

MONTEREY COUNTY

COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

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MONTEREY COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, August 24, 2015

2:00 – 4:00 PM

Monterey County Government Center
2nd Floor, Monterey Room
168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, CA 93901

MINUTES

I. Call to order and introductions

Chair Lauerman called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Commissioners Present – Jose Vasquez, Henry Bergstresser, Nichole Melvin, Stella Lauerman, Tom Hicks, James Bogan, Wayne Johnson, and James Collins.

Commissioners Not Present – Mario Salazar, Gary Edwards, and Mary Ann Carbone.

Staff Present – Equal Opportunity Analyst Cynthia Juarez, Equal Opportunity Analyst Elisa Cantu, Associate Equal Opportunity Analyst Michelle Gomez and County Counsel Juan Rodriguez.

Guest – George Dixon, Director of Military & Veterans Affairs, Michael Bennett and Lori McDonnal, Special Kids Crusade.

II. Approval of Action Minutes

- The action minutes of May 18, 2015, and June 22, 2015, were approved as submitted, upon motion of Commissioner Bergstresser, seconded by Commissioner Vasquez.

III. ACTION ITEM: Confirm Appointments of Commissioners – Chair Lauerman

a. **Outreach Committee**

Chair Lauerman confirmed the appointments of Commissioners James Collins and Nichole Melvin and Chair Lauerman as Ex-Officio.

b. **Compliance Review of the County's ADA Transition Plan Committee**

Chair Lauerman confirmed the appointments of Commissioners Henry Bergstresser and Wayne Johnson and Chair Lauerman as Ex-Officio.

IV. Receive In-Home Support Services (IHSS) Report – Commissioner Hicks

- Received report from Commissioner Hicks.

V. **Receive Operation Area Coordinating Council (OACC) Report – Commissioner Collins**

- Received an oral and written report from Commissioner Collins.
- He provided a link www.alertmontereycounty.org to receive text alerts on your cell phones. He stated September is Preparedness Month and stated there are numerous trainings relating to tsunami relief, hazardous spills and active shooter response. He stated there are two distribution sites for supplies being considered which are CSUMB and Fort Hunter Liggett.

VI. **Receive and Approve the updated Commission on Disabilities Brochure – Chair Lauerman**

- Commissioner Hicks made a motion to approve the English and Spanish versions of the brochures; motion seconded by Commissioner Bergstresser to include the addition of adding the COD website to the brochures.

VII. **Receive and Approve the updated Recognition Letter Nomination Form – Commissioner Melvin**

- Chair Lauerman recommended to table this item until the Outreach Committee meets and makes all the noted recommended changes to the form.

VIII. **Certificate of Appreciation Presentation to:**

a. Steve McCullough

Chair Lauerman noted her appreciation to Steve who was not present to receive his recognition certificate.

b. Michael Bennett

Chair Lauerman presented the certificate of appreciation to Michael Bennett.

IX. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Chair Lauerman asked staff to add the following items:
 1. Goal 5 – Training
 2. Develop Roles and Responsibilities of the Standing Committees
 3. Commissioners Attendance of Commission meetings
 4. Possible Revisions to the Commission on Disabilities Bylaws
 5. Brown Act Questions
- Chair Lauerman stated Nancy Myers of Monterey County SELPA will be providing her ability awareness simulation training at our September 28, 2015, meeting.

- Chair Lauerman asked staff to invite Sam Trevino of Department of Social Services to come and give a presentation on Elder Abuse at our November meeting.
- Chair Lauerman asked George Dixon, Director of Military & Veterans Affairs to give a presentation.
- Chair Lauerman asked to add the Ad Hoc Recruitment Committee to review the Bylaws to discuss possible revisions.

X. ANNOUNCEMENT AND EVENTS

- Michael Bennett proposed to the Commission to consider an at large supervisory position to be added to our next agenda.
- Commissioner Collins announced his retirement and introduced Lori McDonnal, Director of Community Programs as his replacement representing Special Kids Crusade.
- Staff introduced George Dixon, Director of Military & Veterans Affairs representing the Department Head Council as our new Commissioner as of August 25, 2015.
- Commissioner Johnson stated they started a new program called DWELL at Deaf and Hard of Hearing Wellness Program designed to make information on medical issues and health care more accessible to deaf and hard of hearing individuals and also provide a certified sign language interpreter to communicate effectively.
- Commissioner Bogan announced the Veteran of the Year Award is going to be November 7th at the Elks Lodge and the Heros Open golf tournament will be November 14th at Black Horse Bayonet.
- George Dixon announced the Veterans Community Resource Center in Seaside will open as soon as the lease is signed. It will service all veterans and dependents with their mental and physical disabilities. He also stated that he will have a booth displayed at the Monterey County Fair.
- Staff announced that the Board of Supervisors will be adopting a Resolution Proclaiming August 26th as Women Equality Day, with a small reception immediately following at 1:30 pm in the lobby outside of the Board Chambers.
- Commissioner Johnson informed the Commission a client of his went to the doctor for memory issues. Commissioner Johnson asked his client if he understood the doctor and the client said “no”, but that he understood him. He stressed the point of effective communication because so many people think it is memory loss; when it is a lack of effective communication

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:19 pm.