



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, September 23, 2022
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: Remote Meeting
Present: Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Jozett Irgang (Consumer), Maria Arreola (Provider)
Excused: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair)
Absent: Patricia Fohrman (Provider)
Guests: Rebecca Jordan (Guest), Antonio Rivas (Guest), Diana Morales-Figueroa (ALTC Office Assistant III)
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 1:14PM; a quorum was present
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - a. Agenda reviewed; no changes made.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - i. August 26, 2022 Meeting
 - b. Correspondence
 - i. Commission on Disabilities
 1. June 9, 2022 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 Consent Agenda called by:
 - i. First/Second: Campbell/Irgang
 - ii. Ayes: Sones, Taylor, Anderson, Irgang, Campbell

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- iii. Noes: None
- iv. Abstain: Arreola (not present for vote)

e. Motion carried unanimously

5. Oral Communications and Announcements:

- a. Rebecca Jordan (guest) attended meeting as she was invited by Michael Molesky as a potential commission member. Rebecca informed the group that she has a brother who currently is a recipient of personal care services. Rebecca's brother currently lives out of state, but at some point, will likely need to move to CA with her. Rebecca expressed interested in applying to be appointed to the IHSS Advisory Commission under the category of at large representative of a relative of personal care services.
- b. Taylor reported that she met with Community Life Services and suggested they be invited to a future commission meeting.
- c. Sones reported that effective September 30th Elderday will be transitioning from temporary alternative services to regular congregate services. To keep everyone safe, Elderday is testing their staff twice a week and their participants once a week.
- d. Antonio Rivas (guest) shared that Advocacy Inc. is no longer being funded by the county. The program helps those senior citizens who have problems within their home. Antonio came to the commission meeting to request that the IHSS Advisory Commission help advocate for the restoration of their funding.
 - i. Sones informed the group that the services provided by Advocacy Inc are primarily for adults who are not eligible for In-Home Support Services

6. Regular Agenda – Action Items

- a. IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location (AB 361)
 - i. The commission reviewed the requirements under AB 361 – two members expressed interest in returning to in-person meetings, but based on current county recommendations, they agreed that remote meetings can continue until the end of the public health emergency.
 - ii. Motion to approve the AB 361 findings and hold the next IHSS Advisory Commission meeting remotely was called by:
 - 1. First/Second: Campbell/Andersen
 - 2. Ayes: Sones, Taylor, Andersen, Campbell, Irgang, Arreola,
 - 3. Noes: None
 - 4. Abstain: None
 - iii. Motion carried unanimously

7. Regular Agenda – Information Items

- a. Updates/Housekeeping
 - i. Reminders from the Chair
 - 1. Sones reminded the commission of the vacant commission seats and reminded everyone to keep looking for consumer representatives that can fill the two vacancies.
 - ii. Topics & Speakers

1. Taylor suggested that the regional center be invited to speak about their home care program.
 2. Staff reported that there are potentially two guest speakers on the October agenda: the Volunteer Center and a representative from the CAO's office.
- b. IHSS Provider Trainings
- i. Sones informed the commission that the meeting packet included the IHSS Provider Training Flyer from the Health Project Center.
 - ii. Staff mentioned that earlier this year, the commission selected six training topics for our IHSS care providers. The Health Project Center graciously offered four more provider training courses, at no additional cost to the county, making it a total of ten courses available to IHSS providers.
- c. Annual Report Review
- i. The commission reviewed the 2022 IHSS Advisory Commission biennial report.
 - ii. Sones highlighted the goals that the commission has been working on and identified others that have not been addressed.
 1. One goal noted on the report was to monitor the ongoing use of the Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) – Sones suggested the commission receive an update on this as this item has been discussed on several occasions and it would be good to receive an update on how EVV is going in our county.
- d. Provider Concerns
- i. Sones reminded the commission that this is a standing item for our provider representatives to bring up any concerns they may have.
 - ii. There were not concerns report.
- e. IHSS Program Updates
- i. Staff provided the following IHSS Program Updates:
 1. The county is re-releasing the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the countywide needs assessment for the Master Plan for Aging
 2. The Human Services Department (HSD) will be receiving digital divide money from California Department for Aging. HSD plans to go to the Board of Supervisors to accept the funds in October and to ask to release a RFP to partner with a Community Based Organization on this project. The goal is to be able to provide technical support in people's homes. The commission was asked to provide suggested potential partners for this project.
 3. We are expanding Adult Protective Services (APS) staffing/capacity due to new funds from this past budget year budget initiative that allocated more money to APS.
 4. The Public Guardian transition from Health Services Agency is complete – Public Guardian is now in Human Services Department to help build a stronger elder justice system and align programs

that support vulnerable adults under one division, which is consistent with statewide best practices and Master Plan for Aging initiatives

5. We have completed two Public Service Announcements on elder abuse/neglect– One on Financial Abuse and the other on Self-Neglect – please go to santacruzhumanservices.org to see them – we hope to air them on local stations.

f. Public Authority Updates

- i. Staff provided an update on the Back-Up Provider System that was reported at last month's meeting. Public Authority staff have been working diligently to implement this system by the October 1st deadline. Our clerical support staff completed a mailer to recruit providers who are currently active on the registry. The mailer was phase one of the recruitment. Phase two will be direct calls to our registry providers – this is expected to begin next week.

g. Subcommittee Reports

i. Legislative/Advocacy (Sones)

1. This item was not discussed

ii. Website (Taylor/Andersen)

1. Anderson reported that he was able to find the provider enrollment link on the website.

iii. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)

1. Campbell provided the following info:

- a. This month's speaker was Donna Calame, a retired Public Authority Director in San Francisco. Donna discussed the history of IHSS taken from Hale Zukas. The program started in 1953 when polio was the big focus, and it was funded by the March of Dimes. When its funding diminished, the people came to the state for funding, and they got a maximum of \$300 a month for a caregiver, attendance server as they were called back then. Then in 1973, they added any fully disabled persons, not only those with or who had polio.

8. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 2:25PM

Next Regular Meeting: October 28, 2022, 1:00PM – 3:00PM