

Alta California Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, June 14, 2010
Minutes

Present:

Regina Collins, President
Bonita Mallory, Vice President
Nancy Lea, Finance Comm. Chair
Kathy Lee, Secretary
Spencer McClay, Member-at-
Large (via phone)
Kenneth Vu, Member-at-Large

Board Members:

Tom Hopkins
Allyson Plaza

Visitor:

Crystal Lee

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Pete Tiedemann, Chief Operating
Officer
Lori Banales, Director of Consumer
Services – West
Ron Huff, Director of Intake &
Clinical Services
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Executive Committee met at 4:05 p.m. on Monday, June 14, 2010, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) Autism Services Discussion; 2) Board Budget for next FY; 3) Executive Director's Comments; and 4) Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

M/S/C (McClay/Lee) To approve the Executive Committee meeting minutes of May 10, 2010.

1. ***Autism Services Discussion***

Issue: Committee needs to discuss autism services.

Discussion and Action: Ms. Collins would like to propose forming a taskforce to discuss autism services. At the last few Board meetings, families have expressed concern regarding services for their children.

Dr. Huff shared that ACRC has worked collaboratively over the recent years with all providers, including autism providers. Vendor forums are scheduled on a regular basis to discuss changes to the Lanterman Act and how the agency needs to implement those changes with consumer services.

Ms. Banales believes it is important to note that many providers have availability in the morning to provide autism services, but ACRC cannot purchase those hours for school aged children due to the changes in the law that prohibit this.

Committee members discussed how rates for programs have been frozen for years and any new vendorizations for autism programs are at the median rate. ACRC cannot negotiate rates that have been frozen by the state.

Dr. Vu feels that ACRC staff should address the public relations piece of this issue. Perception means a lot. He would like ACRC to continue leading through communication and education to these families.

Ms. Collins summarizes what she is hearing:

- There is a communication/perception issue
- We want to work collaboratively with representatives from the community to outline best practices
- We want to have a Board that represents all of ACRC's qualifying disabilities
- The taskforce can discuss what ACRC should do, as it is outlined in the law

Ms. Banales meets quarterly with the SELPAs and this topic has been discussed over the last several meetings. ACRC also works collaboratively with family resource centers across our catchment area. She believes it would be helpful to include these two groups in the taskforce.

Mr. Tiedemann believes it is important to note that while the regional center is not spending as much money on Purchase of Services (POS) for this fiscal year (FY) due to the implementation of the trailer bill language, ACRC will spend significantly more on autism services this year than last.

Ms. Collins would like the Board to address this issue. It would be up to the Board President to select the members of this taskforce, but she believes it would be proactive to implement in the near future.

Dr. Huff shared ACRC was looking at holding an orientation for families whose children come into the regional center with a new autism diagnosis, but with the budget cuts, we have not been able to implement this yet. Ms. Collins suggested having the agency look at volunteer parents that could come and speak to other parents in the train the trainer model.

Mr. Bonnet believes an Autism Summit could possibly come out of this taskforce. We have worked collaboratively with the MIND Institute and Autism Speaks. Ms. Collins would like to have people at the table that are willing to work side-by-side with us and know that we are working in the best interest of the consumers that we serve.

M/S/C (Collins/Lea) To establish a collaborative taskforce to look at Best Practices for consumers with autism.

2. ***Board Budget for next FY***

Issue: Committee needs to discuss the Board budget for the next FY.

Discussion and Action: Ms. Lea shared Mr. Tiedemann looked at the current Board budget and found that we haven't utilized as much as previously thought.

The Finance Committee reviewed this budget at the May meeting and is proposing decreasing the Board's budget from \$32,000 to \$26,000 for the 2010-11 FY.

M/S/C (Lea/Mallory) To approve the Board budget for the 2010-11 FY as presented.

3. Executive Director's Comments

- Mr. Bonnet shared ACRC has received only a few new Fair Hearing (FH) requests within the last month. There are 126 FHs pending at the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH); 96 of which are related to the implementation of the trailer bill language and aid paid pending is in place for most of them.
- There are no new changes to the budget for ACRC except that the agency will need to borrow from our line of credit with U.S. Bank because of cash flow issues. Last week, the Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) met in this room and we discussed the changes to the Lanterman Act and the cash flow issue.
- ACRC's caseload ratios are as follows:

Category	Actual Ratio	Expected Ratio
Medicaid Waiver	72.9	62
Age 36 mths and under	49.3	62
Moved from DC since 4/14/93, Lived in Community > 12 mths	56.8	62
Moved from DC within last 12 mths	42	45
All others	77	66

ACRC has 45 vacant positions. We are having our All Staff meeting this Wednesday and we will be discussing this topic. Mr. Tiedemann shared management has made several items paperless to help save time, when practical.

4. Announcements

- Ms. Mallory will have the privilege of participating at a hearing this Friday about a dental pilot project.

5. **Closed Session** – at 5:27 p.m. the Executive Committee adjourned to executive session in order to discuss BDC recruitment, and personnel and legal issues.

6. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** – at 5:35 p.m. the Executive Committee reconvened in open session following a closed session in which BDC recruitment, and personnel and legal issues were discussed.

7. Adjournment

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled on **Monday, July 12, 2010**, from 4 to 5 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet