***NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING***

STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF WELFARE AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
and
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
HOUSING DIVISION

POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL
AGENDA

(Action may be taken on those items denoted “For Possible Action”)

DATE: Thursday, June 25, 2020
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: Teleconferencing:
(877) 336-1831
Access Code 4793946 #
TTY Number – (800) 326-6868

DUE TO GOVERNOR’S MANDATE ON COVID-19, THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICAL ADDRESS IN WHICH TO ATTEND THE POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING.

Note: Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration. An item may be removed from this agenda or discussion relating to an item on this agenda may be delayed at any time.
1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Public Comment. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an Agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. (Because of time considerations, the period for public comment by each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes and speakers are urged to avoid repetition of comments made by previous speakers.)

3. Draft Minutes for PAC Meeting April 20, 2020 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

4. Draft Minutes for PAC Meeting February 20, 2020 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

5. Department of Energy (DOE) Program Years 2019 and 2020 Consolidation (DISCUSSION)

6. Energy Assistance Program Management Monitoring Summary (DISCUSSION)

7. Weatherization Assistance Program Production and Expenditure Summary (DISCUSSION)

8. Update on NV Energy Usage and COVID-19 (DISCUSSION)

9. Next Meeting Date (DISCUSSION): Tentative Date for next meeting is: **October 22nd at 2:00 p.m.**

10. Public Comment. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an Agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. (Because of time considerations, the period for public comment by each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes and speakers are urged to avoid repetition of comments made by previous speakers.)

11. Adjournment
This notice and agenda have been posted on or before 9:00 a.m. on the third working day prior to the meeting at the following websites:

Department of Business and Industry

Nevada Housing Division

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, all offices

This notice is also being posted on the Nevada Housing Division’s website at http://housing.nv.gov and Nevada’s Public Notice Website at http://notice.nv.gov

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Supporting documents for this meeting are available with the agenda on the listed web sites.

Email requests for supporting documents may be sent to Shelly Calvert at shelly.calvert@housing.nv.gov or calling (775) 687-2227.

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Call to Order and Roll Call
The Policy Advisory Council (PAC) was called to order by Robert Cooper on Monday, April 20, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. via teleconference due to Governor Sisolak’s mandate on COVID-19 of no physical address for any public meeting until further notice.

Council Members Present
Chair Robert Cooper, At Large Representative
Vice-Chair Jennifer Rose, Utility Company Representative
James Dondoy, Sub-grantee Representative
Tamera Saida, At Large Representative
Angela Haskett, At Large Representative
Jacob LaRow, NHD Representative

Nevada Housing Division (NHD) Staff Members Present
Shelly Calvert, Weatherization Analysis
James Wallace, Weatherization Inspector
Stephen Aichroth, Administrator NHD

Nevada Housing Division (NHD) Counsel Present
Colleen Platt, Platt Law Group

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) Staff Members Present
Betsy Ransdell, DWSS

Others:
Jessica Mahon, Community Services Agency Development Corporation
Dr. Gil Peach, Gil Peach and Associates

Call to Order and Roll Call
Robert Cooper asked if there was a quorum and it was confirmed there were 6 out of 7 members present.

Public Comment
Robert Cooper opened the meeting for public comment.

No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an Agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. (Because of time considerations, the period for public comment by each speaker is
There were no public comments at this time.

Approval of PY 2020 DOE Application

Robert Cooper asked for the next item to be addressed and for possible action.

Shelly Calvert begin as to say that this is an annual plan that is submitted to DOE each year.

The first change is last year we received $1,199,608 and this year we will be receiving a little over 1.5 million dollars. $1,215,118 is for program use, and $294,101 is for Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA). Overall, this is an increase of approximately $309,611 more received than last year. We continue to receive increases every year, which allows our program to grow.

