



# Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, January 12, 2023  
TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM  
LOCATION: Remote Meeting  
PRESENT: Rebecca Haifley (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), Stacie Grijalva (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*), Fay Levinson (*2<sup>nd</sup> District*),  
Becky Taylor (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Richard Gubash (*3<sup>rd</sup> District*), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (*Vice  
Chair - 4<sup>th</sup> District*), Riley Hartmann (*5<sup>th</sup> District*)  
EXCUSED: John Daugherty (*1<sup>st</sup> District*), David Molina (*Chair - 5<sup>th</sup> District*)  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)  
GUESTS: 2 members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order

Meeting convened at 12:33 PM.

Commission welcomed new District 5 Commissioner, Riley Hartmann.

2. Roll Call

3. Agenda Review

4. Approve November 10, 2022 Minutes

**Motion to Approve Minutes As Written**

Motion/Second: Levinson/Taylor

**Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Public Comment

6. New/Continuing Business:

6.1. 2021-2022 Commission on Disabilities Biennial Report

Commission considered their Biennial report and discussed Commission goals and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The document was amended to include goals and recommendations related to digital accessibility and transparency; broader impact on public policy, support for adaptive playgrounds, improvements to transportation, capacity to secure financial support, and greater community resources to support residents with disabilities during an emergency.

**Motion to approve the 2021-2022 Commission on Disabilities Biennial Report**

Motion/Second: Haifley/Grijalva

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Hartmann left the meeting.

6.2. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Leadership

Item pended to the February meeting.

6.3. Rio Del Mar Coastal Access Update

Staff provided an update on the current status of the case. County Counsel staff will be invited to the next meeting to update the Commission on how they can help.

6.4. Consider Assembly Bill 361 Statement of Findings

Staff reported that there is a strong likelihood that Governor Newsom will lift the pandemic-related State of Emergency on February 1, 2023 which could conclude the Commission's ability to meet remotely. President Biden's recent Federal state of emergency extension may allow at least three more months. Commission will discuss strategies at the next meeting.

**Motion to approve statement of findings authorizing the Commission to hold their next meeting remotely if allowable under the provisions of AB 361**

Motion/Second: Taylor/Gubash

**Motion passed** unanimously.

7. Commission Reports:

7.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report

Gutierrez-Baeza and Gubash reported that the first meeting of the committee was held in December. Twenty-two participants discussed issues impacting students with disabilities including remote attendance, remote counseling, and digital accommodations among other topics.

8. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Updates:

8.1. Recreation Subcommittee:

Gutierrez-Baeza reported that an upcoming wheelchair basketball program is being planned.

8.2. Legislative Subcommittee: No Report

8.3. History Project Report

Research intern candidate Collin Edwards introduced himself briefly during public comment. Staff will share the internship description with new Commissioners in email.

9. Staff Report:

Staff reported that many County departments are involved in the County's response to the recent storm-related emergencies. Several evacuation centers have been established as the County continues to provide emergency response resources and services.

10. Emerging Matters:

Levinson reported that National Parks are being made more accessible. Taylor shared information related to upcoming virtual meetings that may be of interest. Gutierrez-Baeza reported that Habitat for Humanity is building an ADA-accessible home locally. Grijalva reported that the Code Red registry process is not accessible to community members with vision impairments.

Haifley left the meeting.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:02 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*