

IHSS Public Authority of Marin Board Meeting Minutes

Date: June 3, 2025

Call to Order:

Meeting commenced at approximately 3:11 PM. Beth Gray presided initially in the chair. Michael Harris joined the meeting late and resumed the role of Board Chair.

Attendees:

- Beth Gray, Vice Chair (initially presiding)
- Michael Harris, Chair (joined late and resumed chair duties)
- Jonathan Frieman, Treasurer
- Dario Santiago, Director
- Shelley Norris Alvarez, Secretary
- Julia Hansen, Finance Manager
- Roger Rose, Board Member
- Marta Villela, Senior Registry Specialist
- Carolyn Shulman, Board Director
- Chua Chao, IHSS Program Manager

Consent Calendar:

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

No public comments received.

IHSS Manager Report (Chua):

- Vacancies for social workers are close to being filled despite budget concerns. No county hiring freeze currently.
- Discussed budget impacts from the state's May revise, highlighting:
 - Proposed shifting of compliance penalties to counties (~\$81 million statewide in FY 25-26).
 - Challenges of complying with reassessment timelines and associated fiscal penalties.
 - Upcoming limit of 50-hour work weeks for providers and concerns about staffing.
 - Medi-Cal expansion freeze effective January 1, 2026, affecting new enrollments for adults over 26.
 - Reinstatement of Medi-Cal asset limitations (\$2000 individual, \$3000 couples) potentially impacting client eligibility.

Registry Specialist Report (Marta Villela):

- Provider recruitment fluctuated significantly from January to April, with varying application completion rates.
- Reasons for incomplete applications included lack of documentation, insufficient language proficiency, and competition from higher-paying jobs.
- Outreach activities detailed, including presentations at adult schools, job fairs, and collaboration with community agencies.
- Strategic planning suggestions discussed to address future staffing capacities and recruitment effectiveness.

Financial Report (Julia Hansen):

- Current budget utilization reported at 82% for salaries and benefits, and 67% for services and supplies.
- Explained waitlist status for provider health insurance coverage due to increased Kaiser costs.
- No concerns expressed regarding the current year's budget outlook.

Discussion of Provider Trainings:

- Board discussed ongoing and upcoming provider training sessions.
- Emphasis placed on importance of training providers in essential skills such as CPR, medication management, nutrition, and proper body mechanics.
- Positive feedback noted from recent training sessions and strong attendance by providers.
- Suggestions made for additional topics and potential scheduling adjustments to maximize provider participation.

Motions to Approve Resolutions:

- **Resolution 1 (Budget Adjustment):** Approval to increase transfers in the FY 24/25 budget. Motion made by Jonathan Frieman, seconded by Roger Rose. Approved unanimously.
- **Resolution 2 (Cost of Living Adjustment):** Approval of a 2.5% cost-of-living increase for Public Authority staff. Motion made by Shelley Norris Alvarez, seconded by Carolyn Shulman. Approved unanimously.
- **Bylaws Amendment Resolution:** Tabled for further discussion.

Discussion on Assembly Bill (AB) 283:

- Board discussed concerns regarding AB 283 and potential implications for local IHSS client-directed services.
- Decision made to coordinate a special emergency board meeting to discuss AB 283 in greater detail and subsequently meet with Assemblymember Haney.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30 PM. **Prepared by:** Shelley Norris-Alvarez.