

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, October 22, 2015
Minutes

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Janet Brandon, Nasim Hedayati, Romilda Jones, Walter Kaweski, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Jon Nelson, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Austin Taylor, Kristin Wright

Absent (* excused): Steven Sanchez*

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, David Rydquist, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

Facilitators: Cheryl DeForest, Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

Visitors: Kathy Brian, Debra Hale, Ed Plon, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2015, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Mr. Peacock read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved: a) excused absence for Steven Sanchez; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of September 24, 2015; c) CAC report; d) ratify new CAC member; and e) accept Board Development, Executive and PAC reports.**
4. **New Business**
 - ◆ *Community Comments*
 - No comments were shared.
 - ◆ *Finance Committee*

Issue 1: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee did not meet this month because updated financial information was not available. Mr. Tiedemann distributed the September 30, 2015 financial report which reflects three months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 22% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 26.4% of Operations (OPS).

The annual projections are not due to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) until December, so there is very limited data in the financial report. The department has distributed their allocations to each regional center. Until our projections are complete, we do not know what will be needed in our POS budget. Like every year, we will need to live within our OPS budget.

Mr. Tiedemann shared that ACRC had a deficit in our POS budget for the last FY. We recently received an additional \$13 million in POS funding from DDS and it appears that we will need slightly more in order to balance. The agency may receive another allocation for the last FY in approximately six to eight months.

➤ **The monthly finance report was accepted as submitted.**

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on October 13th.
 - The group reviewed the Board's demographics and it will be the Chairs responsibility to update the Board on a quarterly basis on any changes that take place.
 - The Board recruitment flyer has been completed and copies are available for everyone today.
 - Mr. Lake has a running list of topics for the ongoing "Board Sponsored Trainings". The BDC will pick the month's topic at their monthly meetings. If any Board member is interested in assisting with these trainings, please let him know.
 - They critiqued the retreat and believe it was well received. There are currently discussions about possibly holding next year's September Retreat offsite. We may be bringing Mark Starford back for further training.
 - Mr. Lake has been appointed to the Finance Committee.
 - The group discussed the Executive Director's evaluation process.

**Kristin Wright joined the meeting*

- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Mr. Taylor shared that the committee spoke about possibly doing more outreach to our outlying communities.
 - With the approval of our consent agenda today, Jon Nelson is our newest CAC member.

- As always, committee members provided updates from the various groups that they are a part of.
- Committee members reviewed the applications for the Client Recognition Awards that will be held on Thursday, November 19th, at 2 p.m.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Ms. Brandon shared that the biggest topic is where we are and the future of our industry. Providers are very worried about the fact that they have had no rate increases for several years. Also, they remain concerned about the new rules that are coming out, the increase in minimum wage, ongoing health and safety issues, etc.
 - ACRC staff will be scheduling regular vendor forums again soon. Ms. Brandon discovered that there is more information for providers on ACRC's website.
 - SAVE THE DATE – “We Are Here to Speak for Justice” will be held on Thursday, December 10th, at 10 a.m. at the Sacramento Convention Center.

◆ *President's Report*

- Mr. Peacock was able to attend the Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) Strategic Planning Retreat last week in San Diego. It was overall a great event. Their strategic goals will be coming out in the near future. He will be forwarding a legislative link to Ms. West so that it can be forwarded to Board members.
- During ARCA's Retreat, Mr. Peacock was able to share his passion for competitive employment. Hopefully we will be able to leverage ARCA's influence to capitalize on short-term grants for competitive, integrated employment opportunities for clients across the state.
- This Board is looking at a retreat offsite for next September. The setting will provide an opportunity for Board members to get to know one another better.

◆ *Executive Director's Report*

- Mr. Bonnet shared that ACRC's CAC is a powerful group of individuals. They wrote a moving letter of support to another regional center's CAC.
- The California State Legislature is now in recess until after the holidays. Governor Brown has made it very clear that a Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax is needed to fund our statewide system; without it, the State's Medi-Cal Program, In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) and regional center budgets could face additional cuts to their funding. The Governor will be proposing his

budget for the coming year in early January, and this long process will begin again.

- Mr. Bonnet distributed copies of a letter that Senators Jim Nielsen and Jeff Stone sent to Regional Center Directors and Board Presidents expressing their support for our program and the people that we serve.
 - Our local Self-Determination Advisory Committee met yesterday and discussed training options. We need to spread the word about this option that will be available once the federal government approves the proposal that DDS submitted to the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) in Washington, D.C. Anyone interested should speak to their Service Coordinator (SC) and they will be added onto the list that ACRC is gathering. The department will be choosing people to participate in the three-year pilot project.
 - ACRC's staff continue to work hard to develop new resources to meet the needs of our clients who are leaving Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). We will be hosting another family meeting in early 2016, where we plan to request input about needed services, share more client transition stories and possibly offer tours of existing community programs.
 - ACRC has been awarded significant funding from DDS through our Community Placement Plan (CPP) to develop new resources for clients who require special arrangements in order to be treated. The funding will be provided to ensure that clients who leave SDC have access to dental services, but it will also be used to offer new services to many of our clients who require special assistance to maintain their dental health. ACRC will soon be releasing a Request for Proposal (RFP).
 - October is *National Disability Employment Awareness Month*. ACRC's Employment First Policy has received approval from DDS and is now posted on our agency's website.
- ◆ *ARCA Report/ARCA Equity Committee*
- Mr. Kaweski attended ARCA's Strategic Planning Retreat on Thursday and Friday, October 15th & 16st, in San Diego.
 - The essence of this meeting was to formulate goals for the next three years. The group focused on three areas:
 - Full inclusion in the community
 - Look at valuing the individual as a contributing member in school and recreation.
 - Beginning to reach out to community partners so that we can build truly integrated communities.
 - The general public needs to understand individuals with developmental disabilities.

- Lanterman Act Mission
 - Funding and sustainability
 - Restoring funding is critical.
 - The CMS Rules will fundamentally change our way of doing things. It will be the task of ARCA to turn our dreams and wishes into actual items.
- ◆ *ARCA-CAC Report*
- Ms. Benson shared that an in-person meeting was held on Friday, October 2nd in Sacramento.
 - The Self-Advocacy Workgroup discussed their Facebook page.
 - The Legislative Workgroup talked about how to get out and secure cost-effective resources.
 - The next teleconference is scheduled for November 20th. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for January 8th.
5. **Closed Session** – At 4:42 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session in order to discuss personnel and legal issues.
6. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** - At 5:10 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session following a closed session in which personnel and legal issues were discussed.
7. **Adjournment**
The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet