

MONTEREY COUNTY COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

Minutes of

August 29, 2012 - 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

55-B Plaza Circle
Salinas, CA 93901

- I. **ROLL CALL AND GREETING OF VISITORS** – Chair Alma Almanza called the meeting to order. She welcomed all Commissioners and thanked them for attending. Deputy County Counsel Janet Holmes introduced herself to the Commission.

Commissioners Present – Alma Almanza, Lilia Chagolla, Olivia Quezada, Jose Vasquez, Stella Lauerman, Henry Bergstresser, Eric Heckman, Michael Bennett, Carmelita Garcia, Steve Matarazzo, Bob Greene and George Molano

Commissioners Not Present – Gabriel Camacho, Steve McCullough and Mario Salazar.

Guest and Staff Present – Equal Opportunity Officer Irma Ramirez-Bough, Associate Equal Opportunity Analyst Sonje Dayries, Administrative Secretary-Confidential Elisa Cantu, Equal Opportunity Specialist-Confidential Michelle Gomez, Deputy County Counsel Janet Holmes and Emergency Service Planner Sidney Reade.

II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the minutes of May 14, 2012; seconded by Commissioner Vasquez. Commissioner Garcia abstained. The minutes of May 14, were approved.

IV. TRAINING ON THE BROWN ACT

Deputy County Counsel Janet Holmes gave a presentation on the Brown Act. Commissioners were provided with copies of the presentation for their reference. Ms. Holmes reported that the Brown Act was named after Governor Edmund G. Brown, father of current Governor Jerry Brown. Ms. Holmes stated that because the Commission is an Advisory Commission to the Board, it has to comply with the Brown Act. Ms. Holmes went over the Brown Act as it applies to the Commission on Disabilities. She cautioned the Commissioners on “serial meetings”, as that is a violation of the Brown Act. Ms. Holmes stated she is always available to work with the Commission and staff if they have any questions. The Chair thanked Ms. Holmes for her presentation.

V. APPROVE ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair asked for comments or changes to the report; Commissioner Garcia made a motion to approve the 2011-12 Annual Report as submitted; seconded by Commissioner Vasquez; motion carried.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVE POWER POINT PRESENTATION

Commissioner Lauerman wanted to know who would initiate the call for the presentation. Ms. Ramirez-Bough stated she would make the calls to the cities and provide the name of the Commissioner who will be

presenting. Commissioner Lauerman asked for volunteers in presenting to the City Councils and other organizations. The following volunteered:

Commissioner Vasquez – Soledad, Greenfield, King City

Commissioner Quezada – Area Agency on Aging

Commissioner Bennett – CSUMB, Marina and Pacific Grove

Commissioner Garcia – Monterey and Seaside

Commissioner Lauerman – City of Salinas and Carmel

Commissioner Matarazzo – Sand City

There was concern as to who would provide copies. Commissioner Garcia stated that when Commissioners call the City Clerk to obtain a date for their presentation, the City Clerk will usually make the copies for the public. Ms. Ramirez-Bough stated that the power point presentation will be on the Commission's website and Commissioners can direct the public to the website to view and/or print a copy. The Chair suggested that copies be provided to the Libraries for those unincorporated areas. Commissioner Garcia inquired on how to handle questions from the public. Ms. Ramirez-Bough replied that they should be referred to the ADA Coordinator of said City. The list of ADA Coordinators is on the Commission's website. Questions regarding the unincorporated areas should be referred to Ms. Ramirez-Bough. Commissioner Lauerman stated she would translate the power point presentation into Spanish. She will also make it easier to read by having one slide per page. Commissioner Chagolla made a motion to approve the power point presentation; seconded by Commissioner Bergstresser; motion carried.

VII. REPORT ON ETHICS TRAINING

Ms. Ramirez-Bough reminded those Commissioners that have not completed the training to do so and to submit a copy of their certificate to

Ms. Cantu. The Chair stated Commissioners have until September 15th to complete the training.

VIII. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS – EMERGENCY SERVICES PLANNER SIDNEY READE

Ms. Reade of Monterey County Office of Emergency Services addressed the Commission on the importance of being prepared for a disaster. Ms. Reade stated September is National Preparedness Month. She reported on the phases of a disaster – preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. Ms. Reade stated we all should have an emergency supplies kit. She provided the Commissioners with brochures on preparing your kit and preparing your pets for emergencies. She suggested that we have three kits, one for work, home and vehicle. Ms. Reade stated that our cell phones and landlines should be registered with alertmontereycounty.org, which will notify residents of emergency situations. Ms. Reade stated they would like to have a representative from this Commission on their Operational Area Coordinating Council (OACC). Ms. Reade also mentioned that we can all be prepared by taking the appropriate training, which is 20 hrs.; it can be taken in 2 hr. modules. If interested in taking the training, go to centralcoastcert.org. Training is also provided in Spanish.

The Chair thanked Ms. Reade for taking the time to address the Commission.

IX. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Review 2011-12 Goals

Discuss having an outreach table on October 20th

COD Resource binders

Update on ADA Transition Plan

Outreach Committee Report

Appointment of Commissioner to the OACC

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Commissioner Garcia stated the old Bath House Restaurant was remodeled; it is now called the Beach House and is ADA accessible. The City is also working on the Kiddie Pool to make it accessible. The City of Pacific Grove will be holding community forums to discuss the Holman Hotel project, more information to come.

Commissioner Lauerma announced Easter Seals is having their event Walk With Me on October 20th. She suggested the Commission might be interested in having an outreach table. This item will be agenda for next meeting.

Commissioner Bennett stated today is the first day of the Para Olympics. He stated he had a chance to provide technical assistance on physical accessibility while he was in London during the summer.

Commissioner Quezada announced CCCIL is partnering with the Walk and Roll Foundation to bring a wheelchair dance in October 13th. She will provide flyers to the Commissioners.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to attend, meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.