The other change this year is the Average Cost per Unit (ACPU) has increased from $7,541 to $7,661. DOE does not have a maximum per unit allocation requirement, although, we, as a state, are limited to a maximum of $8,000. We do have authority to increase the maximum if the amount is requested by the agency. We allow this if we feel a total weatherization cannot be completed on a particular project. This is so we don’t have to go back later and address some of the issues that should have been performed the first time. This justifies the Subgrantee to do a thorough weatherization if we allow the project to go above the $8,000. The main mark we need to comply with DOE is the ACPU. Keeping the maximum at $8,000 per project helps keep projects at or below this limit. We do see projects that are at below $7,000 or even projects that need minimally work done on the unit.

During a conference call with our DOE Project Officer on April 2, 2020, NHD was advised on some of the things DOE were trying to implement due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The only reason I bring this particular change up is that it does have some impact on the next year’s allocation as well as the program’s current year allocation.

The item discussed was the ability of the Subgrantees completing projects during the current program year. In a WAP-060 Memo from DOE, they are aware that it would be difficult to complete projects during the COVID-19 pandemic. With this said, program year 2019 will possibly be carried over to program year 2020 by either 6 months or even a year. This will allow the Subgrantees time to complete their DOE projects for program year 2019. In addition, because the Subgrantees are spending less Program Operations money on projects and using it for the salaries of the field staff that are still doing some project activity or participating in On-Line Training opportunities, the ACPU will be higher than what DOE allows for this quarter and next. DOE will allow the higher ACPU amount of $7,661 for current program year 2019 with the next program year 2020, which in turn will help with lowering the ACPU in the long run.
Jim Wallace gave a status of the Sub-grantees. Jim said currently only one of the Subgrantees are doing some limited assessments and completions and that is NRHA in Las Vegas. Ron Evans and his staff are doing very limited in-home assessments while being careful and cautious due to COVID-19, and still proceeding forward. Two of the other Sub-grantees, CSA and NRHA North, are proceeding on emergency only basis, also limited jobs for DEAL, which has been completed recently. At this time, HELP of Southern Nevada is in Shelter in place status with their employees, they are currently accepting applications and processing them creating a backlog list and once they go back to work, the list will be addressed. RNDC is shelter in place with no new jobs at this time. They also have created a back-log list and will address them when the mandate has been lifted. In addition, all of the Sub-grantees are reviewing previous applications of those who did not qualify due to over income and were denied. They are revising them now as there are more applicants who now no longer have a job so their income has dropped. Some of those applicants with lower income will possibly qualify for the program. These applicants could now be added to the back-log list.

Jim Wallace said this is what is going on with the Weatherization Assistance Program at the moment. Are there any questions on what was presented?

Robert Cooper said it was good that DOE was entertaining that program year 2019 may be carried over to the next program year.

Jake LaRow in Las Vegas, asked Shelly to clarify on what is the recommended course of action for comments on the application. Shelly Calvert said requested changes should be submitted to NHD by the end of the week. Jacob LaRow also asked if any of the feedback would be required for the Public Hearing scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 10:00. Shelly Calvert replied no, comments on the application is not needed for the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing is for the funding of the Sub-grantees.

Shelly Calvert asked if there were any other comments. Jim Wallace spoke up and said that during the conference call with DOE with our Program Manager and Technical Advisor, it was said that the State of Nevada was in far better condition regarding the ACPU than the majority of the United States. Also, last year when they did the DOE national survey, NHD was 5th in the Nation. He believes DOE recognizes the hard work our Weatherization Program is doing, and the concern of getting the most value for the money we are spending.

Robert Cooper said it was great we were in the top five (5) as we are at the bottom five (5) for DOE funding among the states. This is good news that Nevada’s cost per unit is high on the ranking.

Robert Cooper asked if there were any other comments on the DOE application. Hearing none, he asks for a motion to approve:

1st motion – Jacob LaRow, 2nd motion – Tamera Saida. All in favor, aye – 5, nay – 0. Motion carries.
Agenda items for next Policy Advisory Council Meeting

- Doug Hanons, CEO of NV Energy remarks on NV Energy;
- Update on DOE Carryover and what is implemented;
- Approval of February 20, 2020 and April 23, 2002 Minutes; and
- Possible update on NV Energy Usage and how they are dealing with residents.

