



# Santa Cruz County Women's Commission

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## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, September 17, 2020  
TIME: 6:00 to 7:00 PM  
LOCATION: Remote meeting  
PRESENT: Jillian Ritter (Co-Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> District), Theresa Cariño (Co-Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> District), Maryanne Campbell (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Maria Boutell (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Jenny Sarmiento (4<sup>th</sup> District), Rachel Bickert (5<sup>th</sup> District)  
EXCUSED: Laurel Schonfield (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Sheila De Lany (5<sup>th</sup> District),  
ABSENT: Carrie Beaton (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Luci Basor (4<sup>th</sup> District),  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Coordinator*), Sarah Husin (Research Intern)  
GUESTS: Irene de Barraicua (*Lideras Campesina*),

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:05 PM.

Status of Women and Girls Report pended until the October meeting.

**Motion to approve meeting agenda as amended**

Motion/Second: Ritter/Sarmiento

**Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Review and Approve July 30, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion/Second: Campbell/Bickert

**Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Correspondence

Commission reviewed two position descriptions from Monterey County.

4. Public Comment: None

5. New Business/Action Items:

5.1. Commission COVID-19 Response

5.1.1. Lideras Campesinas: Women Farmworker Leadership Network

De Barraicua reported on Lideras Campesinas activities to address barriers to farmworker health and safety during the pandemic. More than 54% of farmworkers interviewed during the pandemic stated that they did not have access to adequate health care. Inadequate access to PPE and culturally and linguistically appropriate health education further complicate the matter. Agricultural workers are considered essential workers and therefore are required to continue working in order to keep their employment. Safety precautions to prevent the spread of disease are not being implemented consistently. Financial and food insecurity, lack of access to health care, and concerns related to lack of documentation all add further complexity. Children

are home more often, and stress, depression and domestic violence are on the rise.

*Lideras* is pursuing 10K in grant funding for services to Santa Cruz County farmworkers. Additionally, they are distributing bags of supplies in the field, accompanying a physician. Donations are always welcome.

5.2. Black Lives Matter Movement Letter of Support

Commission reviewed a letter to the Board of Supervisors acknowledging their efforts to eradicate institutionalized violence against Black residents and other people of color in Santa Cruz County and expressing their support. Cariño appointed to the Subcommittee. Subcommittee will incorporate community feedback into the letter before submission to the Board of Supervisors.

5.3. Status of Women and Girls: 2020 Health Care Update: Item pended

6. Reports of Officers and Ad Hoc Subcommittees

6.1. Co-Chairs Report

Ritter reported on her service as EOC Liaison and Recovery Resource Center Manager. The wildfires have been 95% contained with more than 86K acres burned and 911 residential structures destroyed. Over 4K FEMA enrollments have been processed, and the Board is working to expedite the rebuilding process and prevent or mitigate the impact of anticipated winter storm debris flows through preparation.

6.2. 2020 Suffrage Art Wall Subcommittee Update

6.2.1. Commission reviewed final artwork. County Staff is working with Rosemary Brogan to develop a *California Women's Suffrage Timeline* emphasizing the diverse cultural influences that contributed to success of the movement in California and Santa Cruz. A local photographer will donate her time and resources to create a virtual tour of our final exhibit.

6.3. Public Awareness Subcommittee: No report

7. Staff Report

Staff reported that the Equal Employment Opportunity and Cultural Competence Plan will be postponed until year-end employment data can be incorporated.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Coordinator*