

Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, May 8, 2025 TIME: 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM

LOCATION: Santa Cruz County Building, Fifth Floor – Coastlines Conference Room

701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

PRESENT: John Daugherty (1st District), Jonathan Zinnanti (2nd District), Tymothie Hale (2nd

District), Richard Gubash (3rd District) Becky Taylor (3rd District), Brenda Gutierrez Baeza (Co-Chair - 4th District), Jessica Liddy (4th District), David Molina (Co-Chair - 5th

District)

EXCUSED: Mitali Weiglein (5th District)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager), Tiffany Avila (EEO Officer)

GUESTS: No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting convened at 12:37 PM.

Commission welcomed Commissioner Hale (2nd District).

- 2. Agenda Review
- 3. Approve March 13 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written Motion/Second: Molina/Gutierrez Baeza

Motion passed unanimously.

- 4. Public Comment: None
- 5. New/Continuing Business/Action Items:
 - 5.1. Officer Elections

Motion to elect Molina and Gutierrez-Baeza as Co-Chairs

Motion/Second: Gubash/Liddy **Motion passed unanimously.**

Daugherty arrived.

5.2. Consider 2026 Meeting Schedule

Motion to approve and adopt the 2026 Meeting Schedule

Motion/Second: Molina/Gutierrez Baeza

Motion passed unanimously.

5.3. <u>Consider Support for SB 239: Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.</u>
Commission reviewed the proposed legislation and a draft letter advocating with the Board of Supervisors to urge state legislators to support the bill.

Motion to approve the draft letter as written

Motion/Second: Gubash/Molina **Motion passed unanimously.**

5.4. Unmet Transportation Needs Advocacy Update

Commission reviewed the priorities established by the RTC; however, due to the cancellation of last month's meeting and the lack of prior authorization to proceed without full Commission approval, they were unable to meet the May 1st feedback deadline. The Commission discussed ongoing concerns, including insufficient training, limited outreach, and the absence of a centralized mobility center. Staff will invite a representative from METRO to attend a future meeting and address these issues.

6. Commission Reports

- 6.1. Cabrillo College Accessibility Center Advisory Committee Report: No Report
- 6.2. Ad Hoc Collaborative Event Subcommittee Update: No Report
- 6.3. Ad Hoc Kudos Planning Subcommittee Report
 Staff will distribute nomination form and a list of former awardees Commissioners.
 Commissioners will have two weeks to return forms for the ad hoc subcommittee to evaluate.

Gubash left.

6.4. Ad Hoc Legislative Priorities Subcommittee Report : No Report

7. Commission Priority Reports:

- 7.1. Accessibility Awareness Priority Report: No Report
- 7.2. Accessible Recreation Priority Report: No Report
- 7.3. Affordable Accessible Housing Report: No Report
- 7.4. Affordable Accessible Transportation Report: No Report
- 8. <u>Correspondence</u>: None

9. Staff Report:

Staff will follow up on County vendor registrations for Molina, Liddy and Gutierrez Baeza.

10. <u>Announcements/Emerging Matters</u>:

Taylor shared her recent personal experience of ableism in the health care field. The topic will be placed on the June agenda to discuss potential opportunities for advocacy. New Commissioners Hale, Zinanti, and Liddy shared more detail on their backgrounds, community connections, and advocacy priorities.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kaite McGrew, Commissions Manager