ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES



January 28, 2013

. Tulare County Board of supervisors

Conference Rooms A/B

2800 West Burrel Avenue

Visalia, CA 93291

**MEMBERS PRESENT: STAFF PRESENT:**

Marlene Chambers

Sharon DeMasters m

Fern Haller

Dick Johnson

Sharon Lamagno

Cheri Taylor, Chair

Don Turner

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jacob Epperson

Sam Hurtado

Kyle Melton

Betty Oswald

Tim Lutz

Dayna Wild

Sarah Shena

Bonnie Quiroz

Christine Tidwell

**GUESTS & ALTERNATES PRESENT:**

Ms. Faye Stokes, Council Alternate

Mae Brixey, Council Alternate

**1. Call to Order**

Cheri Taylor, Council Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

1. **Public Comments –** There were not public comments.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – Marlene Chambers motioned to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2012 meeting, as presented. Dick Johnson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.
3. **Announcements and Correspondence** – Dick Johnson said that the State teachers retirement system, CalSTRS has made it automatic that teachers are now signed up for Social Security benefits. This is an update from an earlier situation that Mr. Johnson had reported on.
4. **Milestone Updates**

* Marlene Chambers announced that former Council member Stella Ybarra is doing well, getting out, and socializing.
* Council alternate Mae Brixey announced she had moved into an assisted living situation. She said the next “cause” she will be taking up is making sure senior environments include mental stimulus.

1. **Report on Council Membership** – Kyle Melton said his assignment was two-fold: to find out from the current alternates if they wish to continue serving this coming year. He said several alternates voiced the opinion that if any seats became available, they would like to be appointed to a Council seat.

George Patterson, who had initially requested to be reappointed to the seat he currently holds, said that due to increasing health issues, he will be resigning off the Council.

Mr. Melton also said that two Council members have not been in attendance for an excess of 12 months and as Membership Committee Chair, it is his recommendation that those Council seats be declared vacated (Tulare County Seats #1 held by Sam Hurtado and Seat #2 held by Jacob Epperson). He noted the Bylaws state that five from regular scheduled meetings in any twelve-month period constitutes grounds for corrective action/or dismissal procedures. By a show of hands it was the consensus of the Council that these seats be declared vacant. Ms. Taylor noted that anyone can be part of the Council committees and participate in that capacity but the Council needs to be able to operate at full capacity.

Mr. Lutz suggested that since the members are appointed by the Boards of Supervisors or the Governing Board, the Council should bring the report to the Governing Board meeting to get feedback and direction from the Board. The Council Chair will address the issue at the January Governing Board meeting in her report.

1. **Changes to Council Bylaws –** Don Turner read the proposed Bylaws changes, prior to the changes being sent to Tulare County Council for review. These changes it is hoped will provide flexibility in the bylaws in an effort to help avoid the need for too many further revisions. Changes include:

Article I, Section 2B (changes in pink): The Advisory Council shall hold quarterly meetings, unless the Chair orders otherwise in advance. Time and place of meetings shall be determined by the Advisory Council. Written notice of each meeting shall be sent to all members and posted as required by law.

Article II, Section IE: A pool of alternate members maybe appointed by each Advisory Council member. Alternate members shall have all rights and privileges of Advisory Council membership except that they may not hold office and may vote only in the absence of a Council member. Alternate members must be approved by the Advisory Council.

Article II, Section IIA: The term of membership on the Advisory Council shall be four years; full terms shall begin on January 1. Members may serve for three 4-year terms or until a successor is seated. Members may not serve more than two consecutive 4-year terms except those who are appointed to complete a term to which some other person was appointed but resigned or is no longer a member.

Article III, Section 6A & B: Section 6:

A. In odd-numbered years, the Advisory Council shall electa Nominating Committee of three members (one from Kings County and two from Tulare County) from the general membership of the Advisory Council. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for the offices to be elected at the last meeting of the year, and as needed should vacancies occur. The Nominating Committee shall secure the consent of each nominee before announcing him/her as a candidate and shall report its slate of officers at the last Advisory Council meeting of the year (or as needed in the case of filling vacancies). Nominations shall also be accepted from the floor byany member of the Advisory Council at that time.

B. Elections shall be held by the Advisory Council on odd-numbered years, at the last meeting of the calendar year. Officers are elected to serve for two years or until their successors are elected**.** Terms shall begin January 1 of even-numbered years and expire on December 31 of odd-numbered years.

Council Liaison, Christine Tidwell suggested eliminating the term limits, rather than increasing the term limit to three (3) four-year terms. She said in looking at several other Advisory committees, she noted that the Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency Health Advisory Committee bylaws simply state: “No term limitations.”

Cheri Taylor said that best practices indicate terms are very important and in eliminating that limitation, it would be violating that principle. Mr. Lutz said that there are situations where there is more pressure to limit terms, but in this case that could probably be relaxed and it would be a preference of the Council, since it could really go either way. Ms. DeMasters said she feels the term limit criteria interferes with membership because it prevents strong, interested persons from continuing in service on the Council. By a show of hands, the Council decided to include “No term limit,” language.

Ms. Taylor said that there will be another reading of the changes on January 28, 2013, at the next Council meeting and action will be taken on the changes at that time, before routing them for review to County Counsel.

1. **Looking Back and Looking Ahead** – Ms. Taylor reviewed with the Council various accomplishment of the Council over the years, and then asked Council members to contribute other ideas of what they could think of. Accomplishments mentioned included, (but are not limited to,) the Omnibus contract between the K/T AAA and Kings County; creation of K/T AAA Council Logo; creation of a Council brochure; streamlining the Nutrition Program; introducing the idea of Council alternates; implementing renovations and improvements at the seniors centers; creating the Caregiver surveys for the Area Plan; and brining new activities and classes to the centers.

1. **Additional Member Comments** – No additional comments.
2. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

**NEXT:**

**Governing Board Meeting**

**January 28, 2013**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Conference Rooms A/B Tulare County Board of Supervisors**

**2900 W. Burrel**

**Visalia, CA 93221**

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**Advisory Council Meeting**

**January 28, 2013**

**To follow Governing Board meeting in**

**Conference Rooms A/B Tulare County Board of Supervisors**

**2900 W. Burrel**

**Visalia, CA 93221**