

Kern County Commission On Aging

Judy Snyder, Chairperson
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Bakersfield, CA 93309
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REGULAR COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

June 15, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.
Tehachapi Senior Center
500 E. "F" Street, Tehachapi, CA 93561
and virtually via Zoom

OPENING

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Snyder called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE & MOMENT OF SILENCE:

The flag salute was completed, and a moment of silence was observed.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

*(*Chairperson, **Vice Chairperson, *** Parliamentarian, ****Secretary)*

Commission Members Present:

In Person – Susan Bodnar, Vivian Cao, Sonia Dhillon, Anabel Griffin, Barbara Goodlow, Julie Juarez-Ceja, Ellen Linder, ****Jeremy Oliver (non-voting), Julie Parsons, Yolanda Prado, Christie Ray, Miguel Salazar, Yarnell Sherrell, *Judy Snyder

Virtually – Stacie Dollar

Excused Absences: Sherry Gomez, Norma Jackson, **Jan Lemucchi, Jami Ward

SECRETARY OLIVER CONFIRMED A QUORUM WAS PRESENT IN PERSON.

Honorary Commission Members Present:

None.

Aging and Adult Services Staff Present:

Laura M. Juarez – Office Services Coordinator

GUESTS:

In Person: Catherine Vasquez, Kenzo Lackey, Constance D. Montana, Carl Gehricke, Carolyn Scott, James Tetreault, Tony Kotch, Lewis Brown

Virtually: Tiffany Cigich, Daisy Neri, Gayla Hughes, Chad Acker, Kayla Pinkston

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

COMMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST:

Public Comments: None.

Commissioner Comments :

- Commissioner Sherrell announced that the Seniors Law Center at Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance (GBLA) provides free legal aid to adults aged 60 and older, regardless of income. The center helps with landlord-tenant issues, consumer complaints, power of attorney, and advanced healthcare directives. They also assist with small claims and drafting answers to debt collection lawsuits to prevent default judgments. Seniors can call 661-325-5943 for assistance. Walk-ins are welcome every Wednesday during business hours from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with no appointment needed. Additionally, the office front door has been repaired and is fully accessible.
- Commissioner Prado expressed appreciation for today's guest speakers, Kern County Sheriff's Lieutenant Lackey and Deputy Johnson, calling their pre-meeting presentation extraordinarily informative. While troubled by the rising statistics on crimes against seniors, she emphasized that raising awareness is vital for both the community in Tehachapi, and for Commissioners to share within their own communities. Chair Snyder concurred, noting that despite her years of service on the Commission, this year has seen a persistent, necessary focus on scams due to their rising prevalence. She noted that criminal activity against older adults is a widespread issue locally, statewide, and nationally. Chair Snyder urged all Commissioners to actively share this information and educate the public on the response resources available through local law enforcement.

ACTION ITEMS:

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion made to approve May 18, 2026, Regular Commission on Aging meeting minutes as presented.

Motion: Prado; **Second:** Juarez-Ceja; **Abstention:** Bodnar; **Objection:** None.

Motion carried.

SERVICE PROVIDER PRESENTATIONS:

SENIOR CENTER REPORT – Julie Baca

Julie Baca reported that the Tehachapi Senior Center remains a vibrant hub of community life, welcoming approximately 55 seniors each day. Visitors gather daily to enjoy nutritious meals prepared at our Rosamond production kitchen and to participate in a packed weekly schedule of events. Mondays kick off the week with a lively mix of yoga, Mexican Train Dominoes, and line dancing. On Tuesdays, the energy continues with pinochle games, stretching sessions, and woodcarving classes. Wednesdays focus on fiber arts like quilting, crocheting, and knitting, with a concurrent Scrabble game available for those who prefer board games over crafting. Thursdays offer another round of bridge, stretching, and crafting

groups. Finally, Fridays close out the week on a high note with spirited games of Pokeno and unique Scottish dancing sessions.

GENERAL SERVICES - PARKS AND RECREATION – Isaac Preston

Isaac Preston was not in attendance but shared the following, which was read by Chair Snyder: They have no new updates as they are on a holding pattern for any projects or spending anything until the new fiscal year.

