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**STANISLAUS COUNTY  
IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
03/10/06**

Committee Members Present:

Jose Acosta	Madelyn Amaral	Dwight Bateman
Kenny Brown	Joan Blackwell	Rose Martin
Connie Muller	George Sharp	Linda White

Committee Members Absent:

\*Mary Burch                      \*Ora Scruggs

IHSS Staff Present:

Jeff Lambaren	Maria Childers	Robert Taylor
Veronica Melgoza		

*\*Advance notice given.*

**OPENING REMARKS by Kenny Brown**

- Meeting called to order at 1:10

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Kim Nevel with UDW stated that in the previous minutes it was noted that she made a comment, the comment was made by Jeff Lambaren, correction noted.
- New member Joan Blackwell introduced herself to the committee.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- March 10, 2006 minutes: Motion M/S/A to accept minutes, motion made to accept by Linda White and seconded by Dwight Bateman.



## **PUBLIC AUTHORITY**

- Jeff Lambaren stated that there needs to be a policy on offenders. The State regulations are if convicted of elder abuse, child abuse or fraud against a governmental entity there is an automatic 10 year exclusion
- Dwight Bateman asked what some of the other Public Authorities are doing. Jeff Lambaren stated that each Public Authority does different things.
- Madelyn Amaral asked if it would be possible to speak to a probation officer if someone says they did have a conviction or speak to references. Jeff Lamabaren said it may be possible if someone admits to a conviction and allows Public Authority to speak to probation/parole officer.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that he will work on putting together a statement to add to the application and bring it back to the committee and also present to County Counsel.
- Linda White stated that Joan Blackwell asked about drug testing. Jeff Lambaren said we do not do it because we would not be able to follow up and do continuous testing
- Jeff Lambaren announced that there are 129 providers on the registry and there have been 258 requests for providers.
- Jeff Lambaren spoke about the provider training, at this time it is a series of videos and the basics are explained to the providers, how to fill out timesheets, etc.
- Jeff Lambaren asked if the committee had any suggestions for improvements to the training so we could beef up the training. Jeff Lambaren asked Dwight Bateman if DRAIL would like to be involved in the training. Dwight Bateman will look into this and see if they will be able to attend. Jeff Lambaren also invited Kim Nevel with UDW to attend the training to inform the providers of the Union.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that he issued an RFP for an insurance broker, with the due date of March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The insurance broker will help us get a new insurance rate. The current policy went up about \$100.00 per person. Everyone that had insurance is still getting insurance. There are options in terms of a different carrier.
- Jeff Lambaren announced that the news letter went out. Next letter will be on nicer paper and the Advisory committee will be able to add some information, the Union and DRAILcan also include information. The newsletter will be sent out quarterly.
- Dwight Bateman asked if the newsletter went out in Spanish. Jeff Lamabren stated that it does not.
- Connie Muller suggested they ask people in the newsletter if they would prefer to receive it in Spanish. Jeff Lamabren stated that they do ask that on the newsletter. If at some point there is a sufficient demand for the newsletter to be in Spanish, the Public Authority would most likely pay an official translation service.

## **BYLAWS AMENDMENT**

- Kenny Brown went over the amendment to the Bylaws. Members who have served their terms may remain on the committee until their positions are filled, up to one year. Dwight Bateman made a motion to accept the amendment, Linda White seconded the motion, motion passed.

## **NEW IHSSAC MEMBER UPDATE**

- Joan Blackwell was introduced at the beginning of the meeting.

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

- Jeff Lambaren handed out some information on legislation and some bills regarding increasing minimum wage. There are a number of bills that will have an impact on the program. One bill is to allow 6 hours of training per year to the provider, one is to allow an hour a month for assisted medical appointments, and this is in addition to the IHSS hours that are allowed. Dwight Bateman stated that there are nineteen pieces of legislation currently that affect people with disabilities.
- George Sharp stated that DRAIL is still going through all the bills at this time

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

- Jeff Lambaren passed out a sample of the annual report. Committee members may take new pictures and change their personal info if they would like to. Frequent contact numbers will be added on the back.
- Dwight Bateman suggested that the picture of the State Capitol be removed and a picture of the Public Authority be added.
- Madelyn Amaral asked when the report would be completed. Jeff Lambaren stated it should be ready about June.
- We will take pictures at the retreat, members can take new pictures and group pictures will be taken. Committee will look at the updated sample and make any final changes. Jeff Lambaren will get 3 estimates and then the report will go to the printer.

## **BUDGET/STATE**

- George Sharp announced that things are quiet right now until the May revise.

## **ANNUAL RETREAT**

- Jeff Lambaren will be the facilitator, first part of the retreat will be reviewing the committee's action plans, second part of meeting will be team building.
- Menus were passed out, and members picked their 3 lunch choices.

## **HOT TOPICS**

- Jeff Lambaren announced that Ora Scruggs has been in the hospital for awhile now. Madelyn Amaral gave the committee an update and let everyone know that Ora is now at the Kinder Rehab Hospital.
- Jeff Lambaren stated that the committee should think about creating positions for the members whose terms come to an end. These members would not be able to vote but would be able to attend meetings, conferences, etc. There could be 3-5 of these positions, they could help with sub-committees.
- Connie Muller announced that she has written a book and now has an agent. Committee is very excited about this and is looking forward to reading her book.

## **GENERAL UPDATE**

- Robert Taylor announced that the State reviewed approximately 80 of our IHSS cases. We do not have the written report yet, but we did have an exit interview, and it was extremely positive.
- Robert Taylor announced that a Medicare and consumer alert was received. There is a phone scam that has not made it to California, but has hit Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Georgia. An entity that is contacting individuals and asking them for their checking accounts and telling them they are enrolling them in a drug plan and extorting money from them.
- Maria Childers announced that she will bring the timeline on the hearings for the guidelines from the State, it was not ready. Maria will bring it in as soon as she gets it.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:40 PM  
Veronica Melgoza, Recorder