



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

IHSS Advisory Commission

Meeting Meetings

Date: Friday, February 24, 2023
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: Remote Meeting
Present: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Becky Taylor (Commission on Disabilities), Rebecca Jordan (Relative of Consumer), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Jozett Irgang (Consumer), Maria Arreola (Provider)
Excused: None
Absent: Patricia Fohrman (Provider)
Guests: Van Wong (Central California Alliance for Health)
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority), Maribel Gonzalez (Office Assistant III)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 1:04 PM; a quorum was present.
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - a. No changes or deletion to the agenda.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - i. January 27, 2023, Meeting Minutes
 - b. Commission Vacancies
 - i. Two (2) – Consumer Representatives
 - c. Motion to approve consent agenda called by:
 - i. First/Second: Taylor/Sones
 - ii. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Taylor, Jordan, Andersen, Campbell, Irgang, Arreola
 - iii. Noes: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - v. Absent: Fohrman
 - d. Motion carried unanimously
5. Oral Communications and Announcements:

- a. Van Wong (Central California Alliance for Health) introduced herself – will be presenting at a future commission on the services offered to IHSS recipients by the Alliance
- b. Andersen announced the Santa Cruz access guide for people with disabilities and special needs is now available at www.scaccessguide.com.

6. Regular Agenda – Action Items

a. Revised 2023 IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Schedule

i. End of AB 361 and Public Meetings Info.

1. Staff reported that beginning March 2023, all commission meetings will resume in-person as the State of Emergency will end February 28th, 2023.
2. The revised meeting schedule reflects the physical location for the IHSS Advisory Commission meetings which will be held at 1400 Emeline Ave, building K in room 206 in Santa Cruz; the meeting frequency will remain the same – the 4th Friday of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.
3. Participation via tele/videoconference continues to be an option under the Brown Act if all requirements are met; Additionally, AB 2449 allows for public meetings to be held as long as all requirements are met. Staff reported that based on guidance received from County Counsel, AB 2449 is very restrictive and will likely not be used by any commission in our county.
 - a. Information on the Brown Act and AB 2449 teleconference requirements were included in the meeting packet.

b. Motion to approve the revised 2023 IHSS Advisory Commission meeting schedule was called by:

- i. First/Second: Taylor/Sones
- ii. Ayes: Molesky, Sones, Taylor, Jordan, Andersen, Campbell, Irgang, Arreola
- iii. Noes: None
- iv. Abstain: None
- v. Absent: Fohrman

c. Motion carried unanimously

7. Regular Agenda – Information Items

a. Updates/Housekeeping

i. Reminders from the Chair

1. This item was not discussed

ii. Topics & Speakers

1. Van Wong asked if there were any thoughts on specifics that commissioners would like to hear and opportunities where Central

California Alliance for Health can partner up so that the presentation can be tailored to cover those specific needs.

b. General Updates to County Commissions

- i. Staff informed the commission about attending a training for all Commission liaisons for County commissions that pertain to Santa Cruz County.
 1. Effective this year, all newly appointed Commission Members will be required to complete an oath of office upon appointments as well as all existing commission members.
 2. Starting February 28th, 2023, the Board of Supervisors will directly contact newly appointed commission members to complete the oath of office before they begin.
 3. In the month of April or May, a representative from the board of supervisors will be attending our meeting to collect the oaths of offices for all existing members.

c. Review – 2022 IHSS Advisory Commission Biennial Report

- i. The commission reviewed the 2022 IHSS Advisory Commission Biennial Report
 1. Sones noted that item #8 from Goals and Accomplishments has been completed.
 2. Molesky would like to place Future Goal #8, in a forthcoming agenda and have Janie Whiteford attend so that the commission can work with CICA on state level advocacy. Molesky would also like to increase union participation at our meetings.
 3. Sones commented item #10 might be fair to delete from the Future Goals report as the meeting agenda for 2023 has been approved.
 - a. Per Staff, if there is a timely notice and the commission is willing to meet in South County, staff can try to find an available location in Watsonville to meet.
 4. Sones stated need to obtain more emergency IHSS providers is not addressed under Future Goals.
 - a. Andersen seconds Sones.
 5. Taylor stated she attended a meeting where they talked about provider satisfaction.
 6. Molesky commented that the commission's continuing goal is to review and promote training for providers by changing the training topics periodically. Molesky noted that such efforts should be recorded in the biannual report.
 7. Molesky added that another goal is to reestablish the summit meeting and to create working groups. Would like this to be added to the agenda.

