

STATE OF NEVADA

BEFORE THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

In re **Catherine Hall**, Chair, Mineral County Commission, State of Nevada, Ethics Complaints Case Nos. 23-120C, 23-121C, 23-128C, 23-129C Confidential

Subject/

REVIEW PANEL DETERMINATION

NRS 281A.730; NAC 281A.440

The Nevada Commission on Ethics ("Commission") received these Ethics Complaints ("Complaint") from members of the public on or between September 19 and October 12, 2023, regarding the alleged conduct of Subject Catherine Hall ("Hall"). On October 31, 2023, the Commission accepted jurisdiction and instructed the Executive Director to investigate alleged violations of NRS 281A.400(2), (7), and (9) and NRS 281A.420(1) and (3). The Commission also ordered that the cases be consolidated. Hall waived the statutory timeframes required by NRS 281A.725.

Hall is a public officer as defined in NRS 281A.160, and the Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to NRS 281A.280 because the allegations contained in the Complaint relate to Hall's conduct as a public officer and have associated implications under the Ethics Law.

On March 20, 2024, a Review Panel consisting of Commissioner Amanda Yen, Esq. (Presiding Officer), Vice Chair Thoran Towler, Esq. and Commissioner John T. Moran., Esq. considered the following: (1) Ethics Complaints; (2) Orders on Jurisdiction and Investigation; (3) Response to the Complaints; and (4) Executive Director's Recommendation to the Review Panel with Summary of Investigatory Findings and Relevant Evidentiary Exhibits.¹

The Review Panel unanimously finds and concludes that the facts establish credible evidence to support a determination that just and sufficient cause exists for the Commission to render an opinion in the matter regarding the alleged violations of:

NRS 281A.400(2) Using her position in government to secure or grant unwarranted privileges, preferences, exemptions or advantages for herself, any business entity in which she has a significant pecuniary interest, or any person to whom she has a commitment in private capacity.

¹ All materials provided to the Review Panel, except the Ethics Complaints and the Orders on Jurisdiction and Investigation, represent portions of the investigatory file and remain confidential pursuant to NRS 281A.755.

NRS 281A.400(7)

Using governmental time, property, or equipment or other facility to benefit her significant personal or pecuniary interest or the interest of an employee or any person to whom the public officer or employee has a commitment in a private capacity.

NRS 281A.400(9) Attempting to benefit her personal or pecuniary interest or the interests of any person to whom she has a commitment in a private capacity through the influence of a subordinate.

The Review Panel unanimously finds and concludes that the facts do not establish credible evidence to support a determination that just and sufficient cause exists for the Commission to render an opinion in the matter regarding the alleged violations of NRS 281A.420(1) and (3) and those allegations are dismissed.

Therefore, the alleged violations of NRS 281A.400(2), (7), and (9) are referred to the Commission for adjudication.

Dated this 20th day of March 2024.

REVIEW PANEL OF THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON ETHICS

By: <u>/s/ Ama</u>nda Yen Amanda Yen, Esq. Commissioner/Presiding Officer

By: /s/ John T. Moran John T. Moran III, Esq. Commissioner

By: <u>/s/ Thoran Towler</u>

Thoran Towler, Esq. Vice Chair