

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, March 22, 2018
Minutes

Present: Jackie Armstrong, Cindy Benson (via phone), Eric Ciampa, Romilda Jones, Tatiana Kuzminchuk, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor (via phone), Michelle Rewerts, Anwar Safvi, Steven Sanchez, Austin Taylor, Rita Walker

Absent (* excused): Retha Seabron*

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, Camelia Houston, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

Facilitators: Amy Fulk

Visitors: Melissa Kelly, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, March 22, 2018, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Mr. Taylor read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved: a) excused absences for Retha Seabron; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of January 25, 2018; c) accept PAC report and ratify new members; and d) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, and Finance reports.**
4. **New Business**
 - ◆ *Community Comments*
 - No comments were shared.
 - ◆ *Executive Committee*

Issue: Approve Revised 2018 Performance Contract

Discussion and Action: In January, the Executive Committee reviewed the additional measures which were added to the 2018 Performance Contract in regards to employment. The full Board needs to formally approve this amendment.

Without objection, Eric Ciampa made the motion to approve the revised 2018 Performance Contract as presented.

◆ *Finance Committee*

Issue 1: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee met on March 12th, and reviewed the January 31, 2018 financial report which reflects seven months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). With 58.3% of the year elapsed, ACRC has expended 54.8% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 55% of Operations (OPS).

Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will need between \$1 million and \$2.5 million of additional POS funding by the end of this FY. This is mainly for the Community Placement Plan (CPP) due to the increased number of clients that ACRC has moved from the developmental centers. The agency has been provided assurances from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) that they will fund this shortage.

Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to accept the monthly finance report as submitted.

Issue 2: Contract over \$250,000 (Enhanced Behavior Support Home)

Discussion and Action: Mr. Tiedemann shared that this contract is similar to contracts that the Board has approved in the past. The total amount of the contract is \$550,000 (\$250,000 for acquisition and \$300,000 for renovation).

ACRC is seeking Board approval of this contract with Brilliant Corners so that we can move the last of the clients out of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) by the end of next month.

M/S/C (Anwar Safvi) **To approve the contract as presented.** (13 in favor)

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Ms. Walker shared that the BDC met on March 12th.
 - The group had a lengthy discussion about the May Board Training. The committee felt that it would be advantageous to hold the Board meeting and training in Yolo County. This is one of our counties that the Board is targeting, as well as El Dorado County.
 - The workgroup will be meeting to discuss recruiting options. They also drafted a flyer that could be posted in ACRC's Woodland office, so that we might be able to get some interested applicants.

- Board members reviewed the draft and supported the suggestion. All fully recognize the need to be resolute in our recruitment efforts.
- Ms. Meza-Villaseñor added that if the flyer could be translated in Spanish, she would be able to share it as an informational piece during the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) Conference that she is presenting at next Friday, March 30th.

M/S/C (Austin Taylor) **To hold the Board's May training/meeting in Yolo County.** (13 in favor)

- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Ms. Rewerts shared that the CAC met on March 13th and February 13th.
 - Mr. Bonnet talked to committee members about "risk/reward".
 - The CAC held its annual elections for the 2018-19 FY. The names will be given to the Board's Nominating Committee to be placed on the slate for the upcoming FY.
 - Committee members reviewed the "Friends Helping Friends" questionnaire.
 - In February, David Lopez shared information about the DDS Safety Net, which is a great resource to clients of the regional center system.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Mr. Ciampa shared that the PAC met on March 8th and February 8th.
 - The Outreach Committee brought forward two new applicants for membership. The representatives have been attending the PAC meetings for over a year.
 - James Astorga, with F&A Astorga Care Homes
 - Joseph Hernandez, with Premier Healthcare Services
 - The group discussed both the Assembly and Senate hearings, which took place in March. Committee members attended both hearings.
 - On March 8th, ACRC held a Cultural Competency Training with Dr. Paul Porter, in place of our regular meeting. The training was well attended and the information that was shared was very useful.

- The PAC chose to re-elect Michelle Ramirez as the PAC Chair and Eric Ciampa as the designated representative to the Board of Director for the upcoming FY.

