



# Santa Cruz County Women's Commission

701 Ocean Street, Fifth Floor, Room 510, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

P: (831) 454-2772 F: (831) 454-2411 TTY/TDD: 711

[commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov](mailto:commissions@santacruzcountyca.gov)

[www.sccwc.org](http://www.sccwc.org)

## Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, February 20, 2025  
TIME: 6:00 PM  
LOCATION: County Government Building, 701 Ocean Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Redwood Conference Room  
PRESENT: Amanda Crowder (1<sup>st</sup> District), Paige Gordon (1<sup>st</sup> District), Brenda Rogers (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Claire Protti (2<sup>nd</sup> District), Suzanne Doty (3<sup>rd</sup> District), Rita Sanchez (4<sup>th</sup> District)  
EXCUSED: None  
ABSENT: Karina Moreno (4<sup>th</sup> District),  
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (Commissions Manager)  
GUESTS: No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 6:01 PM.

Commission welcomed new Commissioners Gordon (*District 1*) and Sanchez (*District 4*).

2. Approve October 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes

**Motion to approve the October 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Motion/Second: Doty/Rogers

**Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Correspondence: None

4. Public Comment: None

5. New Business/Action Items:

5.1. Consider Amending 2025 Meeting Schedule

Commission discussed holding the regularly scheduled June meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> instead of June 18<sup>th</sup> to avoid the Juneteenth holiday.

**Motion to amend the meeting schedule.**

Motion/Second: Rogers/Sanchez

**Motion passed unanimously.**

5.2. CEDAW Research Assignment Updates and Next Steps

Commission identified several areas of concern that they would like to prioritize including:

- The need for a detailed gender analysis of County workforce compensation conducted by an independent consultant (Article 11)
- The scarcity of Ob/gyn care in South County due to systemic factors related to inadequate compensation, lack of affordable housing, and cost of living, to name a few (Articles 12 and 14)

- Protecting access to reproductive and gender affirming health care in response to recent federal restrictions (Article 12)
- Addressing disproportionate prenatal substance use by Santa Cruz County women relative to women in other counties, particularly for White women (Article 12)
- Mitigating the impact of federal funding withdrawn from agencies with DEI policies and programs (Articles 5, 10, 11, and 13)
- Ensuring gender-specific, trauma-informed accommodation and re-entry support for women incarcerated in Santa Cruz County (Article 15)
- Increasing the availability for long-term affordable housing and housing programs that prioritize support for women and women-led households (Article 13)
- Increasing the availability of affordable childcare and funding programs that make it affordable, particularly for single-income, women-led households (Articles 11 and 13)
- The need for increased support for women and women-led families who become justice-involved because of their immigration status in light of recent federal legislation. (Articles 9 and 15)
- Strengthening the 2024 CEDAW resolution by converting it into an ordinance, which would introduce enhanced accountability and transparency, while also fostering alignment among community partners outside of County government. (Article 7)

Staff will develop recommendations that are focused on study, funding, and policy decisions within the County's authority for each of the above-identified priorities to be considered at the next Commission meeting.

6. Staff Report:

Staff reported that Commissioners receiving stipends will need to re-register with the County's new payment system. A group photo will be taken before the March meeting. Commission website is being upgraded to align with County branding.

7. Emerging Matters:

Commissioner Sanchez suggested that the Commission consider whether their mandate and bylaws could be more gender inclusive.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*