VETERANS SERVICE – Jose Lopez

Jose Lopez was unable to attend today's meeting due to a prior scheduled obligation but provided the following report, read by Chair Snyder:

Jose apologized for missing the meeting. While he had no major program updates, he wanted to reassure the Tehachapi community that his office understands the challenges of living in a rural area. Given the large veteran population in Tehachapi, Jose stressed that their office is federally accredited and can complete all tasks, including claim filings, over the phone. To save on high fuel costs, residents should call first rather than driving to Bakersfield. If a phone call cannot resolve the issue, the office will schedule an in-person appointment or a home visit. For assistance, please call (661) 868-7300 or email Kernvets@kerncounty.com.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES – Sara Swertfager, SPHN

Sara Swertgafer was not in attendance but prepared a report that was read by Chair Snyder:

Ongoing 2026 Annual Campaign: Thrive Like a Poppy emphasizes that health is a journey and Thrive Like a Poppy celebrates every step of it. This year-long initiative uses the life cycle of a poppy to spotlight essential public health services and seasonal wellness tips for every age, reminding our community that it's possible to thrive at every stage of life.

- Current 2nd quarter campaign focuses on teens, aka “Sprouts”. Please visit their website for resources: <https://www.kernpublichealth.com/healthy-community/annual-campaigns/thrive-like-a-poppy>

They are entering mosquito-borne disease season. You can protect yourself from being bitten by mosquitoes by:

- Using mosquito repellent on exposed skin
- Wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors
- Avoiding areas with large numbers of mosquitoes when possible
- Making sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens in good repair
- Removing standing water around your home.

For additional information on mosquito borne disease and prevention please visit their website: <https://www.kernpublichealth.com/healthy-community/illness-disease/disease-conditions/west-nile-virus-and-other-mosquito-borne-illnesses>.

- 2025-2026 flu season has concluded. There are no new vaccine recommendations at this time. To receive vaccinations through the Public Health Clinic, please call 661-321-3000 to make an appointment.

KERN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES (BHRS) – Chad Acker

Chad Acker attended virtually and reported that the WISE team is relocating to the downtown area on 21st Street. Please note that all services provided by the team will remain unchanged. Additionally, the department is transitioning each of the RAWC teams to contracted providers, including Clarvida, Clinica Sierra Vista, and the Child Guidance Clinic. This transition is expected to be fully completed by the end of next month. Clarvita handles the Tehachapi area and are located at 432 S. Mill Street, Tehachapi. Their phone number is 661-822-8223.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS) – Daisy Neri & Tiffany Cigich

Medi-Cal Updates: Daisy Neri attended virtually and reported about the Medi-Cal Policy Change regarding Reinstatement of Asset Limits for Non-Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Medi-Cal Programs. Effective January 1, 2026, asset limits were reinstated for non-MAGI Medi-Cal programs, impacting aged and disabled beneficiaries during new applications and renewals. The policy sets a \$130,000 limit for individuals, with an additional \$65,000 for each family member, requiring households to report assets like bank accounts and stocks, while exempting homes, one vehicle, and irrevocable burial funds. To ease compliance, members may now self-attest to asset values on renewal forms or verbally, eliminating the need to submit physical documentation.

CalFresh Updates: Tiffany Cigich attended virtually and reported that starting June 1, 2026, federal rule changes updated the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) CalFresh program work and community engagement requirements. Under these new guidelines, certain recipients must meet specific work criteria to maintain their food assistance benefits. The rules directly target individuals who are between 18 and 64 years old, do not have a disability, and do not have a dependent child under 14 living with them. For those between the ages of 16 and 59, general work registration rules apply. If you fall into this category and are subject to these rules, you are required to accept any suitable employment offered to you. Additionally, you cannot voluntarily quit a job or reduce your weekly work hours below 30 hours without a valid, approved cause. You may be excused from the general work registration requirements if you meet any of the following exemptions:

- Age: You are younger than 16 or are 60 years of age or older.
- Caregiving: You are caring for a dependent child under the age of six or a person with a documented disability.
- Income: You earn at least \$217 weekly before taxes.
- Other Benefits: You are currently receiving or applying for unemployment benefits.
- Disability Benefits: You receive or are applying for disability benefits from any source, including State Disability Insurance (SDI), Workers' Compensation, private disability insurance, Social Security, or Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits.
- Education: You are enrolled at least half-time in a school, college, or training program.
- Other Programs: You are meeting the work rules of another assistance program like CalWORKs, or you are participating in a drug or alcohol abuse treatment program.

The second part of the federal update addresses Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD). Under federal law, individuals classified as ABAWDs who do not meet work or community engagement requirements are restricted to receiving only three months of CalFresh benefits within a three-year period. To get benefits beyond this three-month limit, an ABAWD must work or participate in qualifying activities for at least 20 hours a week (80 hours a month), qualify for an exemption, or live in an area with a severe unemployment waiver. While regions like Kern County previously held long-standing waivers to protect recipients from this time limit, those county-wide waivers expired on June 1st, meaning local ABAWDs must now comply with the work rules to keep their benefits.

Commissioner Cao commented on the current activities of the Human Resources Management (HRM) Task Force. For the past two weeks, the Task Force has been collaborating with the Department of Human Services (DHS), under the leadership of Director Lito Morillo, along with United Way, CAPPA, local medical providers, and other community partners. The primary focus of this collaboration is to expand and clarify engagement options outside of the standard 20-hour work requirement for able-bodied individuals. Specifically, the group explores alternative pathways, such as school and volunteer opportunities. While the exact parameters for these alternatives remain vague, the Task Force is investigating how educational courses, or volunteer placements could fulfill participation requirements for individuals unable to engage in traditional employment. To establish clear benchmarks, the team is evaluating potential educational tracks in partnership with local institutions like Bakersfield College (BC) and California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB). Commissioner Cao noted that these initiatives are still in the developmental stages due to a current lack of state or federal clarity. However, she assured the committee that will share formal guidelines as soon as more information becomes available.

EMPLOYERS' TRAINING RESOURCE (ETR) – Peggy Langels

Not in attendance. No report.

PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES – Catherine Vasquez

Catherine Vasquez attended in person and reported the Home Access Grant is an ADA grant to install wheelchair ramps, grab bars, and walk-in showers for low-income disabled persons. Owner-occupied and rental property are eligible if the property owner agrees to the work. An inspection is completed to determine specific needs, and all work is done by licensed contractors. The Home Improvement Loan repairs or replaces existing air conditioners, heaters, roofs, electrical, plumbing, windows, insulation, floors, and paint. This program is available to low-income owner-occupied single-family residence. It is a zero interest, deferred payment loan that is due and payable in full when the owner no longer occupies the property. If you know anyone interested in either program, please have them call the office at 661-862-5026.

INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER (ILC) – Jessica Carrillo

Not in attendance. No report.

VICTIM WITNESS PROGRAM – Kayla Pinkston

Kayla Pinkston attended virtually and reported that the Kern County Victim Services Unit and Family Justice Center are located at 1315 8th Street in downtown Bakersfield, and reminds the community that services are available to victims of crime regardless of whether they choose to report the incident. The center provides comprehensive support, including criminal justice assistance, on-site law enforcement reporting, counseling, and restraining orders, as well as connections to Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance for elder abuse programs. Both programs have access to language lines and intakes can be taken over the phone for those who are not able to come into our facilities for initial services. If anyone has questions, they can call the Program Coordinator Adriana Cuadras Talamantez 661-868-5956 or Program Supervisor Kayla Pinkston 661-868-5955.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS - AASD SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION REPORT

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Jeremy Oliver

Jeremy Oliver reported the following:

FEDERAL

No updates have been shared in relation to the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) step of deferring \$1.1 billion in federal funding tied to California's In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program. House Appropriations Committee advanced the Labor-HHS-Ed FY27 funding bill with a \$3 million increase for the Older Americans Act Title III-C Nutrition Program. The proposed increase of less than 3% of current funding for the OAA Nutrition Program fails to keep pace with significantly higher costs for food, fuel and program operations faced by all providers, as reflected in the recent Consumer Price Index rose for a third straight month in May to 4.2% annually. Awaiting updates to the status of this and any potential impacts to the state budget.

STATE

The State Senate and Assembly have proposed counter options to the Governor's May revise of the state budget. The State should be sending its version of the balanced budget to the governor for review and potential line-item veto by June 15, 2026. The legislature had stated that they were not willing to adopt the proposed changes to IHSS that would shift costs to the counties or eliminate the Back Up Provider System known as BUPS. Additionally, they indicated that they were not in support of eliminating APS Expansion funding, both would have significant impact on Kern County residents.

There was also a proposal called "Be Home Soon California" that they believe will save the state \$425 million by granting Presumptive Eligibility (PE) to and transitioning approximately 15,000 individuals to IHSS from Skilled Nursing Facilities and unnecessary hospital stays. The PE will require a waiver from the federal level along with other HCBS waiver expansion provisions. This is brand new, so we are unable to assess the actual impacts and potential workloads this shift could have locally.

The proposed Medi-Cal asset limit shift was also rejected and additional funding to support counties with the federal shifts to Medi-Cal. More will be shared as the budget is fully adopted.

California is challenged by H.R. 1, federal legislation passed last summer, which has reduced our federal revenue, increased state costs, and required program changes.

DEPARTMENT

The Department will continue to monitor the changes mentioned and revise our budgets to compensate for shifts at the state level. Preliminary budget will be approved by the Board of Supervisors in June with final adoption likely occurring before October 15.

Adult Protective Services held its annual elder abuse prevention conference and continued to promote Elder Abuse Awareness for the month of June. Note today is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.

The IHSS Community First Choice Option (CFCO) penalty continues to be a high priority to minimize the penalty to the department/county. Penalty totals as of the end of March is \$288,532.64. Effective July 1 counties will pay 100% of the costs of the penalty vs current 50%.

We are pivoting to try to address the pending applications and other reassessments that are overdue. Challenges faced are high volume and staffing to keep up with the workload.

We continue exploring partnership with Eli Health for a Medicare Funded program called Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) Model. Launch of program to begin this month targeting APS clients initially and will expand to an open referral system in coming months.

The Ombudsman program was awarded to Valley Caregiver Resources, and the state is supporting the transition. The transition will occur on July 1, 2026, and more information will be shared as the location and names of who will be overseeing the program are updated.

Cooling Centers will be available June 1, 2026, based upon temperature thresholds in specific regions of the County.

OPERATING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BYLAWS COMMITTEE – *S. Bodnar; Y. Sherrell*

No report.

CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE (CSL) – *J. Lemucchi, J. Snyder*

Chair Snyder reported ongoing internal movement within CSL. This activity stems from the initial rollout of proposals, which began on June 1, 2026. Chair Snyder highlighted that their big meeting is scheduled for October 2026. In preparation, she and Vice-Chair Lemucchi will navigate numerous steps over the next several months. Further updates will be provided as they become available.

COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT – *S. Bodnar*

Commissioner Bodnar reported the following:

Recently Reappointed: None.

New Appointments: None.

Resignations/Retiring: Sherry Gomez, effective June 30, 2026, due to moving out of state.

*Expired Terms:

1. Ellen Linder – In Process, awaiting response.

*Commissioners can continue serving until they are reappointed.

Terms Soon to Expire:

1. Vivian Cao – term expires 06/17/2026
2. Sherry Gomez – term expires 06/17/2026
3. Christie Ray – term expires 06/17/2026

Vacancies:

1. District 2 - for term expiring 06/17/2026 (replacing Gloria Brown)
2. District 2 – for term expiring 09/29/2027
3. District 5 – for term expiring 06/17/2027

New Applications Received:

1. Joseph Fischer

This concludes the Commissioner Appointment Report for June 2026.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – *E. Linder*

No report.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – *S. Bodnar; S. Gomez; J. Lemucchi; Y. Prado; C. Ray; J. Snyder*

Chair Snyder reported on the Executive Committee meeting held on Wednesday, June 3, 2026. The committee primarily discussed upcoming Commission appointments and event logistics. The Kern County Fair Senior Day is confirmed for Friday, September 25, 2026, following successful outreach by Jeremy to fair representatives. Commissioners are asked to clear their schedules to assist with morning greetings. While the gates officially open at 9:00 a.m., attendees typically arrive an hour early. Commissioners will help manage the crowd, keep attendees organized, and distribute relevant informational materials. Commissioner Linder and Commissioner Parsons have accepted roles as Co-Chairs for this event and will coordinate attendance schedules for the Commission. Chair Snyder welcomed Commissioner Goodlow back to the Executive Committee, effective July 1. Commissioner Goodlow fills the vacancy left by Commissioner Gomez, who relocated to Texas. The committee provided feedback about the Elder Abuse Prevention Conference and noted that the Dodger tickets fundraiser was highly successful, thanks to Vice-Chair Lemucchi, Commissioner Juarez-Ceja, and Commissioner Cao, as well as to all who attended and helped with the event.

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) ADVISORY – A. Griffin

Commissioner Griffin presented the committee report from the May 21, 2026, meeting, noting that many updates had already been covered during Secretary Oliver's report. The department currently serves over 18,000 IHSS recipients and is currently processing applications from December 2025 and January 2026. Because these files are only in the initial intake phase and have not yet reached formal evaluation, the public is urged to remain patient and submit applications at the first sign of need. Commissioner Griffin asked if the Guiding an Improved Dementia Experience (GUIDE) program can be integrated with In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) providers. Secretary Oliver answered that this applies strictly to traditional Medicare beneficiaries. Clients enrolled in Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs) are ineligible. Commissioner Griffin added that IHSS staff are successfully clearing the backlog of challenging Community First Choice Option (CFCO) cases, which has successfully reduced compliance penalties. The meeting concluded with an acknowledgment of extreme staffing pressures. Individual workloads have escalated to over 300 clients per social worker, a significant increase from previous years when 200 and 250 cases were considered high. Commissioner Griffin highly commended the hardworking team for their dedication despite these intense caseloads.

LONG TERM CARE – V. Cao, S. Dhillon; N. Jackson; C. Ray

Commissioner Cao requested an update on the status of Commissioner Jackson. Chair Snyder reported that Commissioner Jackson remains in a care facility. Commissioner Cao inquired about the committee's authority and action steps regarding findings of this nature. Chair Snyder clarified that while Commissioners lack independent authority to act, they are mandated reporters. She confirmed that Secretary Oliver had already submitted a report to the Ombudsman. In response to Commissioner Cao's inquiry regarding follow-up and closing the loop on reports, Secretary Oliver explained that confidentiality restrictions, similar to Adult Protective Services (APS) protocols, limit the disclosure of specific investigation details. However, facility violations are posted publicly, allowing the committee to monitor citations, though not in real time. Secretary Oliver noted that receipt of a report is established via the State of California 341 form (Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse), which initiates referrals to APS and the Ombudsman. Jurisdictional oversight dictates the investigation track: skilled nursing facility complaints are routed to the Department of Public Health (Licensing and Certification), while Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs) and assisted living complaints go to the Community Care Licensing Division. The Ombudsman works across these licensing agencies based on their respective regulatory requirements. Chair Snyder noted that during the upcoming meeting in Shafter, she is hopeful that the committee will likely have a visit to one of the local facilities and looks forward to their report.

MARKETING & ORIENTATION COMMITTEE – V. Cao; J. Juarez-Ceja; M. Salazar; Y. Prado; J. Snyder

Commissioner Prado reported that the orientation for new Commissioner Parsons is scheduled for next week. Regarding the COA manual, Commissioner Prado and Chair Snyder are currently reviewing the documents, which should be finalized next month. Additionally, she extended her congratulations to Secretary Oliver and his staff for the

successful Elder Abuse Prevention Conference, noting the abundance of excellent resources shared and the valuable networking opportunities provided.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE – *B. Goodlow; N. Jackson*

No elections coming up soon. No report.

SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY – *S. Bodnar; B. Goodlow; A. Griffin; C. Ray*

The Committee provided reports on the following senior centers:

- Commissioner Goodlow:
 - **Bakersfield Senior Center (BSC):** There are logistical challenges with the senior meal program. While seniors attend morning activities at 9:00 a.m., many are refusing to travel to the off-site pickup location for their lunches at 11:00 a.m. due to the distance and a desire to remain at the center until activities conclude at 1:00 p.m. This has resulted in unclaimed meals and complaints from staff. To resolve this issue temporarily for July, a volunteer pickup schedule has been established. On Mondays, Board President Keith will pick up the meals. On Thursdays, Commissioner Goodlow will pick up the meals. Honorary Commissioner Lynch volunteered to assist, but drivers are still needed for Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The permanent kitchen facility is projected to be ready in August, though progress has been slow despite active construction.
- Parliamentarian Bodnar
 - **Ridgecrest Senior Center:** Seniors are also not happy with meal delivery in Ridgecrest. Public frustration escalated recently due to missed deliveries during county building closures, such as Election Day. Commissioner Bodnar referenced a written local newspaper article on the matter and noted that these operational issues have historically persisted over the last eight years. Moving forward, Commissioner Bodnar plans to consult with the Mayor to coordinate support for Aging and Adult Services regarding community outreach and program management.
- Commissioner Ray:
 - **Ben Austin Senior Center:** Operations are progressing steadily. While general attendance has declined, BINGO remains highly popular and well attended.
 - **Delano Senior Center:** The air conditioning issue that was previously reported at the center has been resolved.

- Commissioner Griffin:
 - **Lamont Senior Center:** The Lamont Senior Center is functioning well. The center will host a joint birthday celebration on June 23rd. Because Arvin currently lacks an official physical site, 10 to 12 seniors from Arvin will be transported to Lamont to celebrate together and promote community integration.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE – E. Linder

No report.

THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING COUNSEL OF CALIFORNIA (TACC) – S. Dhillon; S. Gomez

Commissioner Dhillon reported that the next committee meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2026, at which time she will provide a formal update. She noted her absence from the previous committee meeting but confirmed she completed a thorough review of the proceedings prior to today's session. Commissioner Dhillon forwarded a summary of the meeting highlights, primary social media content, and relevant resources to Laura for distribution to the full Commission. She noted that the materials require extensive reading and focus heavily on the impact of HR 1, takeaways from the C4A Conference, and California rural aging policy. She noted that some of the information overlaps with what was already shared by Secretary Oliver. Following the resignation of Commissioner Gomez, Commissioner Dhillon inquired whether a new alternate would be appointed to the committee. Chair Snyder confirmed the immediate need for a backup to support Commissioner Dhillon on this assignment. She requested that any Commissioners interested in filling this alternate role submit their names to herself and Commissioner Dhillon, which will allow Laura to officially notify TACC.

TRANSPORTATION – J. Lemucchi; M. Salazar

Commissioner Salazar reported that on Thursday, June 18th, he will be submitting the transportation questionnaire. What they are going to do is collect data and create a list of recommended strategies to meet the transportation needs of seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income households in Kern County. He will complete that task this Thursday. Their next transportation meeting is on July 14th at 12:00 p.m. The report that he emailed to everyone will give you some of the ideas they are going to use to collect their top five strategies. Then, they will create the overall final draft and see what could happen.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION – E. Linder; Y. Sherrell

Chair Snyder reported that the volunteer recognition event was excellently managed by Commissioner Linder. The Commission deeply appreciates the spirit of volunteerism across all our centers, with special gratitude for the efforts here in Tehachapi. The Commission truly appreciates Tehachapi for hosting the Commission at their facility, and for always making them feel welcomed.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- **Centenarian Recognition Program Parliamentarian** – Commissioner Ray shared that one application was submitted for someone turning 101 years but per the family, she is not doing well, and they do not want to do anything at this time. Maria Zaragoza will

be turning 100 years old at the end of July. We have her photo and bio but are waiting to have a family member complete the online form for the website. She's offered to send the certificate or attend a celebration and make the presentation if there is a party.

- **Caring for the Caregiver Conference** – Alzheimer's Disease Association of Kern County (ADAKC) is hosting this conference on November 7, 2026, at Hodel's Country Dining. Commissioner Bodnar shared that she and Commissioner Salazar are working with ADAKC to have the conference live streamed in Ridgecrest. The Ridgecrest Hospital has graciously offered their facility and IT team so that the caregivers in Ridgecrest can attend virtually.

NEXT MEETINGS:

EXECUTIVE MEETING	REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 1:30 pm Via Zoom If interested in attending via Zoom, please contact Laura Juarez at 661-868-1052.	Monday, July 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. Shafter Senior Center 505 Sunset Ave., Shafter, CA 93263 (COA Ex-Officio Members and the public may attend in person or via Zoom. Please contact Laura Juarez at 661-868-1052 for the link to join)

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Oliver
Secretary

JO/lj