



Santa Cruz County Commission on Justice and Gender

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Minutes: Public Meeting and Agenda Commission on Justice and Gender

Date: August 21, 2025
Time: 12 pm – 1:30 pm
Location: 275 Main St, Floor 6
Watsonville CA

Introductory Items

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call (Commissioners)
 - 1.1. Present: Kristie Clemens, Tara George, Sasha Morgan, Sarah Fletcher, Hannah Taylor, Rebecca Garcia, Brenda Campbell, Gloria Carroll, Leeann Luna, Lynne Boule, Lynne Petrovic, Evyn Robles, Jesse Silva, Shelby Mason, Celeste Gutierrez, Sheryl Norteye, Sarah Kocjan
 - 1.2. Excused:
2. Check in: What is the one activity or project that you would like this Commission to continue doing in the current 25-26 year? (Discussion Item)
 - 2.1 Commissioners shared their name and what they hoped to continue:
 - 2.1.a. Center voices of women with lived experience
 - 2.1.b. Connect with unhoused youth, youth in foster care
 - 2.1.c. Point in Time (PIT) Count showed drop in homelessness overall, but increased in Black and Latinx populations
3. Public Comment

Any person may address the Commission for a period not to exceed 3 minutes on matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission. Commission members will not take action on or discuss any topic not on today's agenda, but are permitted to ask staff to follow up and/or place the topic at a future meeting. Public comment will not exceed thirty (30) minutes. If there are additional persons still wishing to address the Commission after this allotted period, public comment may be continued to the last item on the agenda.

Regular Agenda

3. *Item tabled. Subcommittees to discuss and report back with recommendations.* Approve the request to the Chair of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to issue a proclamation honoring Dr. Susan Greene for her service and direct the staff liaison to work with the Chair on the issuance and signature of the proclamation (Action)
 - 3.1. Discussion whether proclamation should include apology.
 - 3.2. Discussion whether subcommittees should meet to discuss proclamation and report back.
4. Approval of Minutes from the May 8, 2025 (previous) meeting (Action Item)
 - 4.1. Additional direction: amend item #6: election of co-chairs to add names of nominees.
 - 4.2. Motion: Rebecca Garcia
 - 4.3. Second: Lynne Petrovic
 - 4.4. Passed with one abstention (Celeste Garcia)
5. Announcements by Commissioners (or Commissioner Announcements or Reports) – (Informational only)
 - 5.1. Jail population:
 - 5.1.a. 13 in G Unit
 - 5.1.b. 4 in H Unit (mental health)
 - 5.1.c. 1 in O Unit (Medical)
 - 5.1.d. 11 at Blain Street, 5 in WRRP; 3 graduated and 1 completed high school diploma
 - 5.2. Safe Release:
 - 5.2.a. In the last 3 months, 31 bed nights
 - 5.3. Number of visits to date: Visits open since January with 1 visit per month. No parents are asking. Staffing limitations prevent weekly visits, but will bring to the Chief.

5.4. Family Justice Center: VOICES Committee will be meeting at the Aptos Library from 10 am – 1 pm. FJC will be a one stop shop for victims of crime. Provide centralized service to better serve and prevent violence. Other counties have them.

6. *Item tabled. Subcommittees to discuss and report back with recommendations.* Consider the Biennial Report and make recommendations to add, correct, or remove any information as needed (Action Item)

6.1. Update to include the termination of Susan Greene's contract.

6.2. Remove "website" and "define commission" as goals because they are outdated.

6.3. Reducing harm to children.

6.4. Rebecca to send questions to the chairs.

6.5. Clarify wording of 2021-23 goals as set out.

6.6. Provide status updates on Board of Supervisors direction and any letters the Board of Supervisors might have on updates on progress to these goals.

6.7. Subcommittees are representative of action

6.8. Recommendation to send to subcommittees to discuss.

7. *Amended.* Approve proposed agenda topics for November 2025 and February 2026, and pause subcommittee meetings until workplan is adopted in February 2026 (Action Item)

- a. November 2025 Agenda items:

i. Approve the Biennial report and direct staff to submit to the Board of Supervisors

ii. Develop the 2025-26 workplan for adoption no later than February 2026

iii. Approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule per Commission bylaws

iv. Identify speaker topic and nominate and appoint someone to find and coordinate speaker

- b. February 2026 Agenda items:

i. Adopt 2026-27 Workplan

ii. Consider subcommittees for 2026

iii. Speaker on topic identified in November 2025

7.1. Additional direction: Schedule one meeting for each subcommittee to report back with recommendations for the biennial report, workplan, and proclamation and direct staff to add a speaker for November 2025 to the Families, Youth & Prevention Subcommittee.

7.1.a. Motion: Sarah Kocjan

7.1.b. Second: Rebecca Garcia

7.1.c. Motion passes unanimously

7.2. Subcommittee meetings scheduled:

7.2.a. Release and Reentry: September 16, 2025

7.2.b. Families, Youth & Prevention: September 25, 2025

7.2.c. Housing & Healthcare: October 25, 2025

8. *Item tabled. Subcommittees to report back with recommendations.* Identify goals and strategies to develop 2025-26 Commission workplan to adopt no later than the February 2026 meetings (Action Item)

9. Adjournment: 1:32 PM

Next Commission on Justice and Gender meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2025, from 12 pm – 1:30 pm.

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. If you wish to attend this meeting and require special assistance to participate, please call 831-454-3400 (TTY/TDD: 711) at least 72 hours in advance to make arrangements.