d. Discussion – IHSS Providers

i. Provider Data

1. Staff shared the following info on IHSS providers in Santa Cruz County:
 - a. 47% of providers in Santa Cruz County are live-in providers (residing under the same home as their recipient), in comparison to medium sized counties at 55.5% and statewide of 55.6%.; Live-in relatives, the County of Santa Cruz is at 37.4% compared to 47% for the rest of the medium sized counties and 47.6% statewide.
 - b. In Santa Cruz County, the majority of IHSS providers are related to their recipient – 56.4% are listed as relative; 3.7% are listed as spouse; and 22.1% are listed as parent.
 - c. With regards to the registry, Santa Cruz County has a total of 2775 active providers with only 187, or 6% of the total pool, being part of the registry. Unfortunately, only 30% of our registry providers are available to take on additional work. This creates a challenge when trying to match care providers to recipients.
2. Sones stated that with the limited number of providers available within the registry, it would be a good idea to agendize communication about ways to increase the provider registry recruitment efforts and think outside the box.
 - a. Jordan agreed with Sones regarding thinking outside the box and volunteered to be on a subcommittee work group.

ii. Concerns

1. Arreola stated that she is concerned with the amount of time APS gets to the consumer after a report is taken.
 - a. Staff recommended inviting an APS representative to a future meeting so they can go over the APS referral process.

e. IHSS Program Updates

- i. Staff provided the following update on behalf of Alicia Morales, Director of Adult and Long-Term Care Services (not present):
 1. A vendor was selected for County wide needs assessment for the Master Plan for Aging planning. They are going to the board for approval for contract on the 28th. Once that is approved by the board, they will begin working on the needs assessment.
 2. The Adult and Long-Term Care Division has added a new analyst position to work with the Emergency Operations Center to assist in creating a stronger disaster response plan for the Access & Functional Needs population.
 3. Looking at working with a local vendor to develop an elder abuse awareness campaign focused on ageism.

4. We are launching a digital divide program with grant funds from the Department of Aging. We are targeting monolingual Spanish speaking clients in Watsonville.
5. Working with the Housing for Health Program and we are starting the APS Home Safe Program.

f. Public Authority Updates

- i. Public Authority is currently in the process of finalizing the details for the return of the discounted live scan services.
- ii. Cross training ALTC Office Assistants has been completed to improve coverage for the division.
- iii. The Division's main phone line has merged. To get to an ALTC live person you can now contact (831) 454-4101 opt.3. Whereas, in the past, we had two separate lines which used to be (831) 454-4101 opt.9 for ALTC and (831) 454-4036 for Public Authority. If you call the former Public Authority line you will be redirected to the new main phone line.

g. Subcommittee Reports

i. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky)

1. Legislature re-convened January 4th
2. The governor's budget proposal went out on the 10th
3. February 17th was the last day for the new bills to be introduced
4. June 2nd will be the last day for bills to pass the House for introduction
5. June 15th will be the date for legislature to pass the budget
6. They will be off in July for Summer recess.
7. September 14th will be the last day for the House to pass the bills.
8. October 14th is the deadline for the government to sign or veto.

ii. Website (Taylor/Andersen)

1. Andersen stated the access guide was just updated and would like to see it be published under the In-Home Supportive Services Website.
 - a. Staff will put the request in to the Website Manager and see if they are able to add the access guide.

iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)

1. Campbell stated that many counties do not use the Advisory Committee funding they receive from the state. There will be a meeting with CAPA to discuss solutions for unspent money.
2. Jordan noted that with the return of in-person meetings, CICA conference attendees are expecting to see an increase in attendance due to the virtual meeting availability.

8. Adjournment

- a. Staff reminded the commission regarding the election for Chair and Vice Chair which will be taking place during the commission's April meeting.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM

Next Regular Meeting: March 24, 2023, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA

Minutes Approved on 03/24/2023; Submitted to Board of Supervisors on 03/27/2023