

Kern County Commission On Aging

Kris Grasty, Chairperson
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REGULAR COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

July 16, 2018

Rosamond Senior Center
2500 20th St. W
Rosamond, CA 93560

OPENING

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Grasty called the meeting to order at 1:00 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)*

Commission Members Present:

Susan Bodnar, Gloria Brown, Aaron Flucker, Linda Fuller, Barbara Goodlow, *Kris Grasty, Norma Jackson, Jon Johnston, Antoinette Johnston, Marti Overfield, Judy Snyder

Excused Absences: Chris Barrett, Doris Duquette, Devora Gonzalez, Loron Hodge, Stephanie Lynch, Sandy Morris, ***Linda Oswald, Roger Oswald, and **Yolanda Prado

A QUORUM WAS PRESENT

Honorary Commission Members Present:

Harley Baker

Aging and Adult Services Staff Present:

Michele Gomez, Program Director
Kristian Besnard, Senior Nutrition Program Coordinator
Laura Juarez, Senior Office Services Specialist

Guests:

Valerie Rangel

AGENDA & MINUTES

POSTING:

Michele Gomez confirmed the agenda had been posted per provisions of the Brown Act.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There were no correspondences.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONERS

None.

COMMENTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Public Comments:

None.

Commissioner Comments :

Commissioner Snyder thanked the Commission for the birthday card she received.

Commissioner Jackson thanked Kristian and the Rosamond Senior Nutrition staff for the lovely lunch.

ACTION ITEMS

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes for the June 18, 2018 Regular Commission on Aging Meeting were approved.
Motion/Second/Abstained/Opposed (M/S/A/O)
Overfield/T. Johnston/ Snyder, Bodnar/None - Motion carried.
- **ADOPT BYLAWS BASED ON COUNTY COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS:** This item was tabled to September's meeting.
- **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:** The Employee Recognition will take place Thursday, August 23, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in the Golden Generation Conference Room at Aging and Adult Services. Platters of fruit and cookies will be served. Commissioner Flucker reported Commissioner Lynch, Commissioner Goodlow, Commissioner Duquette, and Commissioner Jackson will be in attendance and will help serve for this event.
(M/S/A/O) Brown/T. Johnston/None/None - Motion carried.

SERVICE PROVIDER PRESENTATIONS:

SENIOR CENTER REPORT – Kristian Besnard

Kristian Besnard reported the Southeast Desert area congregate meals for Rosamond, California City, and Tehachapi average about 80 meals each day with about 30-35 meals for Rosamond alone. The homebound meal average is between 75-80 meals each day, with 25 being delivered in Rosamond alone. The Senior Organization organizes activities at the Rosamond Senior Center. Activities are offered to the seniors daily and include monthly birthday celebrations, BINGO, chair Yoga, and outings. Fresh Rescue, which is a program through Salvation Army, brings produce, dairy, eggs, and sometimes meat to give away to the seniors on Mondays. CAPK also sends commodities the second Friday of every month. The Senior Organization is striving to do more for the seniors and continues to come up with activity ideas that the seniors might be interested in doing to keep their center active.

GENERAL SERVICES - PARKS AND RECREATION - Leslie Wallace

Not in attendance.

VETERANS SERVICE – Richard Taylor

Not in attendance.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES – Matt Constantine

Not in attendance.

KERN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES – Liliana Galvan

Not in attendance.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS) – Valerie Rangel

Valerie Rangel reported residents of Rosamond can see a DHS worker in person at the Mojave office, or they can call her directly at 661-868-8971 for assistance. They are short on staff right now for the CalFresh and Medi-Cal programs. They are currently working on renewals and are backlogged. Seniors still need to submit their renewal packets with their signature and proof of income. Valerie thanked the In-Home Supportive Services Social Workers at Aging and Adult Services for their assistance in making contact with an IHSS recipient in another county. With information provided by AASD, they were able to get in contact with their client and scheduled an interview within 1 week. She appreciates the teamwork between AASD and DHS.

EMPLOYERS' TRAINING RESOURCE (ETR) - Peggy Langels

Not in attendance.

PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES - Catherine Vasquez

Not in attendance.

INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER (ILC) – Harvey Clowers

Not in attendance.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

AASD SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION REPORT-

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Michele Gomez

Michele Gomez reported the following:

Federal News:

The funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 19 for Older Americans Act programs remain at the same level. No reductions are expected.

State News:

Governor Brown signed the State budget for FY 18/19. Some highlights related to this budget are as follows:

- Ending “cash out” in SSI. Starting June 2019, SSI recipients can apply for CalFresh (previously Food Stamps). Prior to June 2019, SSI recipients were not eligible for

CalFresh. It also allows for a hold harmless provision that benefits for households receiving CalFresh will not be changed once the SSI recipient in the household becomes eligible.

- SSP (part of SSI recipients grant) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) is being reinstated. SSP COLA was removed in 2009 but will be restored effective July 2022.
- There's over \$500 million in funding for homelessness in this budget.
- The California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) is being expanded. Previously only those 25-64 were eligible for tax credits. Now, along with the 25-64, those 18-24 and over 65 are eligible for EITC.
- California Community Transitions (CCT) was not funded and would cease to operate Jan 1, 2020 if not funded. This is the program (CCT) Harvey Clowers from Independent Living Center (ILC) does here in Kern.
- The budget increases funding to the Long Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman.
- It also includes additional funding for IHSS Administration.

County News:

- An evening County budget hearing is scheduled for July 23, 2018 at 6 pm. The budget should be passed on August 28, 2018 at 9 am as part of the Board of Supervisors Meeting.
- The City of Bakersfield has a 1% sales tax on the November ballot. If approved by the voters, city officials say it could generate \$50 million, potentially adding more than 40 support staff members in addition to the 100 Bakersfield Police Officers.
- Kern County Sheriff Donny Youngblood is asking the Board of Supervisors to place a ballot measure on the November ballot that would levy a 1-cent sales tax increase on transactions in unincorporated county areas. If passed by the voters, the measure would add 1 cent to every \$1 purchase in unincorporated county areas, or those areas outside the cities. The tax is estimated to generate approximately \$35 million for the county each year. The sheriff proposed using the money to bolster the current \$18.8 million budget deficit the county incurred two years ago when revenue from property taxes tanked. A simple majority of voters would be required to approve the tax. The funds collected by the sales tax increase would be deposited into the County's general fund and not earmarked for any specific use. The Sheriff presented the idea at the July 10, 2018 BOS meeting. The discussion will continue to the July 23, 2018 (Special evening Budget Hearing) and the regularly scheduled July 24, 2018 Board meeting at 9 am in the Board Chambers.

Department News

- Luanne Jones retired on July 4, 2018. Taking over for Luanne is Katrecia Short.
- We are about to implement automated visitor sign in using IPADs in our front lobby. This should reduce the long lines we experience in our lobby from time to time.
- Implementing Reva/Nexus in our IHSS program so rather than having new IHSS care providers attend long orientations in person, they can view the required orientation online at their leisure. New IHSS care providers will still have to come in to submit their paperwork, but this should reduce their time in our office, making it more convenient for them.

- Ridgecrest is planning to do some renovations to its senior center. This will more than likely make the center unavailable for a month, if not longer. No specific details in terms of start date and time have been given. According to the City of Ridgecrest, they are going thru Request for Proposal (RFP) now to find a contractor. If the center is not available, and depending on our options, we will plan accordingly.
- The new Delano Senior Center is opening soon, possibly in August.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE – L. Oswald, K. Grasty

No report.

CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE (CSL) – N. Jackson, M. Overfield

Commissioner Jackson reported she is talking with CSL members about submitting proposals she prepared. She is hoping to have more information at the next meeting.

COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT – L. Fuller

Commissioner Fuller reported Commissioner L. Oswald was reappointed by Supervisor Couch and her new term will expire June 17, 2020. Commissioner Fuller's term expired June 17, 2018. Commissioner Brown's term expired June 17, 2018. Reappointment letters were sent out by Laura Juarez on their behalf. Commissioner Flucker's term will expire on August 18, 2018. There was one new application received by Norma Jackson, whose term will expire September 30, 2018. There are currently no vacancies.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – A. Flucker, M. Overfield

No report.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – K. Grasty, A. Flucker, N. Jackson, J. Johnston, S. Lynch, L. Oswald, Y. Prado

No report.

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

No report.

LONG TERM CARE – C. Barrett, D. Duquette, D. Gonzalez, L. Fuller, N. Jackson, R. Oswald

No report.

MARKETING & ORIENTATION COMMITTEE – Y. Prado, D. Duquette, S. Lynch, S. Morris, M. Overfield

Chair Grasty reported the cups for the speaker gifts have been received. Writing pens for the Senior Nutrition volunteers have been ordered.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE – G. Brown; J. Johnston

No report.

SENIOR CENTER ADVISORY – A. Flucker, B. Goodlow, L. Hodge, A. Johnston, J. Johnston

Commissioner Goodlow reported she and Commissioner Flucker will be visiting various senior centers throughout Kern County, with the exception of those centers frequently visited by Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner A. Johnston.

Commissioner A. Johnston reported the seniors at the Shafter Senior Center recently went on trips to Solvang and to the Santa Ynez Mission.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE – N. Jackson

Commissioner Jackson reported she sent 2 birthday cards in July.

THE AREA AGENCY ON AGING COUNSEL OF CALIFORNIA (TAAC) – M. Overfield

Commissioner Overfield reported the next TAAC meeting will be in September 2018. They will also be talking about scams.

TRANSPORTATION – Y. Prado, L. Fuller, J. Johnston

Commissioner Johnston reported the next Transportation meeting will be July 18, 2018.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION – M. Overfield; G. Brown

Commissioner Overfield reported the Rosamond Senior Center is missing their plaque for the Senior Nutrition volunteer certificate so she will ask the COA Foundation about purchasing another plaque.

INFORMATION ITEMS -

The last in-person Ethics Training Classes for this year is scheduled for Thursday, August 2, 2018, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Board Chambers, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA. You can also take the class online at www.ca-ilg.org/ab1234compliance. Please see instructions provided by Laura Juarez on how to access the class online. Please remember to provide Laura with a copy of your certificate.

Senior Day at the Kern County Fair is scheduled for Friday, September 21, 2018 at the Kern County Fairgrounds. Commissioner Jackson will chair this event and will seek volunteers to greet seniors. Commissioner Flucker, Commissioner Jackson, and Commissioner Snyder volunteered to work the 8:00 a.m. shift. Chair Grasty and Commissioner Overfield volunteered to work the 10 a.m. shift.

The Senior Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, October 13, 2018, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Rasmussen Senior Center. Commissioner Snyder will chair the event. It will be a western theme and the committee is looking into hiring a DJ. Pacifica Senior Living is donating and preparing the food for the Senior Celebration dinner. Laura Juarez will send out the sponsor and door prize donation letters.

As a reminder, please use "Smile Amazon" when making purchases through Amazon, and select "Kern County Commission on Aging" as your charity organization of choice. A percentage of proceeds will go to the COA Foundation. Please let Chair Grasty know if you need instructions.

Commissioner Jackson and Commissioner A. Johnston reported they will not be in attendance at the September 2018 COA regular meeting. Commissioner Hodge also informed Laura Juarez that he will not be able to attend the September meeting.

NEXT MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE MEETING	REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, September 6, 2018 1:30 pm (Dark in August) Aging and Adult Services Department New Generation Conference Room 5343 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA	Monday, September 17, 2018 1:00 p.m. (Dark in August) Inyokern Senior Center 1247 Broadway Inyokern, CA 93560

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 2:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lito Morillo
Secretary