



Lito Morillo – Director
5357 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93309
(661) 868-1000; (661) 868-1001 FAX

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

MINUTES

Thursday, May 18, 2017 - 1:30 P.M.

PUBLIC AUTHORITY OFFICE

5357 TRUXTUN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

GOLDEN GENERATION CONFERENCE ROOM

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

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

Present:

Harvey Clowers

Fourth District Consumer

Evelyn Lopez

Individual Provider Representative

Robin Freeman

Private Industry Representative

*Aaron Flucker

Commission on Aging

Excused Absences:

Alex Alva

County Administration Office Representative

**NickoleRenee Mensch

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, Kern County District Attorney's Office

Kaye Davis, St. John Manor

New Member:

None

ACTION ITEMS:

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 16, 2017:**
The minutes for March 16, 2017 were approved as prepared.
M/S/A/O – Lopez/Freeman/Clowers/None – Motion carried.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:

Kaye Davis, of St. John Manor, reported while assisting a client with completing her application to receive IHSS services, she contacted one of the client's physicians and was told by staff there would be a \$30 fee for the Doctor to complete the physician certification form. Her client is low-income and is a Medi-Cal recipient. She doesn't feel it is right that providers in our community are charging persons who need care to complete forms that are required in order to receive services. Lito Morillo shared that there is currently no statute that prohibits the provider from charging to complete forms. There are also some medical providers who do not charge to complete forms. The physician IHSS certification form does not need to be completed by the Doctor him/herself. There's a list of allowable persons who can complete the form.

COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS:

- The Committee Appointment report was read. There are no new or recent reappointments. Robin Freeman & Evelyn Lopez's terms will be expiring soon. There are no resignations. 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. No applications have been received.
- Commissioner Flucker shared that his granddaughter received her Master's degree.

Colleen Philley

- A provider has to stay within their client's allowable hours and cannot claim more overtime than they normally would or it could cause a provider to get a violation. There are currently 211 providers who have 1 single violation. There are 18 providers who have two violations, one provider who has 3 active violations, and none who have 4 violations. The first violation is a warning. The second violation is also a warning and the provider has the opportunity to complete a self-training certification form acknowledging they read through the training material. If this form is turned in then that violation can be excused and overwritten. They will then be bumped down to a 1 violation level. If they receive another violation, they will not be able to complete the form twice. Providers who receive 3 violations are suspended from the program for 90 days. If someone receives 4 violations, they will be removed as a provider for a year and will have to complete the entire provider process if they want to become a provider again.

STAFF REPORTS:**Lito Morillo**

- Lito Morillo provided an update on our budget regarding the State shifting the cost of the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) back to the counties. The Governor released his May Revise and will fund \$400 million in State General Fund dollars to the counties the first year, and then will decrease the State's contribution each year. Kern County is still looking at close to a \$4 million deficit. Most of that is largely due to IHSS providers now receiving overtime, minimum wage increasing, and more people (close to 5,000) on the IHSS program. You will continue to see the County's cost increase, but the contribution from the State will decrease. There's a statute in the proposal that effective July 1, 2017, counties are required to negotiate with their local unions and conclude those negotiations within a 9-month period or the union has the right to appeal to the Labor Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The last Ethics training of the year will be held August 11, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Board Chambers. Please remember to provide a copy of your certificate to Laura Juarez.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES:

None.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. at Kern County Aging & Adult Services, 5357 Truxtun Avenue, in the Golden Generation Room.

Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lito Morillo, Secretary

LM/lj