



Santa Cruz County Latino Affairs Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, February 4, 2026

TIME: 6:00PM

LOCATION: United Way of Santa Cruz County, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola, CA 95010

PRESENT: Yadira Flores-Martinez (*1st District*), Oscar Sanchez (*2nd District*), Cassandra Flores (*3rd District*), Jaime Longoria (*5th District*), Emmanuel Nevarez (*City of Santa Cruz*), Micaela Lopez (*City of Watsonville*)

EXCUSED: Cesar De Santos (*4th District*), Bibiana Rocha (*City of Watsonville*)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)

GUESTS: Connie Moreno-Peraza (*Health Services Agency Director*), Sandra Hughes (*HSA Communications Officer*) and 7 members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:07 PM.

2. Moment of Silence to Recognize the Many Individuals Who have Lost Their Lives under the Banner of Immigration Enforcement

3. Approve December 3, 2025 Minutes

Motion to approve minutes as written.

Motion/Second: Sanchez/Nevarez

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment

5. New Business/Continuing Business/Action Items

5.1. County Health Services Update

Moreno-Peraza provided an overview of SB81 (new requirements related to sharing of medical information and access to nonpublic areas of health care facilities) and a review of County Health Services Agency (HSA) policies related to implementation and staff training. HSA began planning for implementation as early as January 2025 in preparation for the January 2026 effective date. They implemented a robust staff training program, as well as other activities including Know Your Right Red Card Distribution, Childcare Safety Planning, and other legal resources. Relevant HSA policies include HSA Policy 406 (immigration enforcement interaction procedures) HSA Policy 407 (staff procedures for responding to requests for HSA records). Concerns included potential data sharing between the County, State, and federal government; gaps in safety planning for pets; and whether immigrants are receiving adequate support to complete childcare safety plans, particularly given hesitancy to attend workshops. Longoria suggested distributing masks with Know Your Rights cards to help protect anonymity, and it was noted that mobile services are being implemented to better address community health needs.

Lopez arrived.

5.2. Consider Immigration Solutions Advocacy Letter

Commission reviewed an advocacy letter drafted by the Ad Hoc Immigration Solutions Letter subcommittee and amended it for clarification.

Motion to approve the Immigration Solutions Advocacy Letter as amended and submit it to the Board of Supervisors.

Motion/Second: Nevarez/Longoria

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Commissioner Reports:

6.1. District 1 (*Flores-Martinez*)

Flores-Martinez reported that YARR is patrolling the Live Oak School District and that the effort has been well received by the community. She also noted that a recent protest march was well attended.

6.2. District 2 (*Sanchez*)

Sanchez reported an anticipated decrease in Medi-Cal enrollment and emphasized the importance of supporting community members with the reenrollment process. Sanchez also noted an existing partnership with the Santa Cruz immigration coalition, and Staff can distribute a flier promoting reenrollment, if provided with one.

6.3. District 3 (*Flores*) – No Report

6.4. District 4 (*De Santos*) – No Report

6.5. District 5 (*Longoria*)

Longoria shared information about his background and work with the Public Defender's Office. Skypark installed a new play structure and development of a downtown area in Scotts Valley is anticipated.

6.6. Santa Cruz City (*Nevarez*)

Nevarez reported that the FLOCK cameras in the City of Santa Cruz have been disabled and are scheduled for removal, with UCSC identified as the only remaining location in the city where AI cameras are in use. A helicopter believed to be affiliated with Border Patrol was and several recent protests were well attended.

6.7. Watsonville City (*Lopez, Rocha*)

Lopez reported on recent city updates, including street improvements, the addition of new bike lanes, and landscaping enhancements at Plaza Park in Watsonville. She also noted that the City has been designated a State Cultural District, making it eligible to apply for related funding opportunities. A recent Noche de Brillo celebration took place including a snow machine among other activities. Nevarez is interested in connecting the City Council with *Indivisible - Watsonville*.

7. Staff Report:

Staff will invite County Health Equity Officer to update the Commission on healthcare disparities, and representatives from Your Area Rapid Response (YARR) and Indivisible to brief the Commission on their local activities at future meetings.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*