Amended

IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 14, 2025, 12:45 PM

South Region Livewell Center
401 Mile of Cars Way
2nd Floor, Training Room 2086
National City, CA 91950

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8597078275?pwd=bFkxa2tGMGJvL0xLNU5xS3RrYlZrdz09
Meeting ID: 859 707 8275
Passcode: 172598

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:50 PM.

2. Attendance

Members		Absent Members	Guests
Nadine Branch Yolanda Ivy Angela Vittucci Blanca Paulin	Nicanora Montenegro	Sabrina Bishop	Cindy Greatrex
Members via Zoom	**AIS/IHSS Staff**	**IHSS Public Authority**	**Guest – via Zoom**
Russell Evans Charles Kirtley	Abigail Salud Gilberto Contreras-Morales Jill Dockler Erika Gonzalez Betsy Nunez	Thomas H. Johnson Denise Bernal Leonardo Madrigal	Lan Chung Don Howard Melissa Barling Anne Osborne

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM: Done.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Done.

5. INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

6. MEETING CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW: Blanca reviewed the code of conduct.

7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Angela motioned to approve the agenda, and Charles seconded. Motion Passed.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Blanca motioned; Nadine seconded. Motion passed.

9. CHAIR REPORT: Nicanora shared that she had her second leadership meeting with Blanca Paulin and Thomas H. Johnson, Executive Director at the Public Authority, and Denise Bernal (Executive Assistant). She says they went over various topics and thanked them for their time.

10. Presentation: CalABLE by Anne Osborne.

Anne, the Deputy Executive Director of CalABLE, gave an overview presentation of the program explaining eligibility requirements, contribution limits, and allowable expenses. She highlighted that CalABLE accounts can be used for a wide range of purposes that improve health, independence, and quality of life. She also emphasized the program's tax advantages and gifting options. Anne explained that the $30 annual fee for CalABLE accounts is withdrawn quarterly, with the exact amount depending on the account balance and investment options chosen. She clarified that CalABLE accounts offer tax-free growth and withdrawals if the funds are used for health, independence, or quality-of-life improvements. Melissa asked about the age requirement for disability, and Anne clarified that the account can be opened if the disability occurred before the participant turned 46, regardless of the participant's current age. Anne also described their outreach efforts, including monthly webinars, social media presence, and a mailing list, to promote the CalABLE program. Thomas suggested potential partnerships with the Public Authority to further promote the program through their website and newsletter. Anne explained that CalABLE is an online-only service with a call center to assist non-computer-savvy clients, and discussed their conservative investment portfolios, noting they manage over $225 million in assets for 16,000 account holders. The group discussed potential collaboration opportunities, including in-person enrollment assistance at Abilities Expo events.

11. REPORTS

A. Aging & Independence Services (AIS) Advisory Council	No updates.	
B. Membership	Gilberto shared that recently, Cindy Greatrex was interviewed by Nicanora and Blanca for potential committee membership. This was due to Nadine's term set to expire in December 2025. He shared that he spoke with multiple recipients who have expressed interest in participating. Gilberto said he will follow up with any members who have not completed the Ethics training.	
C. IHSS	Abigail reported on executive position movements within AIS, noting that Jennifer Bransford-Koons is now the Interim Chief Operations Officer, and Allison Boyer is the Interim AIS Director. She said the three AIS Deputy Directors will rotate to assume oversight of all AIS operations as the Interim Assistant Director, starting with Jennifer Sovay. Abigail shared that in October 2025, all AIS staff returned in person for an All-Staff Meeting, which was split into two sessions of 300 staff each. She stated that IHSS is fully staffed, besides one supervisor vacancy. Abigail introduced three AIS supervisors: Jill Dockler, Erika Gonzalez, and Betsy Núñez.	
D. Community Report	Nicanora shared that on 11/8/25, she attended a United Filipino International meeting, where she informed them about the Public Authority, the IHSS program, and the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee. She said that many attendees were pleased to learn more information about the benefits of the IHSS program. Nicanora mentioned that more outreach would be beneficial. Nadine shared that the California Association of Retired Americans (CARA) held its Zoom conference in October 2025, with approximately 300	

	attendees. She shared that the keynote speaker was California's Secretary of State, Dr. Shirley Weber, who encouraged everyone to stay focused and keep moving forward with the work that is being done. Nadine also shared that she attended the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) conference, which was well attended. She said they had numerous breakout sessions and brought back materials from the conference to share with IHSS staff and Advisory Committee Members.		
E. UDW	No updates.		
F. California IHSS Consumer Alliance (CICA)	Nadine shared that the upcoming meetings are on November 19th and December 3rd. No other updates.		
G. Public Authority (PA)	Thomas shared about the upcoming virtual Public Authority Caregiver Recognition Event on 11/18/25 from 10:00 AM-12:30 PM. He mentioned that information about the event was sent to the 44,000 IHSS caregivers throughout San Diego County, and that the event was posted on the PA's website. Thomas announced various presenters, including UDW, the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee, the Alzheimer's Association, the County of San Diego Emergency Services Office, Southern Caregivers Resource Center, Public Authority staff from the Registry and Provider Services Departments, and San Diego State's Center for Excellence in Aging and Longevity (CEAL). He also shared that during his Advisory Committee Leadership meeting with Nicanora and Blanca, one of the topics covered was regarding parliamentary training. Thomas asked Denise to send the research findings to Nicanora and Blanca to review the available options. He also mentioned that the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee's annual report is undergoing review by County staff and will ultimately be sent to the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors. Thomas asked Denise to send information to the members about the AIS Advisory Committee so that anyone interested in participating can do so. He commented that the Public Authority Deputy Directors, Meredith McCarthy and Andrea Villa, will attend the December 2025 Holiday Luncheon and meeting on his behalf. Thomas shared that the tentative agreement between the Public Authority and United Domestic Workers (UDW), and the County of San Diego has been reached and is still undergoing the ratification process, and the expected results will become available by close of business 11/21/2025. He also mentioned that the current contract is set to expire on 12/31/25, and he will share more details in the future as information becomes available. He invited the IHSS/PA Advisory Committee members to present at the PA's All-Staff meeting on 1/8/26, and the committee agreed to do so. Thomas reviewed the Advisory Committee's financial report.		

12. Old Business (discussion and possible action):

A. Committee Events:

1. **Senator Weber Pierson's Turkey Giveaway/Resource Fair-November 22, 2025, at Madison High School**– Nadine will be volunteering at this event, where they will be giving different food items for Thanksgiving, with a goal to feed 650 people.
2. **Proposed Term of Service by Advisory Committee Members-** Gilberto confirmed that the current term of service is two, two-year terms. Nicanora asked the members whether they agreed to keep the terms as they currently are and called it to a vote. **Nadine motioned to keep the terms of service as they are. Yolanda Seconded. Motion Passed.**

New Business (discussion and possible action): Nicanora reminded everyone about the Holiday Luncheon in December 2025. She also mentioned that there will be no guest speaker in January 2026, so the committee can plan for the year, and requested that each member bring ideas for goals and plans for the 2026 IHSS/PA Advisory Committee meetings.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comment.

14. MEMBER COMMENT: Nadine shared that while she was at the C4A Conference, she met Janet Heinritz-Canterbury, who is the past Vice President of CICA, and currently on the board for the Personal Assistance Services Council (PASC). She said the PASC is currently working on a handbook for caregivers, and she sat in on a couple of their sessions where she was asked to provide input.

15. NEXT MEETING AGENDA: 12/12/2025

16. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:33 PM

Minutes prepared by Nicanora Montenegro, Thomas H. Johnson, Denise Bernal, and Leonardo Madrigal