



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, April 18, 2024

Proceedings: The Imperial County Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Advisory Council met for a regular meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Imperial County Department of Social Services – Classroom A, located at 2895 S. Fourth Street, El Centro, CA 92243.

Voting Attendees:

Cheryl V. Walker**
AJ Gaddis
John Hernandez
Benjamin J. Horton
Paul R. Monarrez
Virginia Ward
Mike Lara
Manuel Sanchez**
Daniel Romero
Oreda Chin
Raquel V. Camacho
Javier Moreno
Sedalia Sanders*
Patricia Burnworth

Representing Sector:

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

*Member attended by phone. ** Member arrived after roll call

Non-Voting Attendees/Providers:

Sarah M. Enz Public Administrator/AAA Director
Monica V. De Leon ICAAA Manager
Karla Flores ICAAA LTC Ombudsman Coordinator
Daniel Flores ICAAA I & A Coordinator
Andrew Briseño County of Imperial Counsel
Shawn Angulo AAA Volunteer
Polo Salazar Catholic Charities/Program Manager
Ivan Romero Catholic Charities/Quality Assurance Case Manager
Cynthia Rodriguez Calexico Wellness Center/ Outreach Manager
Jose Rodriguez Calexico Wellness Center/Medical Record Intake
Agnes Zsigovics Alzheimer’s Association/Community Engagement Manager
Ana Corona AAA Volunteer
Gail Luallin AAA Volunteer

Absent:

Cynthia Alba District 1
Supervisor Mike Kelley County of Imperial
Patricia Thompson Service Provider
Helen Lopez Senior Legislature
Ismael Lopez Alternate At-Large
Supervisor John Hawk Alternate At-Large
Lucy M. Hendry Alternate At-Large

APPROVED
Van 5/6/24



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Agenda Item / Action Taken:

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

Chair Oreda Chin called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. John Hernandez led the Advisory Council in the Flag Salute. Roll call was completed.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Gaddis/Lara (M/S/C) to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2024, Advisory Council meeting as presented.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

John Hernandez commented on the new Hot Shot vehicles approval request that was presented to the Board of Supervisors in their last meeting. He commented that he did not agree that the vehicles would be purchased from an out-of-county business and that he was not able to weigh in on that decision. Hernandez discussed AB 617 which established the Community Air Protection Program. One of the goals is the reduction of ignition fumes. Approximately \$28 million is available to electrify vehicles and help with this effort. Sarah M. Enz, AAA Director explained that the reason the contract was given to an out-of-county business is because only one bidder responded to our request for bids, and in addition they had previously provided the County with these vehicles. Ms. Enz also explained that we didn't ask for electric vehicles because the County does not have the infrastructure to support that type of vehicle. However, we will keep this in mind for future purchases. Enz mentioned that the Nutrition Infrastructure Grant funds were awarded to AAA for the Senior Nutrition Program. The biggest need currently is to update our fleet of Hot Shot vehicles. Enz added that upgrades would also be made to the kitchen equipment and the congregate sites with this funding. Cheryl V. Walker agreed that an item such as this Hot Shot purchased should have been brought to the Advisory Council. She asked that any future items such as this be shared with the Advisory Council. Enz agreed and clarified that the turn-around time to purchase these vehicles was very short and the AAA needed to move quickly on this in order not to lose the funding.

No further comments received.

IV. **PRESENTATION:**

a) **Calexico Wellness Center – Senior Health Program Services**

Cynthia Rodriguez, Outreach Manager, provided an update on the Senior Health Clinics that Calexico Wellness Center has conducted around Imperial County. The mobile clinic serves seniors that are not able to come into a clinic and provides services such as vaccinations, vitals, check-ups, access to resources, and referrals.

b) **April National Volunteer Month**

Karla Flores presented certificates of appreciation to the Advisory Council and the AAA program volunteers. She introduced the Ombudsman Program volunteers, Ana Cordova and Gail Luallin, as well as Shawn Angulo, the Information & Assistance Program volunteer.

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V. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a) AAA Advisory Council presentation of Slate of Officers for term 2024-2026

Cheryl Walker presented the proposed slate of officers as follows:

- Chair: AJ Gaddis
- Vice-Chair: Paul Monarrez
- Secretary: Patricia Burnworth
- Past Chair: Oreda Chin

No nominations from the floor were received. Walker/Hernandez (M/S/C) to accept the proposed slate of officers as presented.

b) Request for Proposal – Discuss and review the Executive Committee’s recommendations for the award of the Area Agency on Aging Program allocations and issue a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Staff provided an overview of the evaluation process and the background regarding the recommendation presented today. Questions were taken from Advisory Council and answered before final vote was taken for each program. Advisory Council also requested for a committee to be formed to review RFP process.

1. RFP 1011-24 Title IIIB Legal Assistance Service Program. Monarrez/Ward (M/S/C) to recommend for Board of Supervisors to award the contract to Elder Law & Advocacy. Raquel V. Camacho abstained from this motion.
2. RFP 1012-24 Title IIIB Respite Services Program. Gaddis/Ward (M/S/C) to recommend for Board of Supervisors to award the contract to Alz-Care, Inc. Cheryl V. Walker abstained from this motion.
3. RFP 1013-24 Title III C1 & C2 Nutrition Education Services Program. Walker/Gaddis (M/S/C) to recommend for the Board of Supervisors to award the contract to HLT Nutrition Co Inc.
4. RFP 1014-24 Title III C1 Congregate Nutrition Service. Gaddis/Walker (M/S/C) to recommend for the Board of Supervisors to award the contract to Catholic Charities.
5. RFP 1015-24 Title IIIC2 Home Delivered Meals. Gaddis/Ward (M/S/C) to recommend for the Board of Supervisors to award the contract to Catholic Charities.
6. RFP 1016-24 Title IIIE Family Caregiver Support Program Respite Services Program. Gaddis/Ward (M/S/C) to recommend for the Board of Supervisors to award the contract to Alz-Care, Inc. Cheryl V. Walker abstained from this motion.
7. RFP 1017-24 Title IIIE Family Caregiver Support Program Legal Assistance Services Program. Ward/Walker (M/S/C) to recommend for the Board of Supervisors to award the contract to Elder Law & Advocacy. Raquel V. Camacho abstained from this motion.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Chair Chin had nothing new to report.

Legislative Committee: Daniel Romero reported that the committee met and additional information will be provided later.



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Nutrition Committee: Oreda Chin reported that a meeting is being planned for the near future.

Transportation Committee: AJ Gaddis had nothing new to report.

Social & Health Committee: Manuel Sanchez reported that the committee requested a presentation from Behavioral Health for their next meeting. They will also continue the discussion on the Senior Event.

VII. INFORMATION:

Chair Chin reminded members to review informational items: Member Attendance Roster, Information & Assistance Coordinator Report, and Ombudsman Report.

VIII. AREA AGENCY ON AGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Sarah M. Enz reported that additional funding will be received for dementia training. The University of San Francisco plans to visit Imperial County and hold dementia trainings. Enz mentioned that the CalzConnect budget has been accepted. The Area Agency on Aging will be receiving \$148,000 for dementia care and to hire an employee to provide information & assistance services to individuals with dementia and their families. County of Imperial is one of three (3) counties that was selected to receive funding for this program. Enz recognized the AAA Fiscal Staff for completing the Fiscal Audit with only one minor finding. Enz provided an update on the AT&T proposal to no longer be the provider of last resort for landlines. This was placed on hold due to overwhelming opposition. This concluded her report.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS:

Chair Chin opened the floor for announcements. Cheryl V. Walker announced that Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District is suing LAFCO. She asked if this could be referred to the Social & Health Committee to see if they can get someone to do a presentation on AB918 and the new insurance. Virginia Ward invited everyone to the Farmers Market in Holtville being held tonight. AJ Gaddis announced the upcoming Margarita Challenge hosted by the Imperial Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce.

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Chair Chin opened the floor for member requests. AJ Gaddis requested if the Advisory Council can re-visit implementing social media for the AAA agency.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Chin adjourned the Advisory Council meeting at 10:24 a.m.

Monica V. De Leon
AAA Manager

Daniel Flores
Recording