

MONTEREY COUNTY

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OFFICE
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MONTEREY COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES MINUTES

November 17, 2014

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Monterey County Administration Building
Monterey Room (2092), Second Floor
168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas CA 93901

I. ROLL CALL AND GREETING OF VISITORS

Chair Henry Bergstresser called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT – Alma Almanza, Jose Vasquez, Henry Bergstresser, Mario Salazar, Mary Ann Carbone, Michael Bennett, Lilia Chagolla, Stella Lauerman, Tom Hicks, James Bogan, Wayne Johnson, and James Collins

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT – Gabriel Camacho, Steve McCullough, Gary Edwards and George Molano

STAFF PRESENT – Equal Opportunity Officer Irma Ramirez-Bough, Equal Opportunity Analyst Elisa Cantu, Equal Opportunity Analyst Michelle Gomez, Equal Opportunity Analyst Cynthia Juarez, Deputy County Counsel William “Bill” Litt, and Deputy County Counsel Juan Rodriguez

GUESTS – Roberto Garcia, Alliance on Aging

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mary Ann Carbone vice Chair to the City of Sand City introduced herself to the commission as the newly appointed commissioner. She stated she has served on various committees including the Commission of the Status of Women.
- Bill Litt, Deputy County Counsel introduced Deputy County Counsel Juan Rodriguez who will be taking over counsel for the Equal Opportunity Commission on Disabilities.
- Michelle Gomez introduced a new staff member of the Equal Opportunity Office Cynthia Juarez who comes from the County Administrative Office who will be assisting Elisa with the Commission on Disabilities.
- Mr. Roberto Garcia of Alliance on Aging Community Outreach Specialist introduced himself to the commission. Mr. Garcia is a Vietnam Veteran

and retired U.S. Marine Corps service member. Mr. Garcia stated his job is to help young people into Universities in private or public, in state or out of state as long as they pursue their dreams of becoming a professional experts in the future. Mr. Garcia stated he was born and raised in Salinas and attended local schools.

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2014**

Commissioner Vasquez, made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Commissioner Chagolla, motioned carried with two Commissioners abstaining from the motion.

IV. **PRESENTATION ON OPERATION AREA COORDINATING COUNCIL (OACC) – EMERGENCY SERVICE MANAGER SHERRI COLLINS**

A presentation was received by Sherri Collins, County Emergency Manager for the Office of Emergency Services (OES). Ms. Collins stated that a year ago one of her Emergency Planner's came before the Commission on Disabilities to encourage participation in helping OES with emergency planning for the future. She gave a progress report on where they were and how they see the Commission on Disabilities being a critical partner moving forward. She stated that the Operation Area Coordinating Council (OACC) is comprised of various organizations that coordinate county-wide disaster. She stated that every County has a disaster council that meets on a regular basis and reviews emergency plans throughout the County. OACC is comprised of public safety agencies which include fire departments and county departments. Their goal is to have a representative from the Commission on Disabilities on the core standing council which will be made up of 15 members. They will also have subcommittees referred to as affinity groups that will represent health and medical, communications, education, non-governmental organizations. Each of these affinity groups are made up of several different groups that will do their own planning and share their ideas and strategies to the core counsel to make decisions on going forward for emergency planning and strategic planning and then set the goals and objectives for each year. Ms. Collins stated that they are currently meeting on a quarterly basis to go over the ordinance and that it's their hope to have a representative from the Commission on Disabilities to be a part of this team. She plans to do a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on the OACC in the spring of 2015 for their approval.

V. **APPOINT COMMISSION MEMBER TO THE OPERATING AREA COORDINATING COUNCIL (OACC) – CHAIR BERGSTRESSER**

Commissioner Chagolla, made a motion to elect Commissioner James Collins to the Operating Area Coordinating Council (OACC) and Seconded by Lauerman, motion carried.

VI. **OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT**

a. **Action Item: Review and approve Public Announcement**

Commissioner Lauerman stated the Committee approved the Public Announcement enclosed in the agenda packet. She asked the Commissioners to provide a Bio and photograph to update the website. She also suggested to have another meeting with the Outreach Sub-Committee before the January 26th meeting. County Counsel Bill Litt confirmed with Commissioner Lauerman that this is a standing committee and they could not meet informally, but need to go through the commission staff to coordinate the meeting per the Brown Act requirements. Elisa stated that she would send out an e-mail with proposed dates.

VII. **APPOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Chair Bergstresser asked the Committee to Appoint Nominating Committee to select nominees for the election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2015.

Chair Bergstresser volunteered to nominate himself and nominated Commissioner Bennett and Commissioner Bogan to the Nominating Committee, motion carried.

VIII. **FORT ORD REPORT**

Commissioner Bennett did not have a report due to medical issues. He stated his term is ending at the end of December, but will have a report for the January 26th meeting.

IX. **IN-HOME SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT**

Commissioner Hicks reported that the IHSS group has not met since our last meeting and does not have anything to report. The In-Home Support Services group will be meeting in December and he will provide a report for the January 26th meeting.

X. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Commissioner Wayne Johnson mentioned that at our previous meeting he wanted to arrange to have a demonstration on hearing dogs. He said he spoke to the presenter and she agreed to do the demonstration.
- Election of Officers.
- Training on the Brown Act.

XI. **ANNOUNCEMENT AND EVENTS**

- Commissioner Hicks provided an update on Measure Q that funds transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. It required 66.7 % yes vote and they received 72.45 % which will fund the Mobility Programs for the next 15 years.
- Commissioner Bogan stated the groundbreaking of the Veteran's Cemetery will either be late January or early February 2015.

- Commissioner Almanza announced that this was her last meeting due to health issues. She asked that special attention be brought to making the Monterey County Government Building more accessible for wheelchair and cane users. She told the Committee to continue doing their great work.
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2015.

XII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.