



**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



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Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Energy Assistance and Conservation  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Date: May 27, 2021  
Time: 9:00 AM

1. **Call to Order Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator:** May 27, 2021 – 9:02 a.m.

Mr. Robert Thompson confirmed the Attorney General's Office was on the line.

Ms. Susanne Sliwa, Attorney General's Office indicated she was online and covering the hearing for Mr. Ryan Sunga.

2. **Introduction/Purpose: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator**

Robert Thompson: The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services has scheduled a Public Hearing to discuss the possible adoption of the proposed amendments to both the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Energy Assistance and Conservation State Plan, as indicated on the agenda.

This hearing is being conducted virtually. The hearing was noticed in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law and the Governor's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006; Subsection 3, 4, 5 and 6 posted on the Division's website along with the State of Nevada Public Notices website.

3. **General Public Comment: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator**

Mr. Robert Thompson explained that Item 2 on the agenda is for general public comment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised, until the matter has been specifically added to the agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. Because this meeting is being held virtually, I will ask that all callers/speakers please state and spell your name clearly for the record.

- i. No public comments presented.

4. **For possible action Agenda Items 3A: Maria Wortman-Meshberger, Social Services Chief, Employment and Supportive Services**

Ms. Maria Wortman-Meshberger gave an overview of the proposed amendment to the Fiscal Year 2021 state plan and policy amendment for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

- A. The proposed amendment to the FY 2021 state plan and policy amendment for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP):
  - a. Under Section 4.8 – *How do you handle crisis situation? and Attachment for Section 4: Crisis Assistance*
  - b. Under ‘Other’ add -- or to reduce or eliminate the energy burden to optimize the assistance provided to eligible households based on projected caseload, available program funding, and/or circumstances that warrant an adjustment (e.g., moratoriums on utility payments, etc.)

**5. Agenda Item 3B: Public Comment: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator:**

Robert Thompson: Item 3B on the agenda is for public comment regarding the proposed amendment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised until the matter has been specifically added to the agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. Because this meeting is being held virtually, I will ask that all callers/speakers please state and spell your name clearly for the record. Is there anyone virtually or on the phone who would like to speak regarding the adoption of this proposed amendment?

- i. No public comments presented.

**6. Agenda Item 3C: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator**

Robert Thompson: Not seeing any comments, I will adopt the amendments to Agenda Item 3A: LIHEAP State Plan under” Section 4.8” and under “other” on behalf of the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, effective July 1, 2020.

**7. Agenda Item 4: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator**

Robert Thompson: Ms. Maria Wortman-Meshberger, Social Services Chief, Employment and Supportive Services will present the Welfare Division and Supportive Services proposed amendment to the Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation State Plan.

**8. Agenda Item 4A: Maria Wortman-Meshberger, Social Services Chief, Employment and Supportive Services**

Ms. Maria Wortman-Meshberger presented the proposed amendment to the Fiscal Year 2021 state plan and policy amendment for the Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation:

*Under Section 2 Other Definitions*

- a. 2.2 Update—Arrearage Payment Component definition to include and to reduce or eliminate the energy burden to optimize the assistance provided to eligible households based on projected caseload, available program funding, and/or circumstances that warrant an adjustment (e.g., moratoriums on utility payments, etc.)

*Under Section 11 Provision of Emergency Assistance*

- b. 11.1 and 11.1.3 Update to add and to reduce or eliminate the energy burden to optimize the assistance provided to eligible households based on projected caseload, available program funding, and/or circumstances that warrant an adjustment (e.g., moratoriums on utility payments, etc.)
- c. 11.1.13.4 Updated to add Exception see 11.1 and 11.1.3.

**9. Agenda Item 4B: Public Comment: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator:**

Robert Thompson: Item 4B on the agenda is for public comment regarding the proposed amendment. No action may be taken upon a matter raised until the matter has been specifically added to the agenda. Comments are limited to 3 minutes. Because this meeting is being held virtually, I will ask that all callers/speakers please state and spell your name clearly for the record. Is there anyone virtually or on the phone who would like to speak regarding the adoption of this proposed amendment?

- i. No public comments presented.

**10. Agenda Item 4C: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator**

Robert Thompson: Not seeing any comments, I will adopt the amendments to Agenda Item 4: Nevada Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation State Plan under “Section 2.2” and under “Section 11.1 and 11.1.3” on behalf of the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, effective July 1, 2020.

**11. Adjournment: Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator**

Robert Thompson: I would like to thank those in attendance today for their input on the state plans heard today. I pronounce this public hearing closed. Thank you all for attending.

Susanne Sliwa, Attorney General’s Office asked to confirm the effective date for the proposed amendments. The agenda indicates July 1, 2021 and the testimony is stating July 1, 2020.

Robert Thompson asked Maria Wortman-Meshberger to confirm the effective date.

Maria Wortman-Meshberger confirmed the effective dates for the proposed amendments is July 1, 2020.

Robert Thompson clarified for the record that the amendment is effective July 1, 2020. Mr. Robert Thompson indicated that if there were no other public comments, the hearing would be closed.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:12 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Kareen Filippi, Executive Assistant, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services