



# 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, November 21, 2024

**Proceedings:** The Imperial County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council met for a regular meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024, 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  
Daniel Romero  
Oreda Chin  
Benjamin Horton  
Javier Moreno  
Anna Rodriguez  
Ismael Lopez\*  
Supervisor John Hawk  
Ember Haller

\*attendees arrived after roll call

### Representing Sector:

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

### Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

Monica V. De Leon ICAAA Manager  
Karla Flores ICAAA LTC Ombudsman Coordinator  
Sofia Vasquez ICAAA Community Service Worker  
Daniel Flores ICAAA I & A Coordinator  
Briseno County Council  
Ivan Romero Catholic Charities/Program Manager  
Polo Zalazar Catholic Charities/Program Manager  
Guztavo Gomez ICTC Transportation Manager

### Absent:

Cheryl V. Walker District 2  
Supervisor Mike Kelley County of Imperial  
Mike Lara Senior Advocate  
Patricia Thompson Service Provider  
Helen Lopez Senior Legislature  
Lucy M. Hendry 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 9:00 a.m. Supervisor John Hawk led the Advisory Council in the Flag Salute. Roll call was completed. Guests introduced themselves.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Romero/Ismael Lopez (M/S/C) to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2024, Advisory Council meeting as presented with an abstention from Paul Monarrez.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

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

**IV. PRESENTATION:**

**a) Imperial County Transportation Commission – Program Manager Gustavo Gomez**

Gustavo Gomez, Transportation Manager, presented an overview of the Imperial Valley Transit 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 ICTC/Quechan Tribe. Gomez finished the presentation by answering some questions and concerns from the Advisory Council.

**V. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**a) Chair to appoint new council member to committee(s)**

Chair Gaddis appointed Council Member Sylvia Chavez to the Transportation Committee.

**b) Second and approve the Ad-hoc Nominating Committee's following Motions**

- I. Nominating Committee/Monarrez (M/S/C) to approve the appointment of Mr. Benjamin Horton and Ms. Lucy Hendry to the At-Large member positions with no abstentions.
- II. Nominating Committee/Hernandez (M/S/C) to approve the appointment of Ms. Ana Rodriguez to the At-Large member position left vacant with the appointment of Ms. Patricia Burnworth to the District 5 member position and for Ms. Ember Haller to be appointed to the Alternate At-Large member position left vacant by the appointment of Ms. Lucy Hendry to the At-Large member position with no abstentions.

**c) Area Plan Hearings for Area Plan 2024-2028 Second Year Update**

Sanchez/Ismael Lopez (M/S/C) to approve the Area Plan Hearings schedule with no abstentions.



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**d) Council to vote to go dark in December 2024**

Sanchez/Chin (M/S) to open the floor for discussion to vote to go dark in December 2024.

The vote was as follows:

- Cynthia Alba – Yes
- AJ Gaddis – No
- Sylvia Chavez – No
- Manuel Sanchez – No
- Daniel Romero – No
- Oreda Chin – Yes
- Javier Moreno – No
- Ismael Lopez – No
- Ember Haller – No
- Ana Rodriguez – No
- Benjamin Horton – No
- Patricia Burnworth – No

Motion to go dark in December did not carry.

**VI. AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Director Sarah Enz provided a written report.

**VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Executive Committee:** Chair AJ Gaddis reported that the committee has been meeting regularly, going over agenda items and discussing a possible retreat.

**Legislative Committee:** Written report was provided. Daniel Romero provided a summary of the written report.

**Nutrition Committee:** Oreda Chin reported that she will have to resign, and that Patricia Burnworth would gladly take over the chair position. Patricia Burnworth accepted the position and AJ Gaddis appointed Patricia Burnworth as Chair for the Nutrition Committee.

**Transportation Committee:** AJ Gaddis will set up a meeting soon. She invited new members to join the committee if they wish.

**Social & Health Committee:** Manuel Sanchez will schedule a meeting soon to continue discussing the Senior Event.

**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. No requests were made by the council.

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS:**

Chair Gaddis opened the floor for announcements. AJ Gaddis announced that she will be attending the stroll at the Salton Sea on Saturday, November 23, 2024. Cynthia Alba



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announced that the Calexico Neighborhood House will host a Thanksgiving dinner on November 28, 2024. Anybody in need of a meal is welcomed to attend. Sylvia Chavez announced that Calipatria will have an event "Christmas in the Dark" on Saturday, December 7, 2024. Oreda Chin announced that the point-in-time count committee is accepting volunteers. She will share additional information soon.

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Gaddis adjourned the Advisory Council meeting at 10:12 a.m.

Monica V. De Leon  
AAA Manager

Daniel Flores  
Recording Clerk