



# County of Santa Cruz

## IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

18 W. Beach Street, Watsonville, CA; P.O. Box 1300, Santa Cruz, CA 95061  
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### IHSS Advisory Commission

#### Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, April 23, 2021  
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM  
Location: Remote Meeting – Teleconference  
Present: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Becky Taylor (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider), Maria Arreola (Provider)  
Excused: Jozette Irgang (Consumer),  
Absent: None  
Guests: Sam Trevino (Presenter, Education and Training Manager, Health Project Center), Alicia Morales (Division Director, ALTC), Karina Aragon (Division Analyst, ALTC)  
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority)

#### Agenda

1. Call to Order
  - a. Meeting was called to order at 1:02PM
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
  - a. Agenda reviewed; no changes made.
4. Review and Approval of *March 26, 2021 Minutes*
  - a. Reviewed minutes of the March 26, 2021 meeting, the following change was made:
    - i. Item 7(c)(ii) – Added Campbell to list of commissioners voting yes
  - b. Motion to approve amended minutes called by:
    - i. First/Second: Sones/Andersen
    - ii. Ayes: Arreola, Taylor, Fohrman, Molesky, Campbell, Sones, Andersen
    - iii. Noes: None
    - iv. Abstain: None
  - c. Motion carried
5. Oral Communications and Announcements:
  - a. No members of the public participated in the meeting
6. Guest Speaker: Sam Trevino – IHSS Provider Training Curriculum
  - a. Sam Trevino, Education and Training Manager with Health Project Center, presented information on the courses that are available for IHSS providers in Santa Cruz County.
    - i. Informed the group that Health Project Center is contracted to provide six (6) trainings per fiscal year for non-clinical home healthcare workers.
    - ii. Advised that he would take suggestions from the commission on potential training topics and would send a finalized list of topics for the commission

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to review and select the six courses that will be presented to IHSS Providers in the next fiscal year.

- iii. Informed that for this next set of trainings, the Health Project Center will have the ability to record the training sessions. They will be initially done as live presentations via Zoom but will also have the ability to offer the trainings in an on-demand basis.
  - b. Commission members provided a variety of suggested topics.
  - c. Staff reported that as soon as the list of training topics is finalized it will be sent to all commission members. The commission will review and select the six courses at the May meeting.
7. Updates/Housekeeping
- a. Election of Officers
    - i. Staff informed that it is the time of year to elect new officers and welcomed commission members to self-nominate or nominate one of their fellow commission members to the positions of chair and vice-chair.
    - ii. Andersen called a motion to keep Michael Molesky and Lois Sones as chair and vice-chair, respectively.
      1. Motion was approved by acclamation.
  - b. Reminders from the Chair
    - i. No reminders provided
  - c. Topics & Speakers
    - i. Not discussed
  - d. Commission Vacancies
    - i. Staff reported that Becky Taylor's appointment as an at-large representative of the Commission on Disabilities was approved by the Board on April 13; this resulted in Taylor's former seat to become vacant. At this time, there are two (2) consumer vacancies and one (1) vacancy in the category of representative of county commission or staff (as currently allowed by county code).
    - ii. Molesky requested that commission vacancy information be included in each agenda from this point forward.
8. County Code Amendment
- a. Staff reported that the proposed language changes to the County Code were included with the meeting packet. The changes reflect the changes provided by the commission and were updated by County Counsel.
    - i. The proposed changes were:
      1. Chapter 2.124.040 Membership
        - a. Section B to change to: Two current or former providers of In-Home Supportive Services;
        - b. Section C to change to: Three at-large members from any of the following: (1) A representative of an organization that advocates for people with disabilities or seniors; and/or (2) A representative who also concurrently holds a seat on either the Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission or the Commission on Disabilities. (3) If any at-large member seat above is vacant and not able to be filled by a qualified representative for a minimum period of 3 months, then an additional current or past individual user, or a family member of a user, of personal assistance services may be appointed to fill any vacant at-large seat.

- b. A motion was called to approve the proposed changes to the County Code
    - i. First/Second: Sones/Campbell
    - ii. Ayes: Arreola, Taylor, Molesky, Andersen, Sones, Campbell
    - iii. Noes: None
    - iv. Abstain: Forhrman, not present for vote
  - c. Motion carried
9. IHSS Program Updates
- a. Morales provided the following IHSS Program Updates
    - i. The department hired two retired annuitants to assist with overdue reassessments.
    - ii. We are making progress on getting back into compliance on overdue reassessments. We had a significant backlog due to the various events of 2020 and having 5 SWs on leave last year.
    - iii. We received approval to fill the third IHSS supervisor vacancy and are hoping to have that position filled within the next month.
    - iv. Attaching the most recent EVV update.
    - v. We have our annual CDSS QA monitoring visit next month.
    - vi. The county is in the process of gathering the operational objectives for the 2021-2023 strategic plan. For adult services, we identified the following objectives:
      - 1. Disaster response – work with partners to better address the needs to older adults and individuals with disabilities
      - 2. Roll out of the Master Plan on Aging – identify key partners in the community
    - vii. Vaccines-most options for the homebound vaccines are on pause for now as they were relying on the J&J vaccine. There are multiple avenues to secure a vaccine and the Health Services Agency’s website will have the most up to date information.
10. Public Authority Updates
- a. Staff provided the following Public Authority Updates:
    - i. Public Authority staff continue to provide all services remotely. All interactions with the public are done via phone, email, or regular mail.
    - ii. Provider Recruitment – this has become a priority for us as we continue to have a shortage of providers. The Public Authority has begun posted recruitment info in its Facebook page and staff did targeted flyers in the San Lorenzo Valley. Staff is also looking into holding a “virtual” recruitment via Zoom or other medium.
11. Subcommittee Reports
- a. Seniors Commission (Sones)
    - i. Sones reported that 87% of seniors in the county have been vaccinated; there will be a Master Plan on Aging kick off event on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 10AM via Zoom.
    - ii. Molesky informed the group that the Seniors Commission report will be retired after this meeting and staff will obtain the minutes from the Seniors Commission meeting and will include them with the meeting packet.
  - b. Commission on Disabilities (Taylor)
    - i. Did not meet this month.
    - ii. Molesky informed the group that the Commission on Disabilities report will be retired after this meeting and staff will obtain the minutes from the

Commission on Disabilities meeting and will include them with the meeting packet.

- c. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)
  - i. Molesky reported that he would be looking into the IHSS Audit report
- d. Website (Taylor)
  - i. No report out
- e. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)
  - i. Campbell reported that at this month's conference call Humboldt county presented, they discussed the fact that they were struggling to fill seats on their advisory board and would be looking into changing the language on their county code like Santa Cruz is doing.
  - ii. Information on AB 339 was presented – this bill has a negative economic impact for Advisory Committees.
  - iii. The Governor's May revise is only 3 weeks away; there is strong push to repeal the 7% decrease for IHSS.
- f. County Code Amendment (Molesky)
  - i. This subcommittee will be retired after this meeting as the code amendment changes were finalized in item 8 above.

Meeting adjourned at 2:28PM

**Next Regular Meeting:** May 28, 2021, 1:00PM – 3:00PM