



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, December 19, 2024

Proceedings: The Imperial County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council met for a regular meeting on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Woman’s Improvement Center, located at 320 Heber Ave, Calexico, CA 92231.

Voting Attendees:

- Cynthia Alba*
- Cheryl V. Walker*
- AJ Gaddis
- John Hernandez
- Patricia Burnworth
- Paul R. Monarrez
- Sylvia Chavez
- Helen Lopez
- Daniel Romero
- Oreda Chin*
- Benjamin Horton
- Javier Moreno
- Lucy M. Hendry
- Ember Haller

*Attendees arrived after roll call

Representing Sector:

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- Disabled Interests
- League of Cities
- Senior Legislature
- Senior Legislature
- Senior Organization
- HICAP
- Law Enforcement
- At-Large
- Alternate At-Large

Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sarah M. Enz | ICAAA Director |
| Monica V. De Leon | ICAAA Manager |
| Karla Flores | ICAAA LTC Ombudsman Coordinator |
| Sofia Vasquez | ICAAA Community Service Worker |
| Daniel Flores | ICAAA I & A Coordinator |
| Joanna Zepeda | ICAAA Analyst |
| Ivan Romero | Catholic Charities/Program Manager |
| Shawn Angulo | ICAAA Volunteer |
| Ana Corona Viscarra | ICAAA LTC Ombudsman Volunteer |

Absent:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Supervisor Mike Kelley | County of Imperial |
| Mike Lara | Senior Advocate |
| Manuel Sanchez | Senior Advocate |
| Patricia Thompson | Service Provider |
| Ana Rodriguez | At-Large |
| Ismael Lopez | Alternate At-Large |
| Supervisor John Hawk | 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 9:05 a.m. Ana Corona Viscarra led the Advisory Council in the Flag Salute. Roll call was completed. Guests introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Romero/Moreno (M/S/C) to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2024, Advisory Council meeting as presented with an abstention from Helen Lopez.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

AJ Gaddis opened the floor for comments. No public comments were made.

IV. PRESENTATION:

a) Certificate and Pin Presentation – 5 Year Milestone for Ana Corona Viscarra

Karla Flores provided the pin presentation for Ana Corona Viscarra

b) Life Cycle of Legislation – Helen Lopez, Senator, California Senior Legislature

Helen Lopez provided a presentation on Legislatives Proposals, Deadlines, Policy Committee Hearings, Committee Process, and provided information on Legislative Terms. Helen Lopez concluded her presentation with a Q & A.

V. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) Advisory Council to sign up for Area Plan Hearings for Area Plan 2024-2028 Dates

Chair Gaddis encouraged members to sign up for the public hearing for Area Plan 2024-2028.

b) Chair to appoint new councilmember to committee(s).

Members currently not sitting on a committee:

- Benjamin Horton
- Ember Haller
- Anna Rodriguez

Chair Gaddis appointed Benjamin Horton to the Transportation and Nutrition Committee, Ember Haller to the Nutrition Committee, Ana Rodriguez to the Nutrition and Social & Health Committee. Chair Gaddis appointed Sylvia Chavez to the Legislative Committee.

VI. AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Director Sarah Enz provided a brief report. Monica De Leon provided a report on our Community Virtual Education on Dementia Care and the success we had. We are in the process of hiring an ADRC employee.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Chair AJ Gaddis reported that the committee has been meeting regularly, and is thankful for everyone that is part of the Advisory Council.

Legislative Committee: Presentation was conducted.

Nutrition Committee: Patricia Burnworth provided a quick update on upcoming Site Monitoring. Catholic Charities provided an update on the increasing participation in every congregate site location.



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Transportation Committee: AJ Gaddis announced that a tentative meeting was scheduled for January 13, 2025.

Social & Health Committee: Paul Monarrez reported that a meeting will be taking place soon.

VIII. INFORMATION:

Chair Gaddis reminded members to review informational items: Information & Assistance Coordinator Reports, Ombudsman reports, Member Attendance Roster, and upcoming event list.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Chair Gaddis opened the floor for member requests. Cheryl Walker requested a postcard with AAA services to be able to share with constituents. Paul Monarrez requested a regular update from Ombudsman on the new facilities coming into the valley. He also requested an update on the Imperial County Public Health Commission.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS:

Chair Gaddis opened the floor for announcements. Cynthia Alba announced that their Winter Shelter is now open. Oreda Chin provided a reminder that the Point in Count is still actively looking for volunteers and United Way renewed a grant for a program. John Hernandez announced that he is participating in a 5 year extreme heat study on how it impacts our seniors and that he also volunteers with Comite Civico. AJ Gaddis announced that there will be a public hearing on the increase of 25% in Imperial Irrigation District electric rates.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Gaddis adjourned the Advisory Council meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Monica V. De Leon
AAA Manager

Daniel Flores
Recording Clerk