



Karol Swartzlander, Executive Director  
Gavin Newsom, Governor

## **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, October 21, 2024**

**10:00 am – 3:00 pm**

Location: DoubleTree Hotel, "University" Room, 285 East Hospitality Lane, San Bernardino

### **1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

Commissioner Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **2. Roll Call and Establish a Quorum**

**Commissioners present:** Adelman, Brown, Castile, Cislowski, Davis, Frank, Goodall, Jauregi, Jensen, Meador, Qazi, Schmeding

**Commissioners virtual:** Lindeman, Lyford, Toppel, Campos, Perry

Staff present: Swartzlander, Coleman, Smith, Melman, Anderson

**A quorum was established.**

### **3. Approve October 21, 2024, General Meeting Agenda**

M/S/C (Schmeding /Cislowski)

**TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 21, 2024, MEETING AGENDA.**

**APPROVED.**

### **4. Approve the CCoA General Meeting Minutes from June 27, 2024**

M/S/C (Schmeding/Davis)

**TO APPROVE THE JUNE 27, 2024, MEETING MINUTES.**

**APPROVED.**

### **5. Comments from the Public on Issues not on this Agenda**

None.

**6. Chair's Comments**

Chair Brown highlighted the success of the recent California Department of Aging Day of Action.

**7. Election of Officers**

Chair Brown thanked Chair Davis and Commissioners Lyford and Cislowski for serving on the Nominating Committee. Commissioner Davis presented the Committee's recommended slate of officers:

CHAIR – Commissioner David Lindeman

VICE CHAIR – Commissioner Dana Toppel

MEMBERS AT LARGE -- Commissioners Alex Davis, Ben Juaregui, Brendalynn Goodall, Erika Castile, Janet Frank.

Commissioner Davis asked for additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, nominations were closed. Swartzlander detailed the voting process, using OnBoard and email, and pursuant to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. With 17 Commissioners eligible to vote, nine votes made a majority.

**VOTE TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED SLATE OF OFFICERS.**

M/S/C (Cislowski/Schmeding)

**APPROVED.**

Following Commissioner voting, Melman confirmed the results were unanimous in favor of the recommended slate. Swartzlander announced the election of Chair Lindeman, Vice Chair Toppel, and five Members at Large: Commissioners Davis, Jauregui, Goodall, Castile, and Frank.

Commissioner Lindeman thanked the Commission and congratulated all those elected. He expressed his excitement about the coming year's agenda and looked forward to working to achieve even more.

**8. Panel Presentation: CalAIM**

**Commissioner Ben Jauregui**, DSW, Manager, Integrated Transitional Care, Inland Empire Health Plan, Founding Board Chair, Inland Coalition on Aging, and Commissioner, Senior Affairs Commission, San Bernardino County

**Donna Benton**, PhD, Research Associate Professor of Gerontology, Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion, University of Southern California, and Director of the Family Caregiver Support Center

**Marisa Conner**, Community Health Consultant, Kaiser Permanente

Commissioner Jauregui provided an overview of CalAIM and discussed its goals and initiatives. He highlighted that CalAIM is a long-term commitment to transforming Medi-Cal. CalAIM offers Californians a more equitable, coordinated, and person-centered approach to maximizing their health and life trajectory. Members will have access to new and improved services and receive care beyond the doctor's office or hospital. The goals of CalAIM are:

- implement a whole-person care approach and addressing social drivers of health;
- improve quality outcomes, reducing health disparities, driving delivery system transformation;
- and creating a consistent, efficient, and seamless Medi-Cal system.

Donna Benton discussed the California Caregiver Resource Centers' (CRC) partnerships statewide. Currently, 11 CRSs serve in every county in California. Their focus is on family caregivers. The needs of family caregivers include education and direct care/medical needs, emotional and psychological support, respite care, managing activities, and balancing work and caregiving. She discussed diversity goals, technology use, caregiver medical tasks, characteristics of caregivers, and their own health. CalAIM includes respite services and may in the future by provide personal care and homemaker services, home modifications, and meals.

Marisa Conner discussed Kaiser Permanente's Health, Housing, and Justice: Medical-Legal Partnership Initiative (MLP). MLP embeds legal services within health care delivery to help care teams treat patients' immediate social needs and deploy upstream strategies to address the social determinants of health. Under MLP, when a care team spots a legal issue that could impact a patient's health, patients get a referral and receive legal help at no cost. The results show participants' emergency department visits and hospitalizations

decreased. The next step is to leverage existing partnerships to expand and build capacity within the CalAIM context.

## 9. **Presentation: Creating a Local Master Plan for Aging**

**Commissioner Cheryl Brown**, Chair, California Commission on Aging and IE-MPA Advisory Committee Member, Inland Coalition on Aging.

**Commissioner Ben Jauregui**, DSW, Manager, Integrated Transitional Care, Inland Empire Health Plan, Founding Board Chair, Inland Coalition on Aging, and Commissioner, Senior Affairs Commission, San Bernardino County.

**Carmen Estrada**, MPA, Executive Director, Inland Caregiver Resource Center and Treasurer, Inland Coalition on Aging, Co-Chair, IE-MPA Advisory Committee

Chair Brown reviewed the five Goals of the Master Plan for Aging (MPA), local efforts of the Inland Empire, and challenges. She stressed the importance and value of transportation services in rural areas.

Commissioner Jauregui discussed the mission of the Inland Coalition on Aging (ICA) to improve integrated care and service delivery of long-term services and support in the Inland Empire. ICA's vision is a community where older adults, adults with disabilities, and caregivers age well. The Coalition's objectives are to engage stakeholders, develop initiatives to move their mission forward, and spearhead and implement ICA projects. Commissioner Jauregui shared the expected increase of the 65+ aged population in the Inland Empire from 1980-2060 -- the largest increase in the state -- and the challenges that this brings.

Carmen Estrada stressed the importance of a strong coalition, particularly between Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, and identified the valuable Inland Empire Master Plan on Aging (IE-MPA) Advisory Committee. She stressed the value of being part of the SCAN Foundation coalitions. SCAN provided initial funding to the IE-MPA, followed by funding from CDA. Funds were used to form a local advisory committee, review existing data, hold listening sessions, create a preliminary report needs assessment, form workgroups, develop action items, identify resources, build public awareness and support, draft a local MPA, and share updates with the community. The needs assessment was continually reviewed and updated in response to public and workgroup input. A final Action Plan is expected to be released in June 2025. Estrada shared a video about the Inland Coalition Aging Master Plan on Aging.

**10. Approve amendments to CCoA Bylaws and Standing Rules**

Karol Swartzlander discussed proposed amendments to the CCoA Bylaws and Standing Rules, pursuant to the enactment of AB 2620 and SB 1249.

**VOTE TO APPROVE THE AMENDED CCOA BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES.**

M/S/C (Cislowski/Jauregui)

**APPROVED.**

**11. CCoA Committee Reports**

A. Executive Committee Report

Commissioner Brown announced that the Committee has met twice since the last General Meeting to approve the 2025 General Meeting schedule, the 2024-2026 Operational Plan, and the 2024-2025 Policy Priorities. Long Term Services and Supports was added back to the Policy Priorities to include tracking of CalAIM implementation.

B. Legislative Advocacy Committee Report

Commissioner Meador and Commissioner Adelman worked on the Legislative Advocacy Committee Procedures with staff. The document describes roles, responsibilities, and timelines, and creates a system with accountability. It is a living document to guide the Committee moving forward. A template was developed to outline legislative ideas. We currently have four concepts for sponsored legislation and other ideas are welcome. The Committee will approve these procedures, then pass them to the Executive committee for approval.

Smith provided an update of CCoA's four sponsored bills. AB 2207, Chapter 332, Statutes of 2024 (Reyes - state boards and commissions), AB 2620, Chapter 334, Statutes of 2024 (Bains - California Commission on Aging), and SB 1249, Chapter 337, Statutes of 2024 (Roth - Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act) were all passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Newsom. Although AB 1993 (Kalra - residential care facilities for the elderly) passed the Assembly and the Human Services Committee in the Senate, it was held on the Suspense File in the Senate Appropriations Committee due to cost concerns.

C. Behavioral Health Committee Report

Commissioner Frank reported on a recent discussion with guest speaker Theresa Comstock, of the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions, on Augmented Board and Care operators' ability to respond to behavioral health issues and the preparedness of the behavioral health workforce to

support older adults. Commissioners Frank and Qazi will propose legislation to support a core curriculum on the behavioral health of older adults. The committee will be monitoring Proposition 1 and reporting on its progress over the next two years.

D. Elder Justice Legislative Subcommittee Report

N/A

**11. State Stakeholder Advisory Committees and Workgroup Reports**

A. Behavioral Health Task Force

Commissioner Adelman reported on a discussion of the 988-suicide line and whether its staff is sufficiently prepared to respond to older adult calls. According to the 988-suicide line, crisis call staff is trained to respond to all ages and will at some time in the future receive additional training on “Crisis Conversations with Older Adults.”

B. Elder and Disability Justice Coordinating Council

Coleman reported that the Council is split into three subcommittees: Conservatorship/Supportive Decision Making, Protective Services, and Legal Services. Three proposals will be put forward in the coming year, one from each subcommittee:

- Create a new statewide department, the Office of the Public Guardian with an executive leadership position within the Department of Social Services
- Establish a statewide hotline to report concerns about abuse in any setting
- Recognize the need for enhancing and increasing access to civil and criminal remedies for older adults and adults with disabilities who have experienced abuse and exploitation

C. California Aging and Disability Research Partnership (CADRP)

Commissioner Lindeman shared that CADRP has met once since the June General Meeting. The primary discussion was the LGBTQ+ state survey expected to be released in the next two weeks. Preliminary findings have been reported to include significant insights to guide future work.

- D. Aging and Disability Resource Connection Advisory Committee  
N/A

## 12. Staff Report (Swartzlander)

- A. Review CCoA Work Plan  
Swartzlander announced that the Work Plan is a living document and requested that the Commissioners review it. Please send her any comments or feedback.
- B. An alumni network will be formed to allow former Commissioners to continue to serve as ambassadors, and as subject matter experts on committees.
- C. Legislative Concepts  
The new procedures for the Legislative Advocacy Committee were discussed in the Legislative Advocacy Committee meeting presentation.
- D. Coleman reported on the changes to the Travel Reimbursement Policy. Supportive forms and information are in a folder in Resources in OnBoard. Funds remain encumbered unless Commissioners request reimbursement promptly or notify us they do not intend to request reimbursement.
- E. 2025 General Meetings
  1. January 21, 2025, 10 am to 12 pm, Virtual
  2. March 11, 2025, 10 am to 4 pm, Sacramento, Hybrid  
Legislative Visits: March 12, 2025, 9 am to 4 pm, Sacramento
  3. May 22, 2025, 1 pm to 4 pm, Virtual
  4. TBD in concert with C4A Conference, September 15 – November 15, 2025, Southern California, Hybrid
- F. CCoA Committees  
Please submit your interest to Swartzlander by Wednesday, October 23, 2024.
  1. Executive Committee
  2. Legislative Advocacy Committee (5-7 members)
    - i. Federal Advocacy Subcommittee
  3. Operations and Bylaws Committee
  4. Research and Development Committee (5-7 members)
    - i. Behavioral Health Subcommittee

13. **Review Action Items**

- Commissioners to report whether or not they will submit travel expense claims for prior meetings.
- Commissioners to indicate their interest in Committees.

14. **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioners expressed appreciation for Chair Brown and her service and leadership.

15. **Public Comment**

None

16. **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:01 pm.

17. **Field Trip**

San Bernardino Area Agency on Aging, 784 E. Hospitality Lane San Bernardino, CA 92415