



AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

778 W. State St., El Centro, CA 92243
800.510.2020 | 442.265.7030 | www.aaa24.org

Meeting Minutes: Thursday, October 16, 2025

Proceedings: The Imperial County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council met for a regular meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the Imperial County Workforce Development Board – Conference Room, Located at 2799 S. Fourth Street, El Centro, CA 92243.

Voting Attendees:

Cynthia Alba
AJ Gaddis
John Hernandez
Patricia Burnworth
Paul R. Monarrez
Sylvia Chavez
Manuel Sanchez
Ember Haller
Patricia Thompson
Helen Lopez
Daniel Romero
Anna M. Garcia
Benjamin Horton
Ismael Lopez
Mary Walla

Representing Sector:

District 1
District 3
District 4
District 5
Disabled Interests
League of Cities
Senior Advocate
Senior Advocate
Service Provider
Senior Legislature
Senior Legislature
Senior Organization
HICAP
Alternate At-Large
Alternate At-Large

Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

Sarah M. Enz
Joanna D. Zepeda
Karla Flores
Sofia Vasquez
Veronica Arroyo
Shawn Angulo
Gil Rebollar
Polo Salazar
Michelle Romo
Victoria Ramirez
Daniel Flores
Lupita Guitron
Gustavo Gomez

ICAAA Director
ICAAA Administrative Analyst I
ICAAA LTC Ombudsman Coordinator
ICAAA Community Service Worker
ICAAA Volunteer
ICAAA Volunteer
County of Imperial CEO Office, Deputy CEO
Catholic Charities, Program Manager, Senior Nutrition
Catholic Charities, Program Manager, Foster Grandparent/Senior Companion Programs
Elder Law & Advocacy/HICAP, Program Assistant
Access to Independence, Program Manager
Access to Independence, Information & Assistance Coordinator
Imperial County Transportation Commission, Sr. Transportation Planner

Absent:

Cheryl V. Walker
Supervisor John Hawk
Javier Moreno
Lucy M. Hendry
Ana Rodriguez
Supervisor Peggy Price

District 2
County of Imperial
Law Enforcement
At-Large
At-Large
Alternate At-Large



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Agenda Item / Action Taken:

I. FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL (MEMBERS), AND INTRODUCTIONS (GUESTS):

Chair AJ Gaddis called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. The flag salute and roll call were completed. Guests introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Romero/I. Lopez (M/S/C) to approve the minutes of September 18, 2025, Advisory Council meeting as presented. Motion carried with the following abstentions H. Lopez, Hernandez, Horton, Monarrez, and Thompson.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chair Gaddis opened the floor for comments. Gil Rebollar, County of Imperial Deputy CEO, announced that he was given the task of updating the legislative file and forming a committee to provide advocacy on any legislature or bills important to the County of Imperial Constituents. He will connect with the Legislative Committee.

Karla Flores, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, announced that October is Resident's Rights Month and that training would be provided to LTC Residents in Imperial County regarding their rights. Additional information will be sent to Advisory Council if needed.

Per request of Chair Gaddis, Karla Flores invited Advisory Council to attend the tea party organized by the Women's Improvement Club to bring awareness to breast cancer. Additional information on the event will be sent out.

John Hernandez requested additional information on the recent storms causing precarious situations in Alaska and several states in Mexico that have displaced many families.

IV. PRESENTATION:

a) Imperial County Transportation Commission – Transit Services Overview – Gustavo Gomez, Senior Transportation Planner | Regional Mobility Coordinator

Gustavo Gomez, Transportation Manager, presented an overview of the Imperial Valley Transits System, Gomez discussed the following local & regional transit service programs Imperial Valley Transit, Imperial Valley Circulator Lines, Imperial Valley Transit Access (ADA Paratransit), IVT Ride Senior Dial a Ride, IVT MedTrans, Calexico on Demand, and YCAT that services the Quechan Tribe and Yuma. Gomez finished the presentation by answering some questions and concerns from the Advisory Council.

b) Empowering Lives: The Role of C4A & California Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's) Video.

This was tabled as the previous presentation took longer than expected.

V. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM(S):

a) Review and approve the second-year update of the Area Plan 2024-2028

Sanchez/Monarrez (M/S/C) to approve the second-year update of the Area Plan 2024-2028 as presented and have the Chair signed the Transmittal Letter. The motion carried with no nays or abstentions.

b) Review and Approve Area Plan Hearing for Area Plan 2024-2028 Third Year Update

Thompson/Chavez (M/S/C) to approve the Area Plan Hearing Schedule for third-year update of the Area Plan 2024-2028, as presented. The motion carried with no nays or abstentions.



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VI. AREA AGENCY ON ANGING DIRECTOR REPORT

Sarah Enz, AAA Director, updated Advisory Council on the new logo. She shared the new logo and provided the reasons for the logo update. She also shared her experience presenting the Dementia Training at the Calipatria Congregate Meals Site. She shared pictures of the activities and stated that she enjoyed how well this was organized.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive: Chair Gaddis reported that the Committee reviewed and approved the agenda and reviewed the members' attendance, so far everyone is doing well. This concluded the report.

Legislative: Gaddis reported that the Committee submitted a written report that was attached to the agenda. Daniel Romero provided a brief legislative update and shared the upcoming activities and meetings with legislators. He provided the update as Helen Lopez had to leave. This concluded the report.

Nutrition: Patricia Burnworth reported that the Committee had monitored two sites, including El Centro and Calipatria. She reported that she enjoyed the activities at Calipatria and hopes that the other sites incorporate some of those activities. She also reported that at the Advisory Council meeting in November, members will be provided a meal from the Senior Nutrition Program. This concluded the report.

Transportation: AJ Gaddis was glad to see the presentation from Mr. Gomez from Imperial County Transportation Commission. No meeting will be scheduled until later to discuss any transportation needs for seniors. This concluded the report.

Social & Health: Manuel Sanchez reported that a meeting was scheduled but had to be cancelled. He will be working with staff to reschedule the meeting soon. This concluded the report.

VIII. INFORMATION:

Chair Gladdis advised Advisory Council to review the information attached which includes the Attendance Roster, the Member Roster, the Committee Roster, the Area Agency on Aging CSL Update, and the upcoming community events.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Chair Gaddis shared that a presence on social media is something dear to her heart and they are discussing it at the Executive Committee meetings. This concluded this discussion.

X. ANNOUNCEMENT BY MEMBERS:

Chair Gaddis opened the floor for announcements. Sylvia Chavez announced that the City of Calipatria is hosting the annual Cancer Walk on October 25th at 7:30 a.m. You can register now online or in the morning of the walk on site. The walk is 5 Kilometers.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Gaddis adjourned the Advisory Council meeting at 10:21 a.m.

Sarah M. Enz
AAA Director

Veronica Arroyo
Recording Clerk