Next Meeting Date: June 18th at 2:00 p.m.

Public Comment
Robert Cooper closed the meeting for public comment. There were no public comments at this time.

Adjournment
Robert Cooper adjourned the meeting at 2:38pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Shelly Calvert, Grants & Projects Analyst
Call to Order and Roll Call
The Policy Advisory Council (PAC) was called to order by Robert Cooper on Monday, February 20, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. Nevada Housing Division, 1830 College Parkway, Suite 200, Carson City NV and via teleconference at Nevada Housing Division, 3300 West Sahara Ave, Suite 300, Las Vegas NV.

Council Members Present
Chair Robert Cooper, At Large Representative
Vice-Chair Jennifer Rose, Utility Company Representative, called in
James Dondoy, Sub-grantee Representative
Tamera Saida, At Large Representative
Angela Haskett, At Large Representative
Jacob LaRow, NHD Representative

Nevada Housing Division (NHD) Staff Members Present
Shelly Calvert, Weatherization Analysis
James Wallace, Weatherization Inspector
Stephen Aichroth, Administrator NHD
Martha Bredemeier, Grants and Projects Analyst

Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) Staff Members Present
Betsy Ransdell, DWSS, Energy Assistant Program
Maria Wortman-Meshberger, Chief, DWSS

Others:
Mark Hooper, HELP of Southern Nevada
Jessica Mahon, Community Services Agency
Angel Williams, NV Energy of Southern Nevada
Dr. Gil Peach, Gil Peach and Associates
Doreen Venturino, Rural Nevada Development Corporation
Mary Kern, Rural Nevada Development Corporation
Antoin Tillman, NV Energy
Katie Borgman, Carson Rural Clinic
Shannon Bullock, CDPCN

Call to Order and Roll Call
Robert Cooper asked if there was a quorum and it was confirmed there were 6 out of 7 members present.
Public Comment
Robert Cooper opened the meeting for public comment.

No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an Agenda as an item upon which action will be taken. (Because of time considerations, the period for public comment by each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes and speakers are urged to avoid repetition of comments made by previous speakers.)

There were no public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City and on the phone.

Approval of Minutes from October 10, 2019
Robert Cooper asked if there were any proposed changes for the October 10, 2019 minutes? There were no changes. Robert Cooper if there is a motion to approve the minutes: 1st motion to approve: Jennifer Rose, 2nd motion to approve: Robert Cooper. Yeas: 6, Nays: 0. Motion carries.

Introduction of New Members
Shelly Calvert introduced the two newest members to the Policy Advisory Council.

Jacob LaRow who has replaced Tim Whitright as the NHD Representative. He is the Deputy Administrator for the Nevada Housing Division. He primarily oversees the Housing Programs such as the Grants Unit and Weatherization Assistance Programs.

James Dondoy from HELP of Southern Nevada. He is the new Sub-grantee Representative and took the place of CSA’s representative Leslie Colbrese. He has been with HELP of Southern Nevada for a few years, and he is the Weatherization Assessor and inspector. He originally came from California.

Steve Aichroth spoke up to talk about Patrick Conway. Shelly Calvert stated that Patrick Conway has left the agency and pursued other adventures in his home town and is sorely missed at this time if Steve would say a few words. Steve stated he appreciate their patience. Patrick Conway is a resident of South Lake Tahoe and his commute on a good day was 1.15 minutes and if there were snow, his commute would be 2 hours. He was with NHD for approximately 5 years. He originally started with the City of South Lake Tahoe and is going back home, which is about 10 minutes’ walk from where he lives. His position is the City of South Lake Tahoe’s Housing Division, one-person Division. The State in its infinite wisdom would not allow to bring someone on before he left the agency. To try and bring someone on it would take NHD about a month to start the process of replacing him. With the RTF period and interview and hire, it would be about 2 months from hiring and getting that person up to speed on the program. We are hopeful to have that person hired by the next PAC meeting.

