



# County of Santa Cruz

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY**  
18 W. Beach Street, Watsonville, CA; P.O. Box 1300, Santa Cruz, CA 95061  
(831) 454-4036 FAX: (831) 763-8906

## Notice of Public Meeting and Agenda

### IHSS Advisory Commission

**Date:** Friday, February 25, 2022  
**Time:** 1:00PM to 3:00PM

Pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953, due to the ongoing COVID 19 state of emergency and upon recommendation of the County Health Officer, public meetings of the IHSS Advisory Commission will be conducted in remote format. Members of the public can attend virtually by teleconference.

**PLEASE DIAL-IN TO THE TELECONFERENCE USING THE INFORMATION LISTED BELOW:**

#### TELECONFERENCE INFORMATION

**United States: (916) 318-9542**  
**Phone Conference ID: 819 146 175#**

**FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE REMOTE MEETING PROCESS, PLEASE CONTACT THE PUBLIC AUTHORITY AT (831) 454-4036 OR [JUAN.MAGANA@SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US](mailto:JUAN.MAGANA@SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US)**

#### Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of January 28, 2022 Minutes.....Page 3.
5. Oral Communications and Announcements: *Anyone wishing to address the commission on any item within the jurisdiction of the Commission and not listed on the agenda may do so at this time. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes in duration.*
6. Regular Agenda – Action Items
  - a. IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location (AB 361).....Page 6.
  - b. Commission Vacancies Recruitment
  - c. New Subcommittees
7. Regular Agenda – Information Items
  - a. Updates/Housekeeping

The County of Santa Cruz complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This meeting room is accessible for people with disabilities. If you wish to discuss reasonable modifications or accommodations, please call 454-4036 prior to the meeting. For the comfort of those with allergies and chemical sensitivities, please do not wear perfume or scented products to the meeting.

- i. Reminders from the Chair
    - ii. Topics & Speakers
  - b. IHSS Program Updates
  - c. Public Authority Updates
  - d. Subcommittee Reports
    - i. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)
    - ii. Website (Vacant)
    - iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)
8. Adjournment

**Next Regular Meeting:** March 25, 2022, 1:00PM – 3:00PM



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### IHSS Advisory Commission

#### Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, January 28, 2022  
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM  
Location: Remote Meeting – Teleconference  
Present: Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Becky Taylor (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider), Jozette Irgang (Consumer), Maria Arreola (Provider)  
Excused: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair)  
Absent: None  
Guests: None  
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority)

#### Agenda

1. Call to Order
  - a. Meeting was called to order @ 1:11PM
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
  - a. Agenda reviewed; no changes made.
4. Consent Agenda
  - a. November 19, 2021 Minutes
  - b. Correspondence
    - i. Commission on Disabilities Minutes – October 14, 2021 Meeting
  - c. Commission Vacancies
    - i. Two (2) – Consumer Representatives
    - ii. One (1) – Representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors
  - d. Motion to approve the Consent Agenda called by:
    - i. First/Second: Fohrman/Andersen
    - ii. Ayes: Irgang, Taylor, Campbell, Sones, Arreola, Fohrman, Andersen
    - iii. Noes: None
    - iv. Abstain: None
  - e. Motion carried
5. Oral Communications and Announcements:
  - a. None
6. Updates/Housekeeping
  - a. Reminders from the Chair
    - i. This item was not discussed
  - b. Topics & Speakers
    - i. Taylor informed the group that she has a potential speaker for the commission and would pass the contact information along to staff

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7. IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location (AB 361)
  - a. The commission reviewed the AB 361 findings and determined the need to continue holding meetings remotely.
  - b. Motion to approve the AB 361 findings and hold the next IHSS Advisory Commission meeting remotely was called by:
    - i. First/Second: Fohrman/Andersen
    - ii. Ayes: Taylor, Sones, Irgang, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman, Andersen
    - iii. Noes: None
    - iv. Abstain: None
  - c. Motion carried
8. Biennial Report
  - a. Staff presented the draft biennial report with the commission. Report was reviewed and a motion was called to approve and submit the biennial report to the Board of Supervisors.
    - i. First/Second: Fohrman/Irgang
    - ii. Ayes: Taylor, Sones, Andersen, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman, Irgang
    - iii. Noes: None
    - iv. Abstain: None
  - b. Motion carried
9. IHSS Program Updates
  - a. Staff provided the following IHSS program updates:
    - i. Local increase in provider wages went into effect 1/1/2022, increasing the hourly wage from \$15.75 to \$17.75.
    - ii. The Governor's January budget includes proposal for a permanent provider back up system with \$2/hr wage differential beginning 7/1/2022.
    - iii. We are working on getting our registry application online.
    - iv. A \$500 one-time care economy payment for IHSS and WPCS providers who worked at least two months between March 2020-March 2021 started going out end of January.
    - v. Beginning next month, Electronic Services Portal users will no longer be able to use Microsoft Internet Explorer as their web browser, alternatives include Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome.
    - vi. Program staff continue to do the bulk of reassessments and intake assessment by phone with a shorter visit to the home due to the current COVID surge.
10. Public Authority Updates
  - a. Staff provided the following Public Authority updates
    - i. Two new Extra Help Social Worker I staff will begin next week. Their primary work assignment will be piloting an internal provider recruitment effort to encourage individuals already enrolled as providers who are working less than full time for a non-relative provider to join our registry.
11. Subcommittee Reports
  - a. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky) – No report out
  - b. Website (Vacant)
  - c. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)
    - i. Campbell reported the following information:
      1. Kim Rothchild was introduced as the new California Association of Public Authorities Executive Director.
      2. A representative from the California Foundation on Independent Living Centers provided information on IHSS advisory councils and

the work they are doing to require all counties to have an IHSS advisory council.

3. Provider recruitment strategies were discussed – insights presented from Riverside County.
- d. Andersen and Taylor both suggested that an enrollment and registry subcommittee be formed; staff advised that this information would be passed on to the chair and added to the agenda at the next IHSS Advisory Commission meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50PM

**Next Regular Meeting:** February 25, 2022, 1:00PM – 3:00PM



# County of Santa Cruz

## IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION

18 W. Beach Street, Watsonville, CA 95076  
P.O. Box 1300, Santa Cruz, CA 95061  
(831) 454-4036 FAX: (831) 763-8906  
MICHAEL MOLESKY, CHAIR

### SANTA CRUZ COUNTY IHSS ADVISORY COMMISSION'S FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

**WHEREAS**, this IHSS Advisory Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 22, 2021, the IHSS Advisory Commission held its initial teleconference meeting under AB 361; and

**WHEREAS**, this IHSS Advisory Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the IHSS Advisory Commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the IHSS Advisory Commission makes the following findings by a majority vote:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the IHSS Advisory Commission.

**Section 2.** Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the IHSS Advisory Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**Section 3.** No later than thirty (30) days from making today's findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the IHSS Advisory Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, IHSS Advisory Commission

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Staff

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the County Counsel