

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

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Modean Gibson, Nasim Hedayati, Romilda Jones, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe (via phone), Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Jon Nelson, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Steven Sanchez (via phone), Austin Taylor, Kristin Wright

Absent (* excused): Janet Brandon*, Walter Kaweski*, Edward T. Lewis*

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

Facilitators: Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

Visitors: Monique Avers, Shanna James, Sarah Kennedy, Sheryl Ledford, Janice Matranga, Jerry Matranga, Sabrina Nugent, Ed Plon

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2015, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Ms. Armstrong read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.

**The PAC minutes from the November 13, 2014 were added to the consent agenda.*

3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved:** a) excused absence for Janet Brandon, Walter Kaweski and Edward T. Lewis; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of November 20, 2014; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, Finance, and PAC reports.

4. **New Business**

- ♦ *Community Comments/Announcements*
 - No comments were shared.
- ♦ *Finance Committee*

Issue 1: Independent Audit Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that ACRC's independent audit report is under Tab 7 in the Board packet.

A representative from Thompson Noble Company LLP attended the Finance Committee and shared that, in their opinion, the financial statements represent fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ACRC as of June 30, 2014.

If anyone has any questions, Mr. Tiedemann can be reached by phone or email.

➤ **The independent audit report was accepted as submitted.**

Issue 2: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee met on January 12th and reviewed the November 30, 2014 financial report which reflects five months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 42.2% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 42.7% of Operations (OPS).

Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will need between \$21.7 and \$24.1 million in additional POS funding for this FY. Part of the deficit is due to the minimum wage increase; the department has funded us less than what it is costing us to implement. Also, there has been growth in several areas of service.

The DDS auditors will be here again next week. They will be auditing ACRC for the 2012-13 and 2013-14 FYs.

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

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Mr. Peacock shared that the BDC continues to monitor the Board's demographic grid and is looking for a balance of clients and family members.
 - The community comments plan was altered to allow the Chair to recognize comments from members of the public prior to a vote on an action item.
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Mr. Taylor wasn't able to attend the CAC meeting this month, but encourages everyone to refer to the minutes under Tab 3 of the Board packet.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Mr. Bonnet shared that the committee discussed the new Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) Rule. The federal

government is pushing for more inclusive and choice driven services. Our providers are in support of this transition, but they understand that it will take years before the regional center system will need to come into compliance with this rule.

- The group also discussed the Disabilities Services Taskforce. Before they are able to put forward all of their suggestions, Diana Dooley has indicated that the rates will need to be increased.
- The committee is in support of the Lanterman Coalition's "Ten Things You Can Do", which was distributed for review. It is important for clients, families and providers to go out and speak with their local legislators so that they know who we are.

♦ *President's Report*

- Ms. Gibson shared that there were five calls to the Board hotline since the last meeting.
 - Two mothers called seeking assistance for their sons. The Intake Department is following up on these referrals.
 - A person called to assist a homeless individual staying at the Guest House. The Intake Department has requested more information on this referral.
 - A father called seeking information regarding his daughter. ACRC staff will be speaking with him.
 - A client called requesting a new Service Coordinator (SC). ACRC staff spoke with him regarding this matter.

♦ *Executive Director's Report*

- Mr. Bonnet shared that the Governor and his administration acknowledged that our system does not have enough money to pay our bills this FY. In his 2015-16 budget proposal, Governor Brown included \$150 to \$175 million for the current FY's POS. In years past, if our system didn't have enough money, regional centers would have to develop an expenditure plan.
- As mentioned earlier, the campaign throughout our service system is to obtain a 10% increase to provider rates and regional center operations. Last year the Lanterman Coalition asked for 18 different things and received one. This year, they are focusing on the "Ten for Ten".
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) will be holding their annual Grassroots Day at the State Capitol on Wednesday, April 15th. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact Ms. West.
- Mr. Bonnet attended several meeting that Senator Steinberg held in an attempt to resolve the conflict between health plans,

professionals and hospitals over the issue of payment for anesthesia for routine dental procedures. Another meeting is being held today and ACRC staff are in attendance. Mr. Bonnet will continue to keep the Board informed on this issue.

- On December 31, 2014, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) submitted California's application for a Self-Determination Waiver to the federal government. ACRC will be working with the Regional Office of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (formerly known as Area Board 3) to present an informational conference for people in our community who are interested in knowing more about the details of this new program. This free conference will be held once the application is approved and more direction is given to regional centers.
- Federal District Judge Richard Leon made a ruling earlier this month that effectively overturns a decision by the Department of Labor that has changed the rules for in-home worker's pay. DDS had issued a plan to implement a 5.82% rate increase for service providers affected by this change, but has since rescinded the increase for now. Mr. Bonnet will continue to keep the Board informed as this issue goes through the legal process.
- There were two calls to the comment line since the last meeting.
 - A Nurse Case Manager at Kaiser Roseville called requesting information regarding our referral system. The Intake Department provided her with this information.
 - An individual called seeking assistance for her brother. ACRC staff is following up on this call.
- Mr. Bonnet, along with two other Northern California Regional Center Directors, attended a California Disability Services Association (CDSA) meeting yesterday. They were invited to attend and answer questions from the group about the Governor's budget, the "10 for 10" Campaign, the new CMS Rule, person-centered planning, self-determination and developmental centers.
- At the ARCA meeting last week, ARCA's Board of Directors voted to ask Governor Brown to begin planning for the closure of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) and Fairview DC in his final 2015-16 budget. SDC is currently under federal sanctions.
 - Mr. Bonnet will be suggesting to the CAC that they take their annual visit to SDC in May instead of the fall. Board members will be invited to join them.

♦ *ARCA Report*

- Mr. Kaweski's report from the January 16th bi-monthly ARCA Board of Directors meeting was distributed for review. Ms. Gibson encouraged everyone to read it.

- Mr. Bonnet noted that he continues to raise concern regarding the inadequate rates for residential services across the state.

♦ *ARCA-CAC Report*

- Ms. Benson shared that the ARCA-CAC held an in-person meeting on January 9th, in Sacramento.
 - The group joined Diana Dooley's conference call, where she provided an overview of the Governor's proposed 2015-16 budget.
 - They were given an update on the Lanterman Coalition and learned things that they could do to work with their own legislators.
 - Each member gave a report on what is happening at their own regional center.
 - The State Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN) is working on the Self-Directed Services and Employment First.
- The next telephone meeting is scheduled for Friday, February 20th. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 10th, in Sacramento.

♦ *Community Comments/Announcements*

- Ms. Lampe is going to Reno this weekend.
- Mr. Sanchez shared that he will be attending the Board meetings in person beginning next month.
- Ms. Benson shared that she has pictures of her artwork on her tablet if anyone would like to see them.

5. ***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.



Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet