


**GENERAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, July 14, 2025 | 9:30AM – 12:00 PM

**Alameda County Social Services Agency (Eastmont)**
**Maxwell Park Room**

6955 Foothill Blvd, Suite 143 (First Floor)

Oakland, CA 94605

**ACA Commissioners Present**

 Laura McMichael-Cady (Chair)  
 Priscilla Banks  
 Dori Ellis  
 Michael Goetz  
 Helen Mayfield  
 Denyse McCowen  
 John Schinkel-Kludjian  
 Barbara Price – on-line

**Commissioners Absent**

Bobby Arte Grant (Vice Chair) – Unexcused

**County of Alameda Staff Present**

 Rhoda Turner  
 Diarra Piggue  
 Jennifer Stephens-Pierre  
 Amritpal Gill  
 Min Feng  
 Zala Etienne  
 Jonathan Montano-Flores

Item	Discussion / Action Item
A. CALL TO ORDER	Meeting called to order at 9:38am Roll Call of Commissioners Quorum achieved.
B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<b>Motion</b> to accept meeting minutes from 5/12/2025 put on hold until next month due to incompliance of the Brown Act.
C. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC/STAFF	<p>Director Jennifer noted that the meeting agenda was not distributed 72 hours in advance, as required by the Brown Act. She inquired how the Commission would like to proceed with any voting items in light of this issue.</p> <p>Commissioner John Schinkel-Kludjian expressed discomfort with proceeding to a vote without first obtaining advice from the County Counsel. After discussion, the Commission agreed to postpone all voting items until the August meeting.</p> <p>The Commission provided a preliminary decision regarding the Area Plan Update.</p>



	The commissioners agreed to address the potential rescheduling of next month's General Meeting to August 4th at the Executive Meeting.
D. COMMENTS FROM THE ACA CHAIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair Laura McMichael-Cady formally introduced and extended a warm welcome to newly appointed commissioners Dori Ellis and Helen Mayfield.</li> </ul>
E. AREA PLAN UPDATE	Kim Fogel, Management Analyst, presented and explained the Area Plan update 2025.
F. AAA DIRECTOR'S REPORT	<p><i>Jennifer Stephens-Pierre, AAA Director shared the following:</i></p> <p>Administrative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jennifer noted a lingering issue regarding Commissioner Grant's attendance. She has contacted the seating entity, Supervisor Bass, to (1) notify them of the attendance concern and (2) provide them the opportunity to follow up directly with Commissioner Grant. An update on this matter is still pending.</li> <li>Discussed the 2025/2026 ACA Budget, outlining key priorities and financial considerations.</li> <li>Spoke on Strategic Planning, stating that it is time for the Commission to build out a calendar and align it with the budget.</li> <li>The new Senior Nutritionist, Zalae "Za Za" Etienne, who started on July 7th, was introduced to the Commission.</li> <li>Senior Nutritionist Zalae 'Za Za' Etienne gave a brief overview of her professional background and experience.</li> <li>A brief update was provided regarding the relocation of the Area Agency on Aging to Hayward, CA.</li> </ul> <p>Programs/Contracts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An update was provided on the Area Agency on Aging's budget and funding, including its impact on programs and services.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jennifer Stephens-Pierre briefly spoke about the USAgings Conference and shared that AAA won a national award, which she will accept at the event.</li> </ul> <p>RFP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The RFP training scheduled for today was cancelled. There is a possibility it may be moved to August 4 or a date in September, pending confirmation.</li> </ul> <p>Healthy Living Festival:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Healthy Living Festival is on September 30<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>▪ AAA is launching Visibility Campaign and will participate in the agency's Disability Awareness Campaign.</li> <li>▪ AAA will partner with the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ILC's) to host a joint webinar in October. More details will be shared later.</li> </ul> <p>AAA Monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A brief update on the AAA monitoring was presented to the commission.</li> </ul> <p>Legislation:</p> <p>It was noted that AAA is actively collaborating with C4A on Senate Bill 1249, legislation concerning the designation and jurisdiction of Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs).</p>
<b>G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	<p><b>Executive Committee:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chair Laura McMichael-Cady reported that there will be a meeting in two weeks to develop the agenda for the upcoming August 4th meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Public Relations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Commissioner Laura McMichael-Cady reported that the July, August, and September newsletter will be released soon.</li> <li>○ Commissioner Laura McMichael-Cady noted that the Public Relations Committee currently consists of herself and staff members. She invited any interested commissioners to join, mentioning that the committee typically meets before Commission meetings at approximately 9:15 a.m.</li> </ul>



- Commissioner Laura McMichael-Cady mentioned that she will try to schedule a meeting for next month.

**Legislative:**

- Commissioner Price provided an update on California Assembly Bill 2511, which mandates that skilled nursing facilities maintain on-site backup power for no fewer than 96 hours. She noted that a letter was sent to Governor Newsom on behalf of the California Senior Legislature, expressing strong opposition to the proposal to delay implementation of the law.

**Service Delivery:**

- The Service Delivery Committee took the month off.
- Commissioner Goetz provided an overview of the Service Delivery Committee meeting, including a summary of the
- It was noted that the Service Delivery Committee will pause site visits for the month of August, with plans to possibly resume in September.

**H. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Commissioner John Schinkel-Kludjian reported that he attended the Alameda County Scam Jam event and found it to be excellent.
- Commissioner John Schinkel-Kludjian informed the Commission that the utility assistance under the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is at risk of being cut at the federal level.
- Commissioner Schinkel-Kludjian urged the Commission to stay informed on developments related to Measure W.
- Hannah Hamilton, Director of the Social Services Agency, introduced Charles Sanchez, the new Management Analyst assigned to support the Advisory Commission on Aging, the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), and the Employment and General Services (EG) Department.
- Director Hannah Hamilton stated that moving forward, her office intends to keep the Commission informed of all relevant changes occurring at the federal and state levels. She emphasized a desire to engage more closely with the Commission by providing insights and support. To facilitate this, Charles Sanchez will serve as a resource for policy support and in-depth analysis.



**ACA**

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

# ALAMEDA COUNTY ADVISORY COMMISSION ON AGING

6955 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD, SUITE 300  
OAKLAND, CA 94605

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Management Analyst Charles Sanchez gave a brief overview of her professional background.</li> </ul>
I. ADJOURNMENT	Meeting adjourned at 12:04 am.