



# Santa Cruz County Syringe Services Program Advisory Commission

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<https://bit.ly/SSP-Program>

## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, June 14, 2022  
TIME: 6:00 PM  
LOCATION: Hybrid: Virtual and Physical: 1400 Emeline Ave, Bldg. K, Rm 206  
PRESENT: Steve Plumb (1<sup>st</sup> District), Damon Bruder (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Eric Sturm (4<sup>th</sup> District), Joe Hernandez (2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
EXCUSED: Patty King (At Large)  
ABSENT: None  
STAFF: Rahshan Williams (Program Coordinator), Socorro Gutierrez (Health Services Manager), Jennifer Herrera (Assistant Health Services Agency (HSA) Director), Ivan Avalos (Administrative Aide), Megan Holland (Administrative Services Manager)  
GUESTS:

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions:  
Meeting convened at 6:00 PM.
  - 1.1 Introduced new Commissioner, Joe Hernandez from the 2<sup>nd</sup> District.
2. Review and Approve April 12, 2022, Meeting Minutes:
  - 2.1 Moving the approval of April Minutes to next meeting.
3. Election of Officers, Chair & Vice Chair
  - 3.1 **Motion to Nominate Bruder as Chair**  
Motion/Second: Plumb/Sturm  
**Motion passed unanimously.**  
**Motion to Nominate King as Vice Chair**  
Motion/Second: Bruder/Plumb  
**Motion passed unanimously.**
4. Program Updates- Program Staff:
  - 4.1 Williams reviewed the current activities of the SSP Program. Watsonville exchange is expanding from five to seven days per week, effective June 17<sup>th</sup>. Hours will be from 9am-11am to bring equity of service days. A new kiosk was installed at the Watsonville Waste and Recycling Drop Off Center as of June 3, 2022. A total of seven kiosks have now been installed, five in Santa Cruz and 2 in Watsonville. Reviewed SSP report changes. At the June 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting, HSA plans to report back on a directive given regarding syringe litter control/collection. It will not be a formal presentation.

5. Continuing Business Items

5.1 Public Works Follow-Up-Replacement for Resource Planner IV

Darcy Pruitt has been selected for this position and she has volunteered to come to one of the Commission meetings to help answer any questions. Staff will help coordinate this for a future meeting.

5.2 Update from Community Engagement Ad-Hoc Subcommittee

Plumb reviewed the Commission mandates to ensure they align. They are working on conducting community outreach which includes, Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT), Harm Reduction Coalition (HRC), etc., and seeing how they can assist and collaborate. Also, checking on how the Commission can utilize the Mysantacruzcounty app. Sturm added that he facilitates a Health Care Coalition (HCC) meeting every other Monday and would be good for one of the Commissioners to attend. Bruder returned to a prior suggestion to have the Commission meeting at Benchlands (in the back of the County building) so that the homeless population there can access the meeting and also discussed doing a meeting at Homeless Prevention Homeless Project facility (HPPH). Proposed doing a special meeting to approve the next meeting in July to occur at Benchlands. Staff will check on this suggestion.

**Motion to Form Ad-Hoc Subcommittee (Bruder & Sturm) to Coordinate Outside Meeting Adjacent to Benchlands**

Motion/Second: Sturm/Bruder

**Motion passed unanimously.**

5.3 Discuss Commission Meeting Cadence (requires Bylaw revision)

Commission discussed keeping to monthly meetings and cancelling as needed or making an official Bylaw change to hold meetings for ten months out of the year and not meeting in July or December. It was suggested to note in the Bylaws that Commission meet for a minimum of ten months so that there is some leeway to have more than ten meetings, if necessary. This discussion will be moved to a future meeting to be discussed with the Biennial Report.

6. Public Comment: none

7. New Business/Action Items:

7.1. Vote for Next Meeting Location, Virtual or In-person (AB361)

**Motion to Approve Findings to Authorize Remote Meetings and Remain Virtual for July Meeting**

Motion/Second: Sturm/Hernandez

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion to Also Meet at alternate location (outside) and to default to regular location (1400 Emeline) if Necessary**

Motion/Second: Sturm/Hernandez

**Motion passed unanimously.**

7.2. Vote on New Agenda Format

**Motion to Adopt New Agenda Format**

Motion/Second: Plumb/Sturm

**Motion passed unanimously.**

8. Topics for Future Meetings/Action Items

8.1. Research and discuss federal perspective on syringe exchange

This topic was brought up by King and will be carried forward to the next meeting since she is absent.

8.2. Discussion of Biennial Report

This will be discussed at the next meeting and will be moved up to 'Focus Area Updates' on the next agenda.

9. Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Motion/Second: Plumb/Sturm

**Motion passed unanimously**

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM

Submitted by Nicole Meza (*Administrative Aide*)