



County of Santa Cruz

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

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September Meeting Minutes – Approved

DATE: September 20, 2023
TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
PLACE: *Hybrid Meeting: In person at the United Way, 4450 Capitola Rd #106, Capitola, CA, and Virtually via Microsoft Teams*

Commissioners Present: Lisa Smith (1st District); Danny Keith (2nd District); Stephen Gray (2nd District); Betsy Clark (3rd District); Stoney Brook (4th District); Karina Moreno (4th District); Jennifer Anderson-Ochoa (5th District)

Commissioners Excused: Emily Hanson (1st District), Denise Hitzeman (5th District)

Commissioners Unexcused: None

Commission Seats Vacant: Supervisor Justin Cummings (3rd District, 1 seat)

Staff Present: Randy Morris, HSD Director; Jamie Murray, CSS Director; Adam Spickler, HSD Senior Analyst, Heather Viola, HSD Executive Secretary

Guests: Jim Dale, HSD Employment & Benefit Services Division (EBSD) Deputy Director; Josie Montes, EBSD Senior Analyst; Rocio Ortiz, EBSD Associate Analyst

- Agenda Review: The Commission approved moving item XII, Commission Training and Efficacy up in the agenda to become item IX, moving all other items down one in agenda order. (Keith/Gray)
AYES: Smith, Keith, Gray, Clark, Brook, Moreno, Anderson-Ochoa
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None
- Approval of Minutes (Action): The Commission approved March 15, 2023, May 17, 2023 and July 19, 2023 meeting minutes. (Keith/Moreno)
AYES: Smith, Keith, Gray, Clark, Brook, Moreno, Anderson-Ochoa

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

3. Consideration of Proposed General Assistance Program Changes: The Commission approved recommending to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors their approve of an increase to the current General Assistance loan amounts by a 3.6% cost of living adjustment; and added further direction for the Commission to add a review of the General Assistance program to its upcoming 2024 Workplan to determine potential solutions to gaps in resources within the current program structure. (Anderson-Ochoa / Moreno)

AYES: Smith, Keith, Gray, Clark, Brook, Moreno, Anderson-Ochoa
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

4. Approval of Updates to Commission Bylaws: The Commission approved administrative updates to correct outdated information contained in the most current edition of the Human Services Commission Bylaws; and added further direction for staff to return to the Commission in November to confirm whether the County has formally adopted an alternative to Robert's Rules of Order and if so, to further adjust the Human Services Commission's Bylaws to reflect this. (Keith/Clark)

AYES: Smith, Keith, Gray, Clark, Brook, Moreno
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Anderson-Ochoa

5. Deferral of Workplan Review & Subcommittee Selection: The Commission moved to defer a Commission review and any updates to the current Workplan until 2024 when a Commission retreat takes place, to agendize as part of a Human Services Commission retreat. (Moreno/Gray)

AYES: Smith, Keith, Gray, Clark, Brook, Moreno
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Anderson-Ochoa

6. Motion to Adjourn: The Commission meeting adjourned at 10:32 am (Clark/Moreno)

AYES: Smith, Keith, Gray, Clark, Brook, Moreno
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Anderson-Ochoa

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