



County of Santa Cruz

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY

500 Westridge Drive, Watsonville, CA; P.O. Box 1300, Santa Cruz, CA 95061
(831) 454-4036 FAX: (831) 763-8906

IHSS Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, March 28, 2025
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: 1400 Emeline AVE, Building K, Room 206. Santa Cruz, CA
Present: Becky Taylor (Chair, Commission on Disabilities), Foster Andersen (Vice-Chair, Consumer), Stephanie Auld (Consumer), Michael Molesky (Consumer), Charlie Walker II (Provider)
Excused: Maria Arreola (Provider), Lois Sones (Seniors Commission)
Absent: None
Guests: Janie Whiteford (presenter, CICA), Alicia Morales (ALTC Division Director)
Staff: Elizabeth Byrd (Staff), Juan Magaña (Staff)

The use of facemasks is recommended for all attendees of the IHSS Advisory Commission meeting.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 1:07PM
2. Roll Call
 - a. Welcome new commissioner – Charlie Walker II – Provider Representative
 - i. Commissioner Walker introduced himself, currently a live-in provider, region 3 SEIU 2015 Vice President.
3. Agenda Review
 - a. No changes to agenda.
4. Public Comment:
 - a. Alicia Morales – Division Director for the Adult and Long-Term Care Division informed that she was here to answer any questions the group may have. Also informed that the department is waiting to see what will happen at the federal/state level. Governor stated that if Medicaid is cut, the state will backfill – hoping this will be true. Staff are worried about what is going on, worried about clients. A time of uncertainty – Santa Cruz County is committed to its values. Working on instruction to staff in the event Immigration and Customs Enforcement were to come in and how to deal with it. Potential cuts to community living...but nothing official. There is a new MOU for IHSS providers, \$20.50/hour as of March 2025.
5. Consent Agenda

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.

a. Meeting Minutes

i. February 28, 2025 Meeting

1. Molesky: Amended to add additional info on Zach Johnson – Update on MPA and Caregiving Subcommittee

b. Commission Vacancies

i. Three (3) – Consumer Representatives (A)

ii. One (1) – Representative of Advocate Organization (C)

1. Molesky stated he reached out to Central California Alliance for Health, Zach Johnson as well as Supervisor De Serpa regarding our commission vacancies.
2. Taylor indicated she invited a newly appointed member to the Commission on Disabilities to attend a IHSS Advisory Commission meeting.
3. Auld stated she spoke to Tara Ireland from the Volunteer center regarding our commission.

c. Motion to approve Consent Agenda with amended minutes called by:

- i. First/Second: Auld/Anderson
- ii. Ayes: Molesky, Auld, Andersen, Walker, Taylor
- iii. Noes: None
- iv. Abstain: None

d. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Guest Speaker: Janie Whiteford, California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA)

a. Janie, president of CICA and Chair of the Santa Clara County IHSS Advisory Board, presented the following information:

- i. Mandate of commission is to provide recommendations to any entity involved with IHSS – BOS, PA, IHSS, State, Federal, Medi-Cal (IHSS is a MC program).
- ii. CICA, a 501c, was initially established to assist county advisory boards, but have evolved since then.
- iii. Janie sits on a lot of commission and committees at the state level – DACLAC (formerly Olmstead committee), CARA (CA Alliance of Retired Americans), 2 MPA committees.
- iv. IHSS is a large program, state pays a lot of money to the program, more than any other social service program.
- v. CICA – executive board, president, vice president, treasurer, secretary – from various counties + 20 executive vice presidents from various counties + members at large (individuals who want to be part of CICA).
- vi. 26 counties are members of CICA; Santa Cruz is not – would like to see us join. Membership fee is \$750; membership includes:
 1. 2 x month meetings – trainings or informational sessions on topics such as: development of advisory boards, recruitment, outreach are a few of the items they touch on, legislation – Brown Act bills to allow advisory bodies to hold meetings via zoom (non-decision-making bodies), statewide collective bargaining bills – the most

recent report had no consumer voice included, CICA will be writing a rebuttal letter to it. They are currently working on a training program for consumers – developing to assist consumers in their employer role.

vii. Ask from CICA:

1. Reach out to Senator Laird, who sits on committee for the Brown Act bill, call his office and let legislation go forward.
2. Ask to join CICA
 - a. Andersen inquired what are we responsible for if we join – have a designated representative from commission for CICA and for CICA to have the contact info for the commission members.
 - b. Auld – asked how to get members of the Board of Supervisors and members of the public to attend meetings? – they have zoom option (for ADA accommodations), this is how they attend.

7. Regular Agenda – Action Items

a. Recruitment Strategies: IHSS Advisory Commission Vacancies

- i. The commission reviewed the draft language for the Shared Adventures Newsletter, requested to add the logo to the language.
- ii. Motion to approve language with logo and send to Shared Adventures was called by:
 1. First/Second: Auld/Walker
 2. Ayes: Molesky, Auld, Andersen, Walker, Taylor
 3. Noes: None
 4. Abstain: None

iii. Motion passed.

iv. Update on Letter to Board of Supervisors

1. Taylor stated that she was under the impression that we would send the motion to the BOS.
 - a. Molesky stated that the motion was to write a letter and send to the BOS. Taylor stated she would work on it.
 - b. Auld indicated she wanted to provide input on the contents of the letter before it was sent to the BOS. Molesky indicated that the motion did not include input from the commission before sending to the BOS.
2. Motion to write a separate letter and bring back to the commission for review/input before sending to the BOS was called by:
 - a. First/Second: Auld/Walker
 - b. Discussion – Molesky asked clarifications on motion.

- i. Auld indicated that she wants the letter to include our concerns regarding the characteristics of potential members. They should have the capacity (time to attend meetings). Explain what they want commissioners to do when they take the role of the commissioner.

c. Ayes: Auld, Taylor, Andersen, Walker

d. Noes: None

e. Abstain: Molesky

3. Motion passed

b. Public Participation

- i. The commission discussed how to increase public participation.

- 1. A motion for staff to bring back the cost on the technology to allow the public to attend the IHSS Advisory Commission Meetings was called by:

a. First/Second: Auld/Molesky

b. Discussion: Walker inquired on who would this be for? Auld responded it would be for members of the public.

c. Ayes: Auld, Andersen, Molesky, Walker

d. Noes: Taylor

e. Abstain: None

2. Motion passed.

- ii. Molesky suggested to add how to provide public input to commission website.

- 1. Staff stated that the county commission website includes a link to contact the commission (email to staff) and the IHSS Advisory Commission website also has the contact info for Staff.

- 2. A motion to add public input section to the IHSS Advisory Commission website was called by:

a. First/Second: Molesky/Auld

b. Ayes: Auld, Andersen, Molesky, Walker, Taylor

c. Noes: none

d. Abstain: none

- iii. Auld suggested listing the scheduled speakers on the IHSS Advisory Commission website.

- 1. A motion to include the scheduled presenters on the IHSS Advisory Commission website was called by:

a. First/Second: Auld/Molesky

b. Discussion: Taylor stated that speakers often not finalized until a week prior to the meeting, how would this be

addressed. Auld suggested to put a “subject to change” disclaimer.

- c. Ayes: Auld, Andersen, Molesky, Walker
- d. Noes: none
- e. Abstain: Taylor.

2. Motion passed.

8. Regular Agenda – Information Items

a. Information Sharing

i. Announcements

- 1. Andersen - Day in the park April 26 – flyer provided. Resource group.
- 2. Walker discussed things happening with SEIU 2015.
- 3. Molesky – 90 bills he is reviewing; CCAH budget cuts, hired consultants.

ii. Topics & Speakers

1. Tentative Schedule

- a. April 25, 2025 – IHSS Provider Trainings, Health Project Center
- b. May 23, 2025 - Senior Network Services: Caregiver Matching
- c. To be scheduled:
 - i. Goal Setting Facilitator/Data Collection
 - ii. Alicia Rodriguez, Golden PACE Health
- 2. Michael would like to invite Phillip Geiger to come speak to the commission – April meeting?
- 3. Taylor Suggested – 1 meeting with no speakers so commission can talk amongst each other.

b. Staff Updates:

i. April 25, 2025, IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting

- 1. Change in Location: 1020 Emeline AVE, Building B, Santa Cruz.
- 2. Election of Officers
- 3. Meeting Schedule 2025-2026

ii. Commission Staff Transition

- 1. Elizabeth Byrd will be the new staff liaison for the IHSS Advisory Commission.

c. CICA Information

- i. This item was not discussed – to be added to the April meeting.

d. Reappointment Process

- i. Staff gave a brief overview of the reappointment process – included in the meeting packet.

e. IHSS Consumers

- i. none

f. IHSS Providers

- i. None

g. IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates

- i. MPA – county needs assessment in the process of being finalized, agewell.org, dashboard to be include. Working on playbook with 4 cities and AAA on how to become an age friendly community.

9. Report Outs

a. Legislative

- i. none

b. CICA Conference Calls

- i. Taylor committed to attending all CICA calls from now on.

c. Commission on Disabilities

- i. 2 new members; table at transition fair harbor high 4/24, 430-730pm

d. Seniors Commission

- i. none

10. Future Agenda Items

a. CICA membership

b. Commission Budget

11. Correspondence - none

12. Adjournment

- a. Adjourned at 3:03pm

Next Regular Meeting: April 25, 2025, 1:00PM – 3:00PM @ 1020 Emeline AVE, Building B, Room 259, Santa Cruz.

Minutes Approved by Commission on April 25, 2025