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**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TO THE KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

MINUTES

Thursday, September 20, 2018 - 1:30 P.M.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY OFFICE

5353 TRUXTUN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

GOLDEN GENERATION CONFERENCE ROOM

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Chair Flucker. The flag salute was conducted, followed by a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL: (*Chairman, **Vice-Chair, ***Secretary [non-voting])

Present:

*Aaron Flucker
Robin Freeman
Evelyn Lopez

Commission on Aging
Private Industry Representative
Individual Provider Representative

Excused Absences:

Alex Alva
Harvey Clowers
**Nickole Renee Mensch

County Administration Office Representative
Fourth District Consumer
Second District Consumer Representative

Lito Morillo confirmed a quorum was present.

Lito Morillo confirmed the agenda had been posted per provisions of the Brown Act.

Aging and Adult Services Staff:

Colleen Philley, Assistant Program Director
Laura Juarez, Sr. Office Services Specialist

INTRODUCTION OF PUBLIC AND NEW MEMBERS:

Guests:

Elizabeth Luckhardt, Investigator, Kern County District Attorney's Office
Elizabeth McKinley, Investigative Aid, Kern County District Attorney's Office

New Members:

None

ACTION ITEMS:

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MAY 17, 2018** – This Item was tabled to the November 15, 2018 meeting due to no quorum.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

None.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

- Evelyn Lopez said she is available to volunteer for health fair or senior events.
- The 2019 IHSS Advisory Meeting schedule will be on the November 15, 2018 agenda as an Action Item for review and approval.
- **Appointment Report** - The Committee Appointment report was read. There are no new appointments. Alex Alva was reappointed by CAO. His new term will expire on June 30, 2020. Harvey Clower's was reappointed by Supervisorial District 4. His new term will expire on June 30, 2020. Aaron Flucker was reappointed by the Commission on Aging and Board of Supervisors. His new term will expire on June 30, 2020. Laura Juarez will continue to work on reappointments as the term date nears. Vacancies currently exist in Supervisorial Districts 1, 3, and 5 for Consumers, and one vacancy for an At-Large Consumer. There is also one vacancy for an At-Large Care Provider. One new application has been received by Kaye Davis. There is an active recruitment for this committee. A flyer has been posted on the IHSS Advisory Committee website. There is an online application on the IHSS Advisory Committee website.

STAFF REPORTS:

Lito Morillo reported the following:

Adventist Health is building a new hospital on the corner of Coffee and Brimhall.

On August 24, 2018, the Senate passed a spending bill of \$859 billion for FY 2019. The Spending package combined funding for Department of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and related agencies. By merging annual defense spending with the majority of domestic discretionary spending, lawmakers passed this spending bill on the floor for the first time in 15 years.

It should be noted that Older Americans Act (OAA) funding is the same as last years, but in FY 2018, increases were given in various categories of the OAA. The bill goes to the House for approval. However, it's anticipated that a Continuing Resolution (CR) needs to be issued in late September to keep federal funding flowing and prevent a shutdown.

Additional federal funding is being provided to all AAA's throughout CA. Here in Kern, this additional funding will allow us to address the impacts of minimum wage, and ongoing increases in operating expenses.

The new Delano Senior Center was slated to open on September 10, 2018, however issues with a steam table has delayed that grand opening.

Ridgecrest is planning to renovate its senior center. As a result, the building will not be available starting in October through December. In the meantime, we will cook out of the California City Senior Center and will serve Ridgecrest congregate meals out of the Inyokern Senior Center, and continue Meals on Wheels delivery will not be interrupted and service will continue.

Aging and Adult Services has been meeting with 2 vendors regarding the PACE (Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly) program. This program provides for all the health care needs of those seniors participating in the program. The concept is centered around providing participants with an Adult Health Care day center, but in addition would provide transportation to and from doctor's appointments, along with other services needed for activities of daily living. Additionally, they would be looking for and providing services that would assist the participant while at home. The focus is keeping the senior in their home for as long as possible. This program is offered statewide. If successful, a new PACE center will be open in 2020 centered in Bakersfield and is open to all Kern County residents.

As part of the FY18/19 budget, the Legislature approved ending "SSI cash out." In 1974, states were given the option to increase monthly SSP grants by \$10 in lieu of providing federal food benefits to SSI/SSP recipients. This made these

individuals ineligible for Food Stamps, or what is now called "CalFresh." California was the only remaining state without this provision. This will become effective June 1, 2019.

Colleen Philley:

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) News - Colleen reported after working 100 hours, care providers can start accruing sick leave. After 200 hours, the provider can use sick leave. There is a form online on the CDSS and AASD website where they can submit their request to use sick leave online. If the sick leave is not used within that year, the time will be lost. Once the new fiscal year begins, they provider can once again begin accruing sick leave time without waiting to work another 100 hours. The sick leave can be used for their child, parent, spouse, or grandparent. They will have to use a full hour first and then can use the accrued time in half hour increments. If the provider calls in sick, they can call AASD for an emergency list in Public Authority.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES:

The 2019 in-person Ethics Training schedule has not been released. Laura Juarez will provide the information to the committee as soon as it becomes available.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. at Kern County Aging & Adult Services, 5353 Truxtun Avenue, in the Golden Generation Room.

Meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lito Morillo, Secretary

LM/lj