Solicit Recommendations for the Following Program Year’s Fund for Energy Assistance and Conservation (FEAC) and Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) State Plans for the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) and Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
Maria Wortman-Meshberger summarized:
Proposed amendment to the FY2020 State Plan:

- 2.40 “Supplemental payment” means during the SFY, if it is determined additional funds will be available, the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services Administrator has the authority to approve a supplemental payment for all or some of the eligible households.
- 10.1.2.1 During the SFY, if it is determined additional funds will be available, the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services Administrator has the authority to approve a supplemental payment for all or some of the eligible households.

Proposed changes for FY2021 State Plan:
Other than the usual update to dates, percentages, minor corrections, and a PUC projection of $14.2 million, EAP is discussing:

- 8.1.6, 8.1.8, 10.1.4, 10.1.5, and 11.1 - increasing the minimum payment, the amount will be TBD.
- 10.1.4 -- giving $100 to all targeted households and not just a benefit cap increase.
- 11.1.3 changing a UEC-eligible household may receive an arrearage payment once in a lifetime to once every five years.

Shelly Calvert summarizes for Weatherization:

- 10.2.6 propose increasing the average per household expenditure from $7,541 to $7,669 which came out from DOE last month.
- 10.2.15 add to Community Services Agency—Development Corporation.
- Update the Sub-grantee Administrative Manual (SAM) to Weatherization Administrative Manual (WAM).

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Proposed amendment to the FY2020 State Plan:

- 2.6. During the SFY, if it is determined additional funds will be available, the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services Administrator has the authority to approve a supplemental payment for all or some of the eligible households.

Proposed changes for FY2021 State Plan:
Other than the usual update to dates, percentages, minor corrections, and a PUC projection of $14.2 million, EAP is discussing:

- 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 3.6, and 4.7 -- increasing the minimum payment, the amount will be TBD.
- 4.8 Propose changing receive an arrearage payment once in a lifetime to once every five years.
- 6.1 Under Other - add have identified staff to go out into the community for outreach.
- 11.2 Will update with information from the PAC Meeting and Public Hearings.
- 14.3 Will update with information received from Partners.

Robert Cooper asked if there were any questions or comments?
Steve Aichroth asked the one to five years, is that for the recipient or property or both? Maria Wortman-Meshberger said it is for the individual. Steve Aichroth stated if they move, they still get EAP benefits when they move. Maria Wortman-Meshberger said yes, that is correct.

Jennifer Rose asked if there was a cap on arrears that DWSS would pay? Betsy Ransdell said no, there was not cap and also depends on how much money available.

Antione Tillman asked if arrears is out of a different fund or is it out of the same fund? Marie Wortman-Meshberger stated it was out of the same fund.

Robert Cooper said the driver for the supplemental payment, was that generated from testimony? Marie Wortman-Meshberger said they had to make supplemental payments in the past year which could be from projecting lower than what is received. Traditionally they increase the benefit and go back and do a supplemental payment.

Robert Cooper asked if there were any more comments? There were no comments in Las Vegas, Carson City and on the phone.

Energy Assistance Program (EAP) Management Monitoring Summary
Maria Wortman-Meshberger the Management Monitoring Summary demonstrates:

- January the Program received 2,888 applications, about the same number of applications as the same time last year. Overall, the Program has received about 7% more applications through January than we did last year.
- In January 2,579 applications were processed, 1,613 were eligible (63% approved).
- Average days to process a case in January was 14 days.
- The average energy burden in January was 1.98% and the current energy burden is 1.94%.
- The total amount of funds expended for regular benefits in January was $1,243,780. An average of $771 per household served in January.
- The total amount of funds expended for arrearages in January was $53,271. For an average of $392 per household served.
- The overall total of funding expended in January was $1,297,051 which makes the overall average for benefits and arrearages for January $804 expended per household.

Robert Cooper asked if there were any discussions or comments? There were no comments in Las Vegas, Carson City and on the phone.