◆ *President's Report*

- Mr. Lake shared that the full Board didn't meet last month due to illnesses, but we didn't have significant issues to cover.
- The bylaw revision, which goes into effect on July 1st, changes the committee appointments from the Board President to the Nominating Committee. With this change, Mr. Lake is asking that Board members fill out the nomination form and turn it into Ms. West by the end of the meeting today. The Nominating Committee will be reviewing this information and will be drafting the slate for the June meeting.
 - Mr. Lake expressed his appreciation to Eric Ciampa, Tatiana Kuzminchuk and Austin Taylor for volunteering to serve on the Nominating Committee this year.
- The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA's) Grassroots Day was held this Tuesday at the State Capitol. Mr. Lake expressed his appreciation to Ms. Benson, Ms. Rewerts and Ms. West for their efforts. He encourages everyone to experience this once during their Board term. It's a wonderful opportunity to advocate for our statewide service system and it has all 21 regional centers working together for a common goal.

◆ *Executive Director's Report*

- Mr. Bonnet reiterated that ACRC had a great presence at ARCA's Grassroots Day on Tuesday.
- ACRC held two POS Expenditure Meetings this month. Along with sharing the data, the meetings highlighted our strategies for outreach to underserved communities. During the meetings, we used the translation headsets that we acquired with a portion of the grant funding. Ms. Banales noted that ACRC has been targeting some monolingual populations that had no POS' in the system. She also shared data that indicated that some of those families now have POS' in our system for their family members. The meetings were extremely positive and several suggestions were gathered from those in attendance.
- Self-Determination meetings are being held across the state. DDS has resubmitted their application to the federal government. The department is preparing for this program to be implemented later this year. The regional center system pays in arrears for our services. The big debate about the Self-Determination Program is that providers want the money upfront. 175 clients from ACRC will be chosen by DDS to participate in the three-year pilot project.

- This may be the last time the Board meets that ACRC has clients that reside at SDC; we have seven clients left. This has been a very personal project for Mr. Bonnet. He plans on being there when the last ACRC client leaves the facility.
 - ACRC has been sponsoring numerous cultural competency trainings; approximately 500 to 600 individuals have attended these trainings (both staff and service providers). Mr. Bonnet believes that these trainings will change the way people view others. It has been a positive experience.
 - Very soon, the money that regional centers have been spending on developing homes and services for the individuals residing at SDC, and other institutions, will be used to develop services in the community. This new program is called the Community Resource Development Fund (CRDF). DDS has asked regional centers to ask for input about the types of services that are most needed in their community; service providers are currently completing needs assessments. We will find out the parameters from the department soon. This is the first time in decades that regional centers will be able to spend money on start-up funding for new services that are not part of the community placement plan. The State is currently doing a rate study with Burns and Associates. They are looking at California's statewide funding system and will be giving recommendations to DDS.
 - Hopefully, Mr. Bonnet will have some more information about the study to bring before the Board in May.
 - Mr. Bonnet shared a short YouTube video entitled "Inclusion at SMUD", where our own Jackie Armstrong is interviewed!
- ◆ *ARCA Report*
- Ms. Walker and Ms. Kuzminchuk attended the delegate's meeting/dinner on Thursday evening, March 15th.
 - Ms. Walker explained that these meetings are a time where Board delegates share information about what takes place at their centers.
 - Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC) shared their recent video of individuals in a variety of work programs. This stimulated some discussion on what regional centers are doing on employment.
 - This Board may want a presentation about ACRC's efforts in the near future.
 - The Executive Director of Inland Regional Center (IRC) gave a presentation on their center's history, including the culture within the regional center, their relationships with their service providers, and how the terrorist attack in 2015 has

affected staff and how they have recovered from it. The presentation ended on a happy note – IRC was honored as “Best Employer in 2017”.

- Two regional centers have new Executive Directors:
 - Michi Gates, with Kern Regional Center (KRC)
 - Gabriel Rogin, with North Bay Regional Center (NBRC)
- Lastly, Ms. Walker was asked to serve on ARCA’s Strategic Planning Committee – she accepted the position.
- Ms. Kuzminchuk shared that the meeting changed her perspective of the regional center system. She learned a lot and saw how everyone supports each other; it’s truly a team.
- If anyone is interested in attending one of these meetings, please let Ms. Walker know. We are lucky that the majority of these meetings are local.

◆ *ARCA-CAC Report*

- The next in-person meeting is scheduled for April 13th.

5. ***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet