

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Eighty-First Session  
February 2, 2021**

The Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections was called to order by Chair Brittney Miller at 4:06 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2, 2021, Online. Copies of the minutes, including the Agenda ([Exhibit A](#)), the Attendance Roster ([Exhibit B](#)), and other substantive exhibits, are available and on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and on the Nevada Legislature's website at [www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021](http://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021).

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Chair  
Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui, Vice Chair  
Assemblywoman Jill Dickman  
Assemblyman Jason Frierson  
Assemblywoman Cecelia González  
Assemblyman Glen Leavitt  
Assemblyman Andy Matthews  
Assemblyman Richard McArthur  
Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno  
Assemblywoman Clara Thomas  
Assemblywoman Selena Torres

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**GUEST LEGISLATORS PRESENT:**

None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marsheilah D. Lyons, Committee Policy Analyst  
Kathleen M. Norris, Committee Counsel  
Bonnie Borda Hoffecker, Committee Manager  
Jordan Green, Committee Secretary  
Terry Horgan, Committee Secretary  
Trinity Thom, Committee Assistant



**OTHERS PRESENT:**

None

**Chair Miller:**

[Roll was called.] Good afternoon and welcome to the first meeting of the Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections for the 81st Legislative Session. I would also like to welcome anyone who is with us viewing online right now.

Today on our agenda we have Committee member and staff introductions, adoption of Committee policies, and a presentation from our committee policy analyst. Before we go any further, I would like to make a few housekeeping announcements.

First, this is the Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. We are scheduled to meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 4 p.m. and we will do our best to begin on time. Agenda items may be taken out of order or placed in a different order, an agenda item may be removed, or the discussion of an agenda item may be delayed as necessary.

Our goal to provide accessibility continues even though we are now holding committee meetings virtually. As a result, additional avenues have been created to provide testimony. If you wish to testify on a bill, please preregister online through the link provided on the agenda for the meeting. Registration opens when the agenda is posted to the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS) on the Nevada Legislature's website. Upon successful registration, registrants will receive a telephone number, a meeting ID, and the instructions for joining the meeting, so you are able to call in and testify or make public comment. In order to have an accurate record and count of participants, we ask that each person register individually. Please do not share the number. We need to make sure that everyone registers.

We will also have public comment at the end of each meeting. We ask that public comment be kept to two minutes per individual. This gives us an opportunity to accommodate everyone who is interested in speaking. Again, speakers are urged to limit their comments to two minutes and, in order to avoid repetition, not to make a comment that has been shared previously. Public comment can be submitted in writing, in addition to oral testimony.

Finally, we ask everyone on the Committee or anyone who would be participating to turn off any electronic devices, especially cell phones, or put them on silent mode during the meeting.

I would like to take a few minutes before we go further to introduce the Committee members and staff. Members, I would like each of you to briefly introduce yourselves, including your name and which district you represent, and then take a moment or two for whatever you would like to share with the Committee. I would like to begin with our Vice Chair, Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui.

**Assemblywoman Jauregui:**

I am Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui. I represent Assembly District No. 41 in southern Nevada. This is my third term in the Nevada Legislature, and I was fortunate enough to be the Chair of the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections last session.

**Assemblyman Frierson:**

My name is Jason Frierson. I am the Assemblyman for Assembly District No. 8, and Speaker of the Nevada State Assembly. I am very, very proud to be here with you all in what I think is the most important thing that we do as legislators.

**Assemblywoman Monroe-Moreno:**

Hello, everyone. I am Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno. I represent Assembly District No. 1, which is in southern Nevada, primarily in the city of North Las Vegas. This is my third regular legislative session and my third session as a member of the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. I am looking forward to the work that we are going to do this session.

**Assemblyman Leavitt:**

I am Glen Leavitt. I represent Assembly District No. 23. It is the southern tip of the state, which is probably the farthest district from where we are sitting right now. I was fortunate enough to serve on this Committee last session and really enjoyed it. I am looking forward to doing good work here this session.

**Assemblywoman Dickman:**

My name is Jill Dickman and I represent Assembly District No. 31, which is about half of the City of Sparks and the north valleys of the City of Reno. So I get to drive in the snow every day—let us hope there is no snow every day. I was first elected in 2014, then I missed a couple of sessions, and I am very honored to be back. I did not serve on Legislative Operations and Elections in 2015, so I am looking forward to getting to know all of you better and to do my best to bolster the confidence of every Nevadan in our electoral process.

**Assemblywoman González:**

Hello, everyone. My name is Assemblywoman Cecelia González, and I represent Assembly District No. 16 right in the heart of the City of Las Vegas. The Las Vegas Strip and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, are in my lovely district. I am really excited and looking forward to serving on this Committee with all of you.

**Assemblyman Matthews:**

My name is Andy Matthews. I represent Assembly District No. 37, which is in northwestern Las Vegas and includes parts of Summerlin. This is my first legislative session, and it is an honor to be here. I look forward to serving with all of you.

**Assemblyman McArthur:**

My name is Richard McArthur. I represent Assembly District No. 4, which is in the far northwestern part of Las Vegas. This is my fourth regular session, but I have not been here

every single year. I was not here last session, but I have been around for a while—about every other session. I am looking forward to working with everyone on this Committee. I realize that we all have different ideas, belief systems, and backgrounds; hopefully, we can all get together and work to get some good things done for the state of Nevada.

**Assemblywoman Thomas:**

I appreciate this honor to be here. This is my first session and I am truly excited. I represent Assembly District No. 17 in beautiful North Las Vegas. I am also a United States Air Force veteran. Again, I am honored to be here representing Assembly District No. 17.

**Chair Miller:**

I am Brittney Miller and I represent Assembly District No. 5, which is in the midwestern area of the Las Vegas Valley around the Summerlin border and The Lakes community. This is my third term in the Assembly and my second session on this Committee. This is my first term serving as the Chair of this Committee. I am thankful and I appreciate that we all still have the support and experience of our former chairwoman, Assemblywoman Jauregui, who is now serving as the Vice Chair. We are very grateful to still have her with us. I am honored and thrilled to be serving as Chair of this Committee.

All the committees we participate in are vital and important, but I really do appreciate the gravity of the work we will do here. I know that all of us—whether we are Committee members or Nevadans—are very passionate about certain bills and issues that will be discussed here, and I respect all of the differences in opinions and approaches that we have to achieve certain goals. I believe that it is my job—and I will strive—to create an atmosphere of mutual respect for everyone, where everyone has an opportunity to be heard, and where all can voice their differences in opinions. Because our primary role as representatives is to listen, we on this Committee will maintain fairness for one another and for anyone who is presenting or testifying. We will always continue with the utmost professionalism as we participate in this Committee.

I also want to introduce our amazing, fabulous Committee staff. Often I think of what we do here as being close to a Hollywood production. In a movie, we may see a few people in a certain scene and not realize there were 200 people working behind the scenes to get those few people in that shot or frame or on the stage. Our Committee staff here with the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) are just as amazing and crucial in helping all the work get done.

The first person I would like to introduce is Bonnie Borda Hoffecker. She serves as our committee manager. She is serving in her seventh session as a committee manager, and this is her first time with the Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections. What is so amazing is Ms. Hoffecker is doing dual roles, serving also as committee manager for the Assembly Committee on Judiciary, which is such a robust committee itself. I worked with her on the Judiciary Committee for my first two regular sessions, so it is such a pleasure that she wanted to add this Committee to her slate of responsibilities.

I need to backtrack a moment. This happened in our first committee of the morning, so I guess it is just bound to happen in first-day committees. I did not forget—maybe I was trying to save the best for last—and I now have an opportunity to introduce Assemblywoman Torres.

**Assemblywoman Torres:**

Hello, everybody. My name is Assemblywoman Selena Torres. I proudly represent Assembly District No. 3 in the heart of Las Vegas. I am really excited to be serving for a second time on the Legislative Operations and Elections Committee. I know that we accomplished a lot of great work last session under now-Vice Chair Jauregui, and I am really excited to see the work that Chair Miller does this session.

**Chair Miller:**

It will not be just the work that Chair Miller is doing; it will be the work that all of us as a committee are doing. Thank you for that.

I will shift back to our committee staff and introduce Trinity Thom, who will serve as the committee assistant. This will be her fourth legislative session and her first time staffing Legislative Operations and Elections. In her free time, Ms. Thom enjoys traveling and playing softball.

Next we have Jordan Green, who will serve as our committee secretary. This is Ms. Green's fourth regular session with the Nevada Legislature. She previously served as a proofreader for the Assembly and a paralegal with the Legal Division of LCB. She graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) with a dual major in English literature and French language and later received a paralegal studies certificate from the UNR Extended Studies program. Ms. Green is a self-proclaimed nerd—so this is self-proclaimed—when it comes to many things. She enjoys learning about obscure legislative rules, procedures, and histories.

We also have Kathleen M. Norris, who is a deputy legislative counsel in our Legal Division. She will be serving as committee counsel.

Then, of course, we have the most coveted, Ms. Marsheilah D. Lyons, who is Deputy Research Director of the Research Division of LCB. She will be serving as our committee policy analyst.

Thank you to all Committee members and staff. We cannot thank our staff enough for all they will do to support us through this session.

With that, I would like to get started. Next on the agenda is the adoption of our Committee Standing Policies [[Exhibit C](#)]. They are currently posted on NELIS. These policies are fairly standard from committee to committee and pretty close to what we had in this Committee last session. They complement the Assembly Standing Rules and the Joint Standing Rules

that we adopted in the full Assembly. I will give everyone a moment to review those suggested policies. Do we have any questions from Committee members on any of the policies? [There were none.]

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JAUREGUI MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE  
2021 ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS  
COMMITTEE STANDING POLICIES.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN TORRES SECONDED THE MOTION.

Is there any discussion on the motion? [There was none.] To ensure accuracy—and this is becoming the normal procedure right now as we continue virtually—I would like to take a roll call vote.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

I would like to move on to the next agenda item, which is a presentation of the Committee Brief [[Exhibit D](#)] by our committee policy analyst, Ms. Marsheilah D. Lyons.

**Marsheilah D. Lyons, Committee Policy Analyst:**

I will quickly go over this brief [[Exhibit D](#)]. It is uploaded in NELIS for your review as we walk through this. I am not going to read this to you, but I am going to highlight a couple of things and point out other things that you might be interested in following up on and taking a look at later.

In 2021, the Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections will have very similar, or the same, jurisdiction as it had in prior sessions. The final authority for jurisdiction falls in the hands of Assembly leadership but typically, there is a kind of continuum of the subjects that come to each committee. Elections, initiative and referendum petitions, campaign practices, the Nevada Legislature, the Uniform Law Commission, statutory revisions, ethics in government, amendments to the *Nevada Constitution*, and reapportionment and redistricting are the major topics that this Committee covers. The Committee also considers legislative business, including measures proposing interim studies and bills amending permanent statutory committees.

Bills that have a significant fiscal impact may be concurrently referred to this Committee and to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. I want to point out that, although the Senate and Assembly both have a Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections, their jurisdictions are different. There may be bills that come to this Committee that do not go to the Senate committee, and vice versa. Please do not be surprised by that.

Because many of the bills that this Committee addresses relating to interim work and legislative business are exempt from certain deadlines, it is not uncommon for this Committee to be especially busy during the last part of session after many other committees

have finished their work—so after that deadline for committee passage in the second house [May 14, 2021]. Many times, there are bills that need to resolve the studies that each house wants to put forward and other legislative affairs or business that need to be addressed. Keep that in mind as you are looking at how you are going to address or work your own bills; this Committee does tend to be a little bit busier during a time when other committees are either no longer meeting or not as busy.

For statistical information, there are activities listed [page 4, [Exhibit D](#)] from the 2019 Session. This Committee was referred 53 measures, 36 of which were adopted and reported to the Governor. If you want more information about those measures—and, really, any measure that was passed by the 2019 Legislature—I would point you to the *Summary of Legislation* prepared by the Research Division. Because the Committee Brief [\[Exhibit D\]](#) is being provided electronically, there are a lot of hyperlinks to other documents that give you more information. The *Summary of Legislation* is helpful if you want to get an idea of what major legislation was considered in this Committee or any committee last session. That publication will give you an overview of every bill that was passed.

I want to talk briefly about possible issues for the 2021 Session. You see in the document a rehash of some of the issues that were up in 2019 [pages 4 and 5, [Exhibit D](#)]. You can review those as well, but possible issues for this session include:

- Elections Generally—Topics of interest include campaign finance, polling place accessibility, election security, precinct management, voter canvassing, and election certification. These are topics that this Committee will probably be addressing.
- Ethics—The Commission on Ethics is responsible for enforcing the provisions of Chapter 281A of *Nevada Revised Statutes*. Assembly Bill 65, which has already been prefiled, proposes various changes related to ethics in government, so that is a bill this Committee will be considering.
- Legislative Operations—Proposals relating to legislative operations include proposed interim studies, the allocation of legislative measures, the conducting of legislative business, the repeal of obsolete statutes, and the statements of interest or concern to the Nevada Legislature.
- Presidential Primary Elections—Issues include considerations for shifting Nevada from a caucus state to a state that selects nominees in a presidential preference primary election.
- Voter Registration—Issues may include those relating to the implementation of automatic voter registration as well as the maintenance of voter registration rolls and same-day voter registration.

There is a section here [pages 5 and 6, [Exhibit D](#)] that gives an update on reapportionment and redistricting and some of the work that was done by the Committee to Conduct an

Interim Study of the Requirements for Reapportionment and Redistricting in the State of Nevada, which was chaired by Senator Woodhouse. I will not go over that now. Chair Miller has graciously put together a schedule to allow for some presentations in the next few meetings on many of these topics—from ethics to elections and reapportionment and redistricting. You will have the experts presenting before you, and they will be able to answer, in detail, questions that you may have about some of these things.

Finally, I want to point out the publications section [pages 6 and 7, [Exhibit D](#)]. There are quite a few publications that have been prepared by the Research Division in the topics under the jurisdiction of this Committee, and they may be of interest to you as you are learning the topic.

I did not start off by saying that I have been with LCB for about 21 years, and this is my first time staffing a committee other than the Assembly and Senate Committees on Health and Human Services. I am a little nervous, but hopefully, you will be patient with me and bear with me. This is a new topic for me, and I look forward to learning more and being able to help you all. I will be looking to the Chair, Vice Chair, and many members who have experience working in this area to point me toward good resources. I am certainly available to do that for you.

Please reach out if you have questions, if there is anything that I can answer for you, or if there is anything that we can research for you. Of course, I would like to point out that the Research Division can provide research for you, not just on topics related to this Committee, but on any topic. So again, please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have a question that we can answer.

**Chair Miller:**

As Ms. Lyons mentioned, within the next few meetings we will have presentations from many agencies and on certain topics. With the way that this Committee is scheduled, we have a grand opportunity because we are only within a half hour of when the Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections meets. For these first few meetings, and any other times throughout the session where it is applicable, we will have joint meetings so that we have an opportunity to work together. Provided that we are able when it comes to the technology, we are planning to have the next few meetings be joint meetings for presentations, beginning with Thursday, February 4.

I would like to move to the next agenda item, which is public comment. With public comment, we ask again that comments be limited to two minutes per person and, of course, everyone in the public is invited to submit written remarks as well. With that, I will turn it over to Broadcast and Production Services with LCB to facilitate if anyone has registered and called in. I am also happy to wait a few moments to ensure that we have everyone connected who is interested in speaking. [There was no one.] We have waited a few moments and we still do not have any callers on the line. Do we have any comments from Committee members? [There were none.]



Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 4, at 4 p.m. We need to consider giving everyone a few minutes to log on in order to make sure the sound is working and everything is ready to go so that we can start as close to 4 o'clock as possible. It will be a joint meeting with the Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections.

With that, and seeing no questions, the meeting is adjourned [at 4:34 p.m.].

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

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Jordan Green  
Committee Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Assemblywoman Brittney Miller, Chair

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## **EXHIBITS**

[Exhibit A](#) is the Agenda.

[Exhibit B](#) is the Attendance Roster.

[Exhibit C](#) is a document titled "2021 Assembly Legislative Operations and Elections – Standing Policies," presented by Chair Brittney Miller.

[Exhibit D](#) is a document, dated February 2021, titled "Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections Committee Brief," presented by Marsheilah D. Lyons, Deputy Research Director, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau.