

**39TH LEGISLATURE
1ST REGULAR SESSION**

(ADMIN/BY REQ)

**S.R. NO. 39-05
IN THE SENATE**

28 JANUARY 2025

INTRODUCED BY: Sen. Tuaolo Manaia Fruean, D-6

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON:

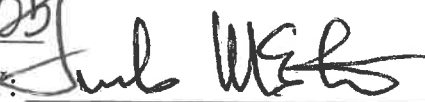
SUBJECT:

CONFIRMATION—DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES

SUMMARY:

This resolution confirms the Governor's appointment of Ms. Panisia Neueli as the Director of the Department of Human and Social Services.

OWN VOTE			LEGISLATIVE VOTE		
YES	NO		YES	NO	DATE
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1ST READING			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	COMMITTEE REPORT			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2ND READING			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3RD READING			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMENDED - SEE CALENDAR DATED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMENDED - SEE JOURNAL DATED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	AMENDED - SEE JOURNAL DATED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RECOMMITTED			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ORDERED TO LIE			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WITHDRAWN			

1 S.R. NO. 39-051
2 INTRODUCED BY: 
3

4 “A SENATE RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE GOVERNOR’S
5 NOMINATION OF MS. PANISIA NEUELI AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE
6 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL SERVICES.”
7

8 WHEREAS, by letter dated January 22, 2025, to the Honorable Tualo Manaia
9 Fruean, President of the Senate, Governor Pulaali’i Nikolao Pula,
10 submitted the name of Ms. Panisia Neueli to the Legislature,
11 pursuant to sections 4.0111(b) and 4.0112(a)(f), A.S.C.A, for
12 confirmation as the Director of the Department of Human and Social
13 Services; and
14

15 WHEREAS, in his letter the Governor stated in part:

16 “...I hereby submit my appointment of Ms. Panisia Neueli as
17 Director of the Department of Human and Social Services.
18

19 I respectfully request that you and your colleagues review his
20 nomination and confirm her as Director of the Department of Human
21 and Social Services.”
22

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
24 TERRITORY OF AMERICAN SAMOA:
25

26 THAT, the nomination of Ms. Panisia Neueli as the Director of the Department of
27 Human and Social Services is hereby confirmed; and
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to
30 transmit this resolution to the Honorable Pulaali’i Nikolao Pula, Governor of
31 American Samoa; and a copy to Ms. Panisia Neueli.
32

----- END -----

NOFOA'IGA TOLUSEFULU-IVA
FONO TELE MUAMUA

(TALOSAGA/KOVANA)

IMM NU. 39-05
I LE MAOTA MAUALUGA

28 JANUARY 2025

FA'AULUFALEINA E: Senatoa Tuaolo M. Fruean, Itumalo - 6

TU'UINA ATU I LE KOMITI:

MATA'UPU:

FAAMAONIGA— FAATONUSILI, MATAGALUEGA O AUAUNAGA MO LE SOIFUA
MANUIA

'OTO'OTOGA:

O lenei i'ugafono e faamaonia ai le tofiga a le Kovana o Panisia Neueli e avea ma
Faatonusili o le Matagaluega o Auaunaga mo le Soifua Manuia.

LANA PALOTA MONI			PALOTAGA A FAIPULE		
IOE	LEAI		IOE	LEAI	ASO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAITAUGA MUAMUA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RIPOTI A LE KOMITI			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAITAUGA FA'ALUA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAITAUGA FA'ATOLU			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUI – VA'AI ASO I LE KALENA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUI – VA'AI ASO TALA 'OTO'OTO			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SUI – VA'AI ASO TALA 'OTO'OTO			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TU'U ATU LE ISI KOMITI			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FA'ATONU E FA'ATA'ATIA			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TOE TAOFI			

1 I.M.M. NU. 39-05

2 FAAULUFALEINA E: 

3
4 “O SE IUGAFONO A LE MAOTA MAUALUGA E FAAMAONIA AI LE TOFIGA A
5 LE KOVANA IA PANISIA NEUELI E AVEA MA FAATONUSILI O LE
6 MATAGALUEGA O AUAUNAGA MO LE SOIFUA MANUIA.”