Department of Energy (DOE) Technical Review of WAP Projects
Jim Wallace gave a summary on the WAP projects. We had five properties that have not yet been approved by DOE, NHD has been talking to DOE over the several months on these projects by the Project Officer that oversees the program, as of now, there has been no decision yet and DOE are still working the reviews.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Sub-grantee Production and Expenditures
Shelly Calvert began with the spreadsheet provided.

- DOE: Grant funding is up 6% from last year, a little over 354K. Both expenditures and completed units are up from last year.
With DOE last year, we have had a few issues, due to rolling out the new WxPro program and had a lot of technical issues so projects were not being completed. Even this year, the program still is experiencing some issues with the program and the designer is diligently working to get the program to where it should be. Also noted, was NHD was able to carryover a little over 190K and distributed to the Sub-grantees. If we did not have the carryover, the percentage of expenditures would be higher.

- **FEAC:** Funding is up by 44K over last year. Expenditures are down from last year about 15%, and completions are down about 16%. The reason is unknown on why FEAC is lower this year than last year, although, we do have one Sub-grantee that has spent out all of their FEAC money 6 months before the year-end which is RNDC. We are also anticipating the Sub-grantees will spend out by the end of the fiscal year. This funding source can be carried over and put into reserves for future spending. Jim Wallace stated that we are asking the Sub-grantees to spend more of the HEROS funding before spending FEAC. In the past, the Sub-grantees have not spent out in HEROS. When NHD requests more funding from the Governor’s Office of Energy, we cannot justify asking for additional money as we have not spent out in the current year. FEAC funds are used more frequently, therefore, should have no problem spending out towards the latter part of the fiscal year.

- **LIHEA:** Grant funding is up by 114K over last year. Expenditures are up from last year about 2%, and completions are down slightly.

It is noted that LIHEA funding does not expire until 3 months into the next fiscal year. This funding source is typically what the Sub-grantees use between July and September for expenses as they begin the new fiscal year. LIHEA is also used if the annual contracts have not been executed for the new fiscal year.

- **HEROS:** Grant funding is the same as last year. Expenditures are up from last year about 16%, and completions up by 15%

NHD has requested that the Sub-grantees put use DOE and HEROS funding sources together as they are both at 200% over poverty.

- **AHTF:** This funding source is skewed and does not show a true picture of what is spent as the Sub-grantees are still spending their 2019 allocation, is a 2-year contract from 2019-2020. The SFY2019 allocation is being administered by the Grants portion of Nevada Housing Division. The Weatherization Assistance Program is overseeing the funding beginning SFY2020. Some of the Sub-grantees are still utilizing SFY2019 allocations and not spending their SFY2020 contract award. SFY2019 allocations are not reflected in our funding amount of $340,285. The spreadsheet shows that only 2 Sub-grantees are spending SFY2020 money: NRHA Carson City and NRHA Las Vegas. We do show the completions as we still need to report to the Grants unit how many AHTF completions were done in SFY2020, as it is used as leveraging with other funding sources. It is also used with emergencies when needed.

The combined totals for this year are about a little higher by $511,532 over last year. The expenditures and completions are about the same as last year. NHD anticipates, as usual, when the weather is nicer, weatherization completions will pick up. NHD anticipates no DOE
carryover money as we are on our 3rd in the cycle. Any monies left over will be recouped by DOE.

- DEAL: Funding is lower than last year. This year, the available amount for projects for the State employees is $329,000 and after much consideration, the Governor's Office of Energy has decided to end the DEAL program once all of the projects have been completed. CSA is the only Sub-grantee that has any outstanding projects, a total of 6 projects at this time.

Are there any questions or comments?
Jake LaRow referring back to the AHTF, with the expenditures for two Sub-grantees and the other Sub-grantees have completed units, what does that mean? Shelly Calvert answered that sometimes the Sub-grantees will use DOE or other funding sources with AHTF as leveraging. Weatherization has always had to account for the units completed to Grants Unit as they report the information on the clients to DWSS. The numbers will be skewed until the time when Weatherization has complete oversite of the funds. Jacob LaRow asked if this will come out to be a wash? Shelly Calvert stated yes, it will once the SFY2019 funds have been spent by the Sub-grantees.

Robert Cooper stated that NHD Accounting Department has a lot to keep track of and sounds like they are really on top of it. Shelly Calvert stated yes, they do very well.

Are there any other questions or comments?

Presentation by H. Gil Peach, PhD regarding SFY 2019 Evaluation: Energy and Weatherization Assistance Programs
Gil Peach stated that the two programs are solid programs and they work well which gives solidity to the State of Nevada.

Energy Assistance Program (EAP)
- Main Achievements:
  o Service to low-income households: 22,431 which is about 64% of 35,192 applicant households).
  o Slight dip, but essentially stable Social Security household participation: Currently at 93% of equivalent Social Security recipients. By changing the eligibility criteria from 2011 to 2012, it caused a big drop for Social Security households, 7,709 recipients. Now the number of Social Security recipients is 12,994.
  o Lowered energy burdens approach statewide median: Statewide medium for 2019 is 2.13%. Prior to EAP, the energy burden was 13.42% and with EAP 2.30%.
  o Increased case processing efficiency. In 2019, the average days to process a case was 17 days or less each month.

The EAP Recommendations are:
- Consider if the time window for response for missing information might be extended.
- For 2020 operate well with current processes, management, and organization.

*DWSS’s Energy Assistance Program is compliant with NRS 702 for SFY2019.*
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

- Main Achievements:
  - Weatherized 316 homes in SFY2019, exceeding servicing goal.
    - CSA – completion goals, 47, actual completions 42, which is 89%.
    - HELP – completion goals 156, actual completions 203, which is 130%
    - LVUL – completion goals 61, actual completions 36, which is 59%
    - NRHA – completion goals 29, actual completions 31, which is 107%
    - RNDC – completion goals 14, actual completions 4, which is 30%

- FEAC Primary Heating Fuel:
  - Electric - 14.6%
  - Natural Gas – 81.7%
  - Oil – 0%
  - Propane – 3.5%

- House type:
  - 2- 4 Family – 6.7%, owned 16, rental 5
  - 5+ Family – 17.4%, owned 4, rental 51
  - Mobile Home – 40.8%, owned 123, rental 64
  - Single Family – 35.1%, owned 94, rental 17

- Special Needs and High Energy Use:
  - Elderly over 60 – 177 homes, 56%
  - Persons with Disabilities: 125, 39.6%
  - Children under 6 - 45, 14.2%
  - Native American 5, 1.6%
  - High Energy Users – 89, 28.3%

The WAP Recommendations are:
- NHD should fully implement their new software
- NHD should continue to optimize WAP by working optimally within budget

**Housing Division’s Weatherization Assistance Program is fully compliant with NRS 702 for SFY2019.**

Challenges for EAP and WAP:
- Poverty Continues
- Poverty metric (from the 1960’s) today workers imperfectly as a measure of need (or income insufficiency):
- Federal Consumer Price Index work as an indicator, but overlooks some inflation:
- Senior CPI would be better for seniors but is not used;
- Climate change accelerating (less HDD’s; More CDD’s);
- Since 1970 income inequality greatly increased; and
- On the plus side, unemployment is low.

Robert Cooper asked if there any other questions or comments? None from the Carson City, Las Vegas and the phone.

**Agenda items for next Policy Advisory Council Meeting**
- Department of Energy (DOE) State Plan and Application:
Stephen Aichroth said he wanted to acknowledge Jim Wallace’s and Shelly Calvert’s efforts in Patrick Conway’s absence.

Next Meeting Date:  **April 16, 2020 at 2:00pm.**

**Public Comment**
Robert Cooper closed the meeting for public comment. There were no public comments at this time.

**Adjournment**
Robert Cooper adjourned the meeting at 3:28pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Shelly Calvert, Grants & Projects Analyst