

ADVISORY BOARD ON IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS)

In-Person meeting to be held at: Silvercrest 2141 Tydd St. – Eureka	By Phone: 1-669-254-5252 By Computer: www.zoomgov.com/join Meeting ID: 160 222 1118 Pass Code: 051751
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Minutes for Regular Meeting

Monday, Jan. 26, 2025 | 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The purpose of the IHSS Advisory Board (AB) is to offer advice and make recommendations to improve the quality of services delivered to recipients of Humboldt County's IHSS Program.

Members:

* = Present (or represented)

Mimi Aubrey*, Jack Breazeal, Behavioral Health Deputy Branch Director*, Andrew Buschkamp*, Vivian Deniston*, Margaret Lewis*, Corbett Petersen, Tim Such*

Staff:

Keri Schrock, Public Authority*; Ashley Shively, Social Worker Supervisor, Danielle Sherwood*, Staff Services Analyst, Nicole Coyne, Staff Services Analyst, Emily Trutt, IHSS Social Worker/MSW candidate at Cal Poly Humboldt

Guests: None

Call to Order and Introductions:

Chairman, Margaret Lewis, called to order at 2:15 p.m.

Adjustments to Agenda: None

Discussion Items (DI):

- a) Siskiyou County. The Board of Supervisors meet every other Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. Travel will require an overnight stay; cost estimate is \$489.40. Lewis will coordinate getting on the agenda in March, she has sent an email and will follow-up with a phone call if no response. Buschkamp suggested someone with a county email address may get a better response. Such suggested contacting their clerk of the board directly. If unable to get a spot on the agenda, Lewis will opt to speak instead during public comment.
- b) Care providers seeking work (and living arrangements) on social media. Discussion tabled until Petersen can participate as he submitted this item for discussion.
- c) Buttons. The requested phrase 'there's no place like home' is trademarked and the AB does not have permission to use it. A draft button design created by DHHS Media was presented to the AB and they approved moving forward with the button order using that design.

Public Input:

Public comment on agenda items may be submitted via email to the Public Authority at ihsspublicauthority@co.humboldt.ca.us. Please submit only one comment per agenda item and only one general public comment. Pursuant to the Brown Act, the IHSS AB may not take any action on an item that does not appear on the agenda.

- No comments from public attendee(s).

AB Member Reports/Comments:

- Lewis will be meeting with all current Humboldt County Board of Supervisors in February for 30-minute meetings where she will request that they prioritize IHSS. Buschkamp and Aubrey offered to accompany her.

IHSS Program and Public Authority Updates:

- 808 E clerical staff fielded a total of 1,540 IHSS-related inquiries in the month of December. Seventy-two percent (72%) of these calls were payroll related.
- IHSS Intake received 70 applications in the month of December.
- There were 3,050 authorized cases and 3,130 enrolled Care Providers in December 2025.
- In December, there were a total of 243 Care Providers on the Registry with 4 new CPs added last month and 148 accepting new recipients.
- Payroll staff continued to be busy with initial care provider enrollment and received a high volume of calls requesting information on the wage increase for 2026 and the release of W2s. The new Fiscal Assistant has completed training at reception, been trained to take over several payroll tasks, and in between other task trainings, will begin to shadow payroll staff at the walk-up window and on phones.
- The County Board of Supervisors approved a hiring freeze on all Social Services funded positions. Exceptions can be granted by the County CAO or designee.

California In-Home Supportive Services Consumer Alliance (CICA) Update:

- The state is proposing elimination of the IHSS Back-Up Provider System (BUPS) which includes a \$2 an hour wage differential from the IHSS program.
- There is a proposal to provide all IHSS recipients with a standard allotment of hours based on averages across all cases. Counties would be responsible for the cost of hours authorized above the standard.
- Lewis reminded the group that CICA meetings are recorded and available on their website.

ACTION Items: Review/approve minutes from previous meeting(s)

- Review/approve minutes: November 2025 minutes were approved by a roll call vote, six of seven.
Motion: Buschkamp Second: Deniston Motion Passed
Aubrey-Aye
Breazeal-Aye
Buschkamp-Aye
Deniston-Aye
Lewis-Aye

Petersen-Absent
Such-Aye

- Review/approve expenses: Garberville to Eureka round trip mileage reimbursement for AB members to attend BOS meetings in February was approved by a roll call vote, six of seven.
Motion: Lewis Second: Andy Motion Passed
Aubrey-Aye
Breazeal-Aye
Buschkamp-Aye
Deniston-Aye
Lewis-Aye
Petersen-Absent
Such-Aye
- The AB approved to transfer \$500 from the previously allocated outreach budget to the travel budget for the Siskyou trip by a roll call vote, five of seven.
Motion: Buschkamp Second: Deniston Motion Passed
Aubrey-Aye
Breazeal-Aye
Buschkamp-Aye
Deniston-Aye
Lewis-Abstain
Petersen-Absent
Such-Aye

Standing agenda item

(Connie Beck, Director, Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS); Jack Breazeal, Deputy Director of Adult Behavioral Health): No updates

Agenda development for the Next Regular Meeting:

- State proposal to eliminate BUPS

Adjourn: 2:30 p.m.

Future meetings: Feb. 23, 2026 March 23, 2026 April 27, 2026

cc: Governing Board of IHSS Public Authority
cc: Connie Beck, Director, DHHS
cc: Keri Schrock, Public Authority on IHSS
cc: Clerk of the Board