7
8 TALUAI, i lana tusi ia Ianuari 22, 2025, i le Afioga ia Tuoalo Manaia Fruean,
9 Peresetene o le Maota Maualuga, na faaoo atu ai e le Afioga i le Kovana,
10 Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula le suafa o Panisia Neueli i le Fonofaitulafono, e tusa ai
11 ma le maga 4.0111(e) ma 4.0112(a)(f) T.T.A.S, mo le faamaoniga e avea ma
12 Faatonusili o le Matagaluega o le Auaunaga mo le Soifua Manuia; ma

13
14 TALUAI, i se vaega o lana tusi, na faapea mai ai le afioga i le Kovana:
15 “...ua ou faaoo atu la'u tofiga o le susuga ia Panisia Neueli e avea ma
16 Faatonusili mo le Matagaluega o Auaunaga mo le Soifua Manuia.
17
18 Ou te faatalosagaina ma le fa'aaloalo lau afioga ma le maota ina ia iloilo ma
19 faamaonia o ia e avea ma Faatonusili o le Matagaluega o le Auaunaga mo le
20 Soifua Manuia .”
21

22 O LENEI, O LE MEA LEA, IA FAAIUGAFONOINA AI E LE MAOTA MAUALUGA O
23 LE TERITORI O AMERIKA SAMOA:

24
25 E FAAPEA, ua faamaonia nei le tofiga o le susuga ia Panisia Neueli e avea ma Faatonusili
26 o le Matagaluega o le Auaunaga mo le Soifua Manuia; ma

27
28 IA TOE FAAI'UGAFONOINA FOI, e faapea, e talosagaina le Failautusi o le Maota
29 Maualuga e faaoo atu lenei i'ugafono i le Afioga ia Pulaali'i Nikolao Pula, Kovana o
30 Amerika Samoa; ma se kopi ia Panisia Neueli.

31 ----- IUGA -----

PANISIA NEUELI
P.O. Box 1421
Pavaiai, AS 96799
pneueli@dhss.as
684-782-5056

Profile Summary

Highly qualified financial executive with more than 10 years of progressive career in finance and operations management handling Federal Programs and Funding. Experience in government planning and budgeting, federal program planning and analysis, knowledge and skills in implementing financial policies and procedures including internal financial controls, project funding and costing. Ability to provide leadership and direction for the Department and have taken over the position of Acting Director numerous times throughout my current position. Excellent interpersonal skills and capable of resolving multiple and complex issues within our department.

Experience

2016 – Present

Department of Human and Social Services

Utulei, AS

Deputy Director for Finance and Administration:

Assist the Director with the establishment of an internal accounting system for the purpose of tracking the financial position of all federal funds administered by the department.

Assist the Director with the development of Standard Operating Procedures for an internal accounting procurement and payroll process flow.

Assist the Director with the development of internal control procedures related to the processing and reporting of financial transactions with emphasis on compliance requirements by Federal Grantors.

Responsible for the preparation and submission of the Department's annual budget to the Budget Office for submission to the Governor and the Fono for review and approval.

Point of contact and responsible for the Department's financial audit with the Treasury Department and Financial Management Review of Federal Programs.

Supervise account analysts from all divisions; provide training as required.

Develop monthly, quarterly and annual budgets/forecasts for all divisions.

Review account reconciliations of all financial accounts for accuracy and completeness.

Ensure proper and timely reporting of financial transactions in accordance with GAAP, internal control standards and Grantor regulations.

Designated liaison between Department and ASG Treasury, Budget and Human Resources offices for all financial and personnel related information and issues.

Communicate financial position of grants to division management in a timely manner.

Responsible for submission of all required financial reports to Grantor.

Panisia Neueli

Oversee grant application process and/or proposals for the Department.

Conduct special studies and reviews as assigned by the Director.

Assist in the pursuit of additional funding as necessary to support community and department needs.

Oversee department personnel process to ensure timely action on all personnel issues. Oversee payroll process to ensure timely and accurate processing of department payroll.

Perform other job-related duties as assigned.

2012 – 2016

Department of Human and Social Services

Utulei, AS

Assistant Director for Finance and Administration:

Assist the Director with the establishment of an internal accounting system for the purpose of tracking the financial position of all federal funds administered by the department.

Assist the Director with the development of Standard Operating Procedures for an internal accounting procurement and payroll process flow.

Assist the Director with the development of internal control procedures related to the processing and reporting of financial transactions with emphasis on compliance requirements by Federal Grantors.

Responsible for the preparation and submission of the Department's annual budget to the Budget Office for submission to the Governor and the Fono for review and approval.

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Assist in the pursuit of additional funding as necessary to support community and department needs.

Oversee department personnel process to ensure timely action on all personnel issues. Oversee payroll process to ensure timely and accurate processing of department payroll.

Perform other job-related duties as assigned.

2011 – 2012

Department of Human and Social Services

Utulei, AS

Assistant Director - ASNAP

- Directs and manages the operations of ASNAP in accordance of the MOU, MOO, AS Administrative Code, and all applicable local and federal rules and regulations.
- Oversees all units of ASNAP Division: Certification unit, Retail/Redemption/Accounting unit, Issuance unit, and MIS/IT unit.
- Participate in the formulation of the ASNAP annual proposed budget and proposed amendments to the MOU for submission to USDA for approval.
- Addresses and resolves program and financial issues raised by USDA, ASG Treasury, ASG Audit Office and independent auditors. Addresses and resolves internal reviews and evaluation conducted by department's Quality Assurance Division.
- Develops and participates in the setting of program goals and objectives and evaluates degree to which they are achieved.
- Provides guidance and approves use of financial and material resources in line with established program rules and regulations.
- Conducts regular management meetings to asses and evaluates ASNAP program activities and service delivery systems.

2010-2011

Department of Human and Social Services

Utulei, AS

Assistant Director for Finance and Administration:

Please see Duties and Responsibilities for Assistant Director for Finance and Administration during 2012 - 2016

2008-2010

American Samoa Community College

Mapusaga, AS

General Accounting Manager

- Manages the accounting records for major segments of the College's financial system. Applies GAAP in the recording of revenues and expenditures in the books of original entry.
- Monitors and reviews accounting financial activities.
- Ensures that all general ledger accounts are current, reconcile and all in balance at the end of each month.
- Ensures all bank accounts are reconciled and appropriate entries to the general and subsidiary ledgers are posted in the financial system.
- Maintains individual accounts analysis on a monthly basis of all general ledger accounts.
- Produce monthly reports and other financial statements analysis for management use. Generate monthly budget versus actual expenditures reports for all Departments.
- Provides revenue and expenditure projection for upper management.
- Resolves auditing findings and recommendations from prior years.
- Prepares all accounting records and books for year closing.
- Communicates with Grants Manager on all accounting transactions that affect both the grants and general ledgers.
- Manage and supervise the general accounting staff which includes Accounts Payable, Payroll, and Staff

Panisia Neueli

Accountants.

- Ensure all internal control policies and procedures are followed.
- Review, approve, and post journal entries.

2006 – February 2008

American Samoa Community College

Mapusaga, AS

Grants Manager

- Oversee both Community & Natural Resources and Education grants for ASCC
- Please see Grants Accountant Experience

2002-2006

American Samoa Community College

Mapusaga, AS

Grants Accountant

- Maintain grant records and reporting procedures with strict adherence to federal and local timetables.
- Work with CNR Director in overseeing grant funding including monthly reporting, approval of allocated budget expenditures, budget modifications, timely closeouts of accounts, and monthly cash flow monitoring and reporting.
- Gather and analyzes necessary documents to support reimbursement requests and performs timely drawdowns on all accounts.
- Prepares ledger entries to maintain grant activity accounts. Reconciles accounts and provide monthly balance/expenditures reports to project managers.
- Reviews disbursement requests to ensure availability and proper utilizations of grant funds.
- Assist project managers in preparing budgets for grant proposals and opens new grant accounts as needed.
- Assist Assistant Chief Financial Officer in preparing for the Financial Statement Audits.
- Facilitator for the FY2005 & FY2006 Audit

2002

American Samoa Community College

Mapusaga, AS

Financial Aid Assistant Manager

- Prepare student files for financial aid eligibility
- Create reports for Federal release of student aid
- Handle audit reports for Auditors

2000 – 2002

Blue Sky Communications

Nuuuli, AS

Accounting Technician

- Handles Microbiz Sales system
- Handles all Cash Turn-in
- In charge of Customer Purchase Orders
- Month-end closing of Accounts Receivable
- Bank reconciliation of Bank accounts

1999 – 2000

D.O. E Fagaitua High School

Fagaitua, AS

Math Teacher

Education

2004 – 2006

University of Phoenix

Phoenix, AZ

Master of Business Administration

Panisia Neueli

1995 – 1999

Hawaii Pacific University

Honolulu, HI

B.S.B.A in Accounting

1992 – 1995

American Samoa Community College

Mapusaga, AS

A.S. in Accounting

Certificates

- Audit of Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreements
- Grantsmanship II: Administrative Requirements and Cost Principles for Grants and Other Agreements.
- Managing Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreements for Recipients
- Developing and Implementing Management Controls
- Customer Service Seminar
- Audit and Finance Courses
- Ethical Decision-Making for Governmental Employees
- Using Project Management to Improve Grant Administration

Personal Information

Strong interpersonal and teamwork skills. Highly motivated, dependable individual with excellent listening, planning, and organizational skills.

References

References are available on request.