsky			X
Illinois Department of Human Rights	Martin Duncan			X
	Akia Harper			X
Department of Commerce & Economic Development	Diana Alfaro			X
Illinois Dept. of Financial & Professional Regulations	Temi A. Bennett			X
Illinois Emergency Management Agency	Kevin Sur			X
Office of the Governor	Javier Thompson			X

Total: 21 CMS and other Agency staff attended this meeting.



Native American Employment Plan Advisory Council				
Attendance Roster: Members of the Public				
Name	Entity Represented	Present		
		In Person Chicago	In person Springfield	Via Webex
Melodi Serna	American Indian Center of Chicago			X

Total: 1 member of the public attended the meeting.

III. Minutes

A. Review/Approve Minutes from February 16, 2022

1. Motion made by Susan Stanley to approve the meeting minutes and seconded by Pamala Silas. Motion passed and minutes were approved. .

IV. CMS Discussion

A. Introduction of Demoya Gordon, CMS Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Officer

Mark Mahoney of CMS introduced Demoya Gordon, CMS Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Officer. Demoya Gordon of CMS provided some insight into her background and experience and her enthusiasm for the work she will be doing at CMS and with the Council. Chair Johnson welcomed Demoya on behalf of the council.

B. State Workforce Diversity Numbers Update

Sarah Kerley of CMS provided an update on the State Workforce Diversity Numbers as of May 1, 2022 in comparison to the last two fiscal years. The overall state workforce has dropped slightly since February. The number of Native Americans in Senior Leadership positions and PSA/SPSA positions has not decreased but CMS is still looking into methods for recruitment. Chair Johnson asked if the reports can be provided in a spreadsheet format to the data can be sorted to and analyzed better for their purposes. Sarah Kerley of CMS said she would look into this as the data is still generated from an older system and that when the new system is in full effect it will be easier to provide the reports in that format.

C. Internships & Job Fair Updates

Patricia Santoyo-Marin of CMS acknowledged Chair Johnson’s assistance in connecting CMS to the University of Illinois Chicago and shared that the discussion is continuing for the summer and school year internship programs. She

shared some information regarding the structure of the internships.

Patricia Santoyo-Marin of CMS acknowledged Council member Susan Stanley, and Ryann Unabia, of CMS, for their assistance in and collaboration in planning the Career Fair. After revisiting the plan for the event and some schedules, date of the event will be postponed until the beginning or first half of August pending venue availability. Chair Johnson indicated that the council would assist in promoting the career fair and will gladly distribute the flyer among their networks once the flyer is completed.

D. FY2021 CMS D&I Projects –

Patricia Santoyo-Marin of CMS shared Action Items for the 2022 Fiscal year from the Native American Employment Plan Report along with some of the initiatives and goals, some of which have already completed, and some are still in the works. Chair Johnson commended the goals listed. Council Member Susan Stanley inquired regarding the location placement for the Human Resources Specialist that was posted with our program in mind. Patricia Santoyo-Marin of CMS clarified that the position will be housed in Springfield, but that staffing is scheduled to increase and will provide for additional staff in the northern region.

V. Council Discussion Items

A. Member appointment status

Chair Johnson shared that he had exchanged some emails with Mark Mahoney of CMS. He indicated that he will work a bit more with Mark to get things squared away and will follow up with those individuals directly to ensure that the necessary information is provided for the process to continue with the candidates. He will provide an update on those individuals at the next meeting.

B. Update on meeting with members of the Illinois State Board of Education

This is more a desire and is involved with a separate working group to work on some issues that exist. They will work with Senator West from Rockford to come up with wording for a Bill by the end of the year and within this work with ISBE to explore content for Native American .Students and expansion of Native American teaching positions. Chair Johnson indicated that they have had one meeting and are in more of a research phase at this point. Updates will be provided in the upcoming months. Council Member Silas recommended putting this initiative on a broader state radar so more will know this effort is going on. Ellen Williams indicated that DCFS would like to know, from ISBE, the locations

where they have reported Native American Students across the state in order for them to do outreach.

C. Presentation By Jesse Kameese

The council table this and will aim to have this presentation at an upcoming meeting.

D. Planning for Native American Heritage Month

Chair Johnson Indicated he would like to start a working group to plan for November so the event can have presentations and sessions as well as particular activities, some of which would incorporate State agencies as well.

Council Member suggested having a “Native Day in Springfield” similar to the event held in some other state. Chair Johnson committed to that and ensuring that it takes place this year.

VI. Public Comment

A. No public comment was made. But council member noted that there is a need to bring light to the number of Native Americans in foster care. Ellen Williams of DCFS shared that she has been working with ICWA and is open to having a conversation and seeing what can be done.

VII. Adjournment – Chair Johnson requested that a motion be made to adjourn the Council meeting. Council Member Nichole Boyd motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Council Member Susan Stanley. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM