

**Contra Costa County In-Home Supportive Services
Public Authority Advisory Committee
October 18, 2016
Meeting Summary**

Members present: Sydney Anderson, Wilson Cheng, Joe Juarez, Gary Gray, John Roe and Sarah Birdwell (phone)

Absent: Cathy Cratty

Staff: Jan Watson, Elizabeth Dondi and Beatriz Salgado

Roll Call and Introductions:

Chair Sydney Anderson called the meeting to order. Roll was called and the sign-in sheet was completed. A quorum was established.

Public Comment Period:

None

Individual Member Reports & Announcements:

Gary Gray showed the members the new East Bay Paratransit emergency booklet. He mentioned that the paratransit service has been very late to pick up passengers lately; sometimes as much as 45 minutes late, when the rider is only allowed to be five minutes late. Gary stated that the ride service is losing drivers to other transit agencies. He feels that they need to put additional vans on the road. He will attend the next East Bay Paratransit Service Review Advisory Committee meeting in early November.

Sarah Birdwell reported that she knows of a taxi service in Walnut Creek that owns two cabs which can accommodate wheel chair users and that the driver will take you anywhere. The company is East Bay Taxi and the number is 925-303-7979. Sarah used this taxi to attend a concert recently.

July 19, 2016 Meeting Summary:

Wilson Cheng moved and Gary seconded a motion to approve the July 19, 2016 meeting summary as written. The motion carried; see votes below:

		Meeting Summary			
		Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
1	Sydney Anderson	x			
2	Sarah Birdwell	x			
3	Wilson Cheng	x			
4	Cathy Cratty			x	
5	Gary Gray	x			
6	Joe Juarez	x			
7	John Roe	x			

REPORTS:

Fraud/QA/IHSS:

Janice Corrales, Social Worker in the Program Integrity Unit for IHSS gave a short presentation on the work performed by the unit in the months of July through September. The Quality Assurance desk case reviews for the quarter totaled 101 and 19 home visits were made. Last quarter there were 66 fraud complaints, including six from IHSS consumers and ten that originated with IHSS providers. The others came from family members (five), from county and Public Authority staff (29), from neighbors (two), data matches (ten), community social workers (two) and from anonymous phone calls (two). Thirty-one of the fraud complaints were referred for administrative action such as overpayment recoupment, 13 were referred to the state fraud investigator and five to county IHSS fraud investigators. Ten complaints were dropped and seven cases were either terminated or the authorized hours were reduced.

Staff Report:

Jan Watson mentioned the California Association of Public Authorities (CAPA) October legislative report which had been sent to the members with the most relevant sections highlighted. Jan stated that there will be a 2.76% COLA for (State Supplementary Program (SSP) effective on 1/1/17. This equates to \$4.32 per individual and \$10.94 for couples. She also mentioned SB1234 - the California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program which the governor signed into law. There are some legal issues that must be resolved before IHSS providers will be added to the program. It is unknown at this time if Contra Costa's providers will be eligible to the program as they already have a pension plan in place.

Jan reported that the Advisory Committee's revised Policies and Procedures (AKA bylaws) are now being reviewed by the County Administrator's office to see if the document needs to go to the Family and Human Services Committee (of the Board of Supervisors) for approval. The bylaws have already been reviewed and slightly

revised by County Counsel. The last step is for them to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Jan reported that the Public Authority received no bids on the emergency services RFI that was posted in late July. The RFI was revised to increase the length of the contract as well as the dollar amount. It was reposted earlier this month and also mailed out to many home care agencies in the county. The RFI will be open for 30 days to give agencies plenty of time to respond.

Jan mentioned that there is a new All County Letter from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) regarding the submission of the SOC 846 (IHSS Provider Enrollment Agreement) by providers who were active prior to February 1, 2016, when the overtime rules were implemented. CDSS is instructing the counties and public authorities to conduct outreach to those that have failed to return the completed form. The new postmark deadline date is April 29, 2017. Providers can still turn them in after that date but there are ramifications for being late. Providers who fail to return the form will be found to be ineligible to work in IHSS effective July 1, 2017. The Public Authority has already conducted outreach on these forms with some success. Now the PA is waiting on a list from the state of those providers with forms still outstanding.

Jan reported that the CDSS is going ahead with their plans to implement optional electronic timesheets in a pilot in one or two counties in May 2017, and a full rollout in June 2017. There will be a stakeholder meeting on this issue in January 2017.

Jan pointed out to the members the PowerPoint presentation sent to them on the CDSS's report to the Legislature on the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) payrolling statistics. This overview depicts information on timesheets paid, the number of overtime errors and violations, and the number of provider exemptions approved by the state (providers who are authorized to work more than the usually allowed number of hours per month).

Jan reported that the Contra Costa Health Plan for IHSS providers is raising the monthly rate effective on 1/1/17 from \$381.38 to \$416.47. There is a negotiation session scheduled for next week with SEIU 2015 regarding the allocation of the additional premium amount. This is the third rate increase since the \$24.86 provider premium went into effect in 2011.

Jan stated that the CDSS has issued a directive to the counties that each IHSS consumer must have on file an I-9 form for their provider(s) and that the county is also to keep a copy of the I-9. (The I-9 form is called "Employment Eligibility Verification" and is from the Department of Homeland Security.) To date, there has

been no decision from the county on the process to obtain or house copies of this form.

Jan asked the members if they would like to discuss changing the day of the month on which the Advisory Committee meeting is held, since a couple of members seem to have difficulty attending and that causes quorum issues. This topic will be placed on next month's agenda for discussion.

Chair Report:

Sydney reported on the Transitions Summit held on September 15th. The goal of this group of professionals is to reduce hospital readmissions. She stated that the summit had excellent speakers. She learned that Medicare will be eliminating the rule which says that a person must be an inpatient for at least three days or inpatient rehab services are not covered.

Sydney also mentioned that there may be a pilot to place all POLST (Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment) documents on an online registry so any authorized medical provider in the county could see them.

Sydney said that HICAP has published comparison charts for Medicare Advantage Plans and that she will send the email to Beatriz Salgado to send to the members.

Advisory Committee Expenditure Report:

The report for July 1, 2015 through October 11, 2016 was reviewed by the members.

Health, Safety & Education Committee:

Sydney stated that the meeting was held on September 13, 2016. She mentioned scheduled trainings which include CPR/First Aid and Alzheimer's training. Next meeting will be held on November 8th.

Rapid Response Committee Report:

Sydney stated that the meeting was held on September 13, 2016. Jan gave an update on the RFI for a home care agency to provide emergency services. The next meeting will be held on November 8th.

Nominating Committee Report:

Sarah Birdwell reported that the meeting was held today and that the nominees for Chair are Sydney Anderson, Wilson Cheng and Sarah Birdwell. Nominees for Vice Chair are Gary Gray and Wilson Cheng. The election will be held at the November meeting. Jan mentioned that an Advisory Committee candidate's application was received and there is another one pending.

Advocacy Committee Report:

Wilson gave a brief report on the last meeting held on July 19, during which topics including the BART elevators and transportation issues were discussed. There was also a short discussion on the idea of holding a disability awareness fair for the community.

California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) Report:

Joe Juarez listened to the CICA call on July 20 and reported that the entire call was about the San Francisco Public Authority's peer mentorship program. John Roe agreed to listen to the next call which will be held tomorrow at 10 AM.

Independent Living Resource (ILR) Report:

Sarah reported that the ILR is changing their board meeting date to every other month. The ILR is still looking for additional board members. They would like to have some attorneys, accountants and advocates join the board.

SEIU 2015 Report:

John reported that the fairly new union local is still being put together; the members are writing the constitution and bylaws as well as the administrative policies and procedures. The union is looking at increasing benefits for providers, including offering vision and life insurance to their members. John also mentioned the meeting scheduled next week between the county and the union regarding the increase in the CCHP rates effective 1/1/17.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

None.

Other – agenda items for next meeting

Election for Chair and Vice Chair

Discussion regarding Advisory Committee meeting day

Next Meeting: November 15, 2016
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 500 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill

Sydney Anderson, Chair

The Contra Costa County In-Home Supportive Services Advisory Committee is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to provide ongoing advice and recommendations regarding in home supportive services to the Public Authority. Any comments or recommendations made by the Committee or its members do not represent the official position of the County or any of the County's officers.