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STANISLAUS COUNTY IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

02/13/04

Committee Members Present:	Jeffrey Lambaren Kenny Brown Ora Scruggs	Jose Acosta Rose Martin Linda White	Madelyn Amaral Connie Muller
Committee Members Absent:	Dwight Bateman*	Christine Munoz*	George Sharp*
IHSS Staff Present:	Paul Birmingham Veronica Melgoza	Jan Holden	Maria Childers

*Advance notice given.

OPENING REMARKS by CHAIRMAN JEFF LAMBAREN

- Meeting called to order at 1:12 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Announcement made for public comment by Chairman, Jeff Lambaren.
- None were presented.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

- January 23, 2004 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept with no changes.

UNION UPDATE

- Jeff Lambaren announced the Union met on Monday February 9th. Prior to this meeting the County had proposed \$7.11 an hour for a one year period. When they met the Union had a counter proposal. There were three options presented with a wage and benefit presented for each option depending upon the length of the contract. The County did not make any reply to the offer. The County needs to confer again with the supervisors and see what their direction is. The County thanked them and will meet again on March 4, 2004. The county will then respond to the proposal.
- In the mean time the County will meet with the Union's financial person and discuss re-alignment funding.



BUDGET UPDATE

- Paul announced that there isn't anything really happening right now but there are a lot of things on the table. One proposal is doing away with Public Authority's. The State will consider funding Registry Service.
- The second proposal is intended to save money. The State is saying they will not participate in more than minimum wage.
- Another proposal is the Counties will no longer be required to be the Employer of Record, it will be optional.
- The State conducted reviews of assessments in 22 counties. The State concluded that 1-25% of the hours may be unnecessary or not actually provided.
- Madelyn was in Sacramento at the State Budget and Financial Review Committee. Madelyn spoke to John Vasconcellos and Sheila Kuhel and she was told that nothing could be changed unless it goes to the Legislature.
- Kristi Rosenquist, UDW said the caregiver workforce is dwindling. The Union is going to run an ad and it will say, minimum wage, no benefits, no guarantee. The Union is expecting a bad response so they can take the response to the Governor to show he needs to support workers and workers need to have a raise.
- Connie asked about drug testing. Paul said everyone has the right to have their providers fingerprinted. The County will help with the process but the recipient must pay for the fingerprint. There is no provision for drug testing.

AB 784

- Dwight was not here. There isn't anything new on this.

ANNUAL REPORT

- Kenny will have a sample at our next meeting. Kenny's computer crashed but everything was saved.

REGISTRY SOFTWARE UPDATE

- Jan will talk to Robert and they will review Madera's Program and call Madera to ask what the software costs. Jan will also have our IT people call San Francisco's IT people to find out if their program is compatible with Stanislaus County's IT system.
- Kenny believes Madera's is the easier one to work into existing computers. San Francisco's has to have a computer set up just for that and the other computers work off the assigned computer.
- Paul said we have file servers, they keep the information saved and it is backed up every night. He thinks that we could work with San Francisco's, unless it is something odd.

SURVEY

- Jeff announced that the sub-committee has a working idea of what they would like on the survey and is this something that can be integrated with an IHSS Survey and jointly funded?
- Jan sent an e-mail to accounting saying this is what we are doing and can you tell me if we have still have funds available to do it. One response was they wanted to know how much money we were talking about. We need to take information to Gina Donahue with Strategic Marketing and ask for a ball park figure about the cost of the survey.
- The committee has not spent all of its money this year. We are still doing the annual report, we still have money and maybe able to pay for the whole survey ourselves. We want to save some money for things that may come up unexpectedly.
- Jan will share with the committee the information she received on the budget. What was spent and what it was spent for.
- Paul suggested to the committee that they might want to attend a legislature hearing. The committee liked this idea.
- Linda asked if there is a way we could find out the percentage of family members who work as providers. This could also be a question on the survey.

GENERAL UPDATES/CURRENT EVENTS

- Madelyn spoke about a letter that she and her workers received from EDD. The letter said that the computers had been invaded and your name may be at risk. She suggested that everyone call EDD individually if they receive a letter. Madelyn took a copy of the letter to the Modesto Bee.

SURPLUS COMPUTERS

- Paul received a reply saying that there were no longer surplus computers available. Paul hasn't had a chance to respond in person. Paul will get back to the committee on this.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR JANUARY 23 MEETING

- Public Comment
- Union Update
- Budget Update
- Annual Report
- Software Registry Update
- Survey
- Relative Provider Information
- General Updates/Current Events
- Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned @ 2:27 PM
Veronica Melgoza, Recorder