



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 Minutes

Date: Friday, January 28, 2022
Time: 1:00PM to 3:00PM
Location: Remote Meeting – Teleconference
Present: Lois Sones (Seniors Commission, Vice-Chair), Becky Taylor (Consumer), Linda Campbell (Consumer), Foster Andersen (Consumer), Patricia Fohrman (Provider), Jozette Irgang (Consumer), Maria Arreola (Provider)
Excused: Michael Molesky (Consumer, Chair)
Absent: None
Guests: None
Staff: Juan Magaña (IHSS Public Authority)

Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting was called to order @ 1:11PM
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
 - a. Agenda reviewed; no changes made.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. November 19, 2021 Minutes
 - b. Correspondence
 - i. Commission on Disabilities Minutes – October 14, 2021 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 the Consent Agenda called by:
 - i. First/Second: Fohrman/Andersen
 - ii. Ayes: Irgang, Taylor, Campbell, Sones, Arreola, Fohrman, Andersen
 - iii. Noes: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - e. Motion carried
5. Oral Communications and Announcements:
 - a. None
6. Updates/Housekeeping
 - a. Reminders from the Chair
 - i. This item was not discussed
 - b. Topics & Speakers
 - i. Taylor informed the group that she has a potential speaker for the commission and would pass the contact information along to staff

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.

7. IHSS Advisory Commission Meeting Location (AB 361)
 - a. The commission reviewed the AB 361 findings and determined the need to continue holding meetings remotely.
 - b. Motion to approve the AB 361 findings and hold the next IHSS Advisory Commission meeting remotely was called by:
 - i. First/Second: Fohrman/Andersen
 - ii. Ayes: Taylor, Sones, Irgang, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman, Andersen
 - iii. Noes: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - c. Motion carried
8. Biennial Report
 - a. Staff presented the draft biennial report with the commission. Report was reviewed and a motion was called to approve and submit the biennial report to the Board of Supervisors.
 - i. First/Second: Fohrman/Irgang
 - ii. Ayes: Taylor, Sones, Andersen, Campbell, Arreola, Fohrman, Irgang
 - iii. Noes: None
 - iv. Abstain: None
 - b. Motion carried
9. IHSS Program Updates
 - a. Staff provided the following IHSS program updates:
 - i. Local increase in provider wages went into effect 1/1/2022, increasing the hourly wage from \$15.75 to \$17.75.
 - ii. The Governor's January budget includes proposal for a permanent provider back up system with \$2/hr wage differential beginning 7/1/2022.
 - iii. We are working on getting our registry application online.
 - iv. A \$500 one-time care economy payment for IHSS and WPCS providers who worked at least two months between March 2020-March 2021 started going out end of January.
 - v. Beginning next month, Electronic Services Portal users will no longer be able to use Microsoft Internet Explorer as their web browser, alternatives include Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome.
 - vi. Program staff continue to do the bulk of reassessments and intake assessment by phone with a shorter visit to the home due to the current COVID surge.
10. Public Authority Updates
 - a. Staff provided the following Public Authority updates
 - i. Two new Extra Help Social Worker I staff will begin next week. Their primary work assignment will be piloting an internal provider recruitment effort to encourage individuals already enrolled as providers who are working less than full time for a non-relative provider to join our registry.
11. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Legislative/Advocacy (Molesky) – No report out
 - b. Website (Vacant)
 - c. CICA Conference Calls (Campbell)
 - i. Campbell reported the following information:
 1. Kim Rothchild was introduced as the new California Association of Public Authorities Executive Director.
 2. A representative from the California Foundation on Independent Living Centers provided information on IHSS advisory councils and

the work they are doing to require all counties to have an IHSS advisory council.

3. Provider recruitment strategies were discussed – insights presented from Riverside County.
- d. Andersen and Taylor both suggested that an enrollment and registry subcommittee be formed; staff advised that this information would be passed on to the chair and added to the agenda at the next IHSS Advisory Commission meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50PM

Next Regular Meeting: February 25, 2022, 1:00PM – 3:00PM