



SONOMA COUNTY
IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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IHSS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes for June 4, 2007

Present: Gary Fontenot, Ex-officio member
Stan Gow, Secretary
Joann Keyston, Vice Chair
Maureen Latimer, Chair
Marie White
Sachiko Williams
Herb Willsmore

Absent: Mary Bodily
Michael Naughton
Mary Raymond

Staff: Michael Humphrey, Manager – IHSS Public Authority
Diane Kaljian, Director – Adult and Aging Services Division
Lorna Schreck, Secretary – IHSS Public Authority

Guest: None

1. Call to Order/Review Agenda for Special Meeting

M. Latimer called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M.

2. Public Comments - none

3. Governor's May Revise Budget Proposal

- A. The May Revise budget maintains the proposal to freeze the State's participation in IHSS wage and benefits at the current level in each county, which means that Sonoma County would stay at \$10.50 plus \$0.60 for benefits. The bigger concern at the state level is for counties that are still at minimum wage or have multi-year agreements with future wage increases.
- B. The Budget Conference Committee (3 Assembly Members and 3 Senators) has been set and is meeting this week. Both the Assembly and the Senate Budget Subcommittees have rejected the Governor's IHSS wage and benefits proposal.

- C. The State's trigger has been met and if either the Senate or the Assembly version of the budget were approved, the State's participation in IHSS wages and benefits would increase by \$1.00 up to \$12.10.
- D. The May Revise proposes to suspend the State's portion of the SSI/SSP COLA.
- E. D. Kaljian reported on the proposal related to funding for county social services programs for the "cost of doing business." Although counties have been receiving increased funding associated with caseload growth, there has been no increase for several years to support increased costs related to general operations (i.e. increases in salaries, health benefits, workers compensation, and services and supplies). The Administration proposes a "cost of doing business" allocation in FY 2008/2009 and beyond, but is unwilling to adjust funding for prior years.
- F. M. Humphrey distributed two letters to be sent to the Governor – one in opposition to the suspension of SSI/SSP COLA and one in opposition to the IHSS budget proposal.

ACTION:

M. White moved to send the letters as written and S. Gow seconded the motion.

H. Willsmore suggested that the letters include a statement about the cost of transportation/gas and its impact on IHSS caregivers.

M. Latimer restated the motion: to approve and mail the two letters of opposition, which will include reference to the rising cost of transportation/gas.

The restated motion passed unanimously.

- G. It was suggested that personal letters/e-mails be sent next week.
- H. M. Humphrey will alert committee members of additional issues and/or personal action members may want to take.

4. Adjournment

M. Latimer adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Submitted by Lorna Schreck, Secretary