

**IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES/PUBLIC AUTHORITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**May 9, 2025, 12:45 PM**

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8597078275?pwd=bFkxa2tGMGJvL0xLNU5xS3RrYlZrdz09>

Meeting ID: 859 707 8275

Passcode: 172598

<b>1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:47 PM.</b>			
<b>2. Attendance</b>			
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
Charles Kirtley Russell Evans	Abigail Salud Joyce Palanca Farnaz Zomorrodian	Thomas H. Johnson Andrea Villa Brittany Jungman Elisia Garcia Lorena Gazca Ana Molina Leonardo Madrigal	Don Howard Melissa Barling Don Howard Belquis Erica McClure
Item	Outcome/Discussion		Action Items
<b>3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM: Done.</b>			
<b>4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Done.</b>			
<b>5. INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.</b>			
<b>6. MEETING CODE OF CONDUCT REVIEW: Yolanda reviewed the code of conduct.</b>			
<b>7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Nicanora motioned, Yolanda seconded. Motion passed.</b>			
<b>8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Yolanda motioned, Nicanora seconded. Motion passed.</b>			
<b>9. CHAIR REPORT:</b> Nadine wished those in attendance a Happy Mother’s Day. She highlighted May’s observances, Mental Health Awareness, National Military Appreciation Month, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Memorial Day; she thanked those who served. Nadine reported attending a few events, San Diego SDSU- Center for Excellence in Aging and Longevity (CEAL) Symposium, and Spark San Diego. She said the Symposium featured two films, one highlighting the Glenner Center, in which a warehouse was converted into a 1950s Town Square, which served as an adult care facility for patients with Alzheimer’s and Dementia. The second film featured Join or Die, a film about the importance of joining clubs, community, and civil engagement. There was a community resource fair after the films. She reported that she also			

attended the in-person Boards, Commissions and Committees (BCC) meeting, where they covered A-74 and ethics. The next BCC meeting will be held virtually in October.

**10. REPORTS**

A. AIS Council	No updates.	
B. Membership	Abigail thanked Angela for serving and welcomed Russell Evans to the committee. She reported that Russell’s appointment letter has been routed to Jennifer Bransford-Koons, Aging and Independence Services (AIS) Director, for approval.	
C. IHSS	Abigail said she filled her last social work supervisor vacancy. His first day was on 5/6/2025; he is currently going through training. Abigail introduced social work supervisors Joyce Palanca and Farnaz Zomorrodian.	
D. Community Report	Nicanora reported that 5/1/2025 was a very important day; there was a Rally in Chicano Park to observe International Workers’ Day. She said she attended a meeting with various organizations to discuss what is going on with Migrants. On 5/17/2025, there will be an event at the Hilton Double Tree for Involved Exceptional Parents Day, she says they expect up to 400 parents to attend. It is an event where they can learn and network. The cost is \$200 per attendee, or \$100 for a non-profit exhibitor.	
E. CICA	Nadine said she had the opportunity to sit in on the governing board. She reported that CICA is seeking personal stories from individuals to share how they are impacted by having IHSS and what it would mean to lose it. A link has been sent to Ana by Nadine for those who wish to share their stories. It is crucial to keep these services going. Nadine informed the committee that Christina Mills from California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) and Ellen Norman from the San Francisco Public Authority discussed various topics, including the historical and philosophical aspects of consumer control within the IHSS Program. There was a discussion about the possibility of removing stipends. Nadine said there is an opportunity to sit in on the Personal Assistants Council Services (PASC). She said the next CICA Lunch and Learn is scheduled for July 15, via Zoom from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM. Nadine said she will forward the details to everyone. Nadine said the CICA invoice will be paid during the upcoming fiscal year.	
F. Public Authority	Thomas reviewed the Public Authority’s Proposed Fiscal Year 25/26 Annual Budget. Thomas mentioned that approximately 80% of the IHSS Public Authority’s \$57.4 million recommended budget goes towards IHSS caregiver health, dental, and insurance benefits. Melissa Barling asked if someone has to be a member of the union to get benefits. Thomas stated that the funding for the IHSS caregiver benefits are forwarded to the United Domestic Worker’s Trust, and the union administers the benefits. He advised her to contact the Union directly and they will be able to provide more information on the eligibility requirements. Thomas also reviewed	

the committee's budget, which also included discussions about purchasing t-shirts for committee members that attend outreach events. Thomas mentioned that PA staff could review this request in more detail with committee members.

**11. Old Business (discussion and possible action):**

**A. Committee Events:**

- 1. Cooper Family Foundation Juneteenth Event (6/21/2025)**– Nadine informed the committee that it is a very large all-day event, it goes from 11 AM – 6:30 PM. She said the event will be held at Memorial Park in Logan Heights, 2975 Ocean View Blvd, San Diego, CA 92113.

**12. New Business (discussion and possible action):**

**A. Committee Nominations**

- 1. Parliamentarian** – The committee voted to resume their parliamentarian selection after training has been concluded by the members. **Blanca motioned for the vote. Angela seconded it. Motion passed.**
- 2. Chair nomination** – Nicanora was nominated to be chair. **Voting will take place in June.**
- 3. Vice Chair nomination** – **Blanca** was nominated to be vice chair. **Voting will take place in June.**
- 4. Goals (FY25-FY26)** – Nadine asked the committee to review their goals for the upcoming fiscal year
- 5. Mileage Reimbursements** – The committee would like to utilize their funds to claim mileage. **Yolanda motioned for the vote. Blanca seconded it.** Ana agreed to reach out to County fiscal to seek guidance in processing the reimbursements.

**13. Presentation –California Association for Retired American (CARA) Empowered Elder Workshop by Pamela Rodd, San Diego CARA CAT Co-Convener and Ted Kagan, CARA Member: Vial of Life:** Ted reviewed the importance of the Vial of Life and instructed everyone on how to fill it out and place it in their home so it is readily available for first responders. **Avoid Observation Units:** Pam emphasized the importance of avoiding being placed in an observation unit, as it is not covered by Medicare. Patients and their families should ask about their status daily. Beneficiaries must be admitted to be covered by Medicare. Pam also informed participants of the actions that they can take to dispute an early discharge. She reviewed the **Important Messages from Medicare** document, which outlines the following steps: Ask the hospital to provide the “Important Message from Medicare”, Appeal discharge decisions through Livanta, which is the quality improvement organization, and request a detailed notice of discharge. **Discharge Planning:** Patients can request an additional 72 hours to develop a better discharge plan at no cost. An Ombudsman representative can also be contacted for assistance. **Prescription Coverage:** Ask the hospital to fill all prescriptions at the hospital, as they are covered by Medicare, which includes hospital costs. **Advance Care Directives:** Pam also discussed the importance of advance care directives. She said advance care directives are important to share with family members and primary doctors. Melissa Barling asked if hospital social workers provide advocacy as well. Erica McClure answered that, yes, they do, and Ombudsman representatives also provide that support. Erica said that patients have rights when they are visiting their doctor as well as when they are in the hospital. Ted shared that the VA provides a medical alert button to Veterans and their family members at no cost.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Erica said the American Medical Association has additional information on patient rights.

**14. MEMBER COMMENT:** Blanca said she attended the Boards, Commissions, and Committees (BCC) training. She said she learned a lot about the County and how it has four different divisions: Land Use, Public Safety, Finance, and Health and Human Services. She says she attended the CalABLE session. She said the program is for people who want to be independent while living with disabilities. She said the program's age range has been extended; it used to be for people who were disabled at 26, however, the threshold is now 46. Nadine said CalABLE will be presenting in November 2025.

**15. NEXT MEETING AGENDA: 5/9/2025**

**16. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM**

**Minutes prepared by Nadine Branch, Thomas H. Johnson, Elisia Garcia, and Ana Molina**