

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, May 25, 2017
Minutes

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Janet Brandon, Nasim Hedayati (via phone), Romilda Jones, Tatiana Kuzminchuk, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Brendan Peacock, Steven Sanchez, Retha Seabron, Austin Taylor, Rita Walker

Absent (* excused): Anwar Safvi*

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Alfonso Carmona, Camelia Houston, Dan Kilmer, Robin LeMay, Peter Tiedemann

Facilitators: Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

Visitors: Eric Ciampa, Elizabeth Mard, Michelle Ramirez, Michelle Rewerts, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 4:05 p.m. on Thursday, May 25, 2017, 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 absences for Anwar Safvi; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of March 23, 2017; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, Finance and PAC reports.**

**Ms. Diamond will be taking pictures during today's meeting for ACRC's website. A disclosure form will need to be signed to allow the photos to be displayed on the website.*

4. **New Business**
 - ◆ *Community Comments*
 - No comments were shared.
 - ◆ *Caseload Ratio Discussion*
 - Mr. Bonnet shared that ACRC did not meet the state's mandated caseload ratios this last year and the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has requested that ACRC gather input and suggestions from various stakeholder groups on ways to improve on this issue.

- As of March 1st, ACRC's caseload ratios are as follow:

Category	Actual Ratio	Required Ratio
Medicaid Waiver	77.4	62
Age 36 mths and under	56.5	62
Moved from DC since 4/14/93, Lived in Community > 12 mths	60.5	62
Moved from DC within last 12 mths	28	45
All others	82.2	66

- With the additional funding that our statewide service system received earlier this fiscal year (FY), ACRC has been able to hire additional Service Coordinators (SCs). The agency currently has 461 employees and serves over 22,000 clients; ten years ago, we had about 400 employees serving 14,000 clients.
- ACRC is trying to keep up with the growth of new clients coming into the system, while also decreasing caseload ratios; just last month, the agency had 94 new clients become eligible for ongoing services.
 - Board members noted that ACRC is one of California's leaders for bringing in federal dollars into our service system.
 - Those in attendance were overwhelmingly supportive of the need for additional funding.

♦ *Board Officer/Designated Rep Nominee Statements*

- The Board Development Committee (BDC) suggested having the proposed Board Officers, the proposed designated representatives from the advisory committees and the Board member who was seeking their second two-year term for the 2017-18 FY come and share information with the entire Board prior to voting on the slate at the June Board meeting.
 - Board President – Dan Lake
 - Mr. Lake would like to encourage, coach and empower this Board. As Board President, he hopes to build on the foundation and make it stronger for the agency's future.
 - Board Vice President – Rosa Meza-Villaseñor
 - After today's training and learning more about the committee's and Officer's responsibilities, Ms. Meza-Villaseñor shared that she is honored to be considered for the Board's Vice President, but will have to withdraw her nomination. Over the past year, she had to request a leave of absence due to an unexpected family emergency. Ms. Meza-Villaseñor will continue to serve on the Board as a liaison between the educational system and ACRC. She

will assist with planning for emergency situations, as well as focusing on the agency's cultural diversity efforts.

- Board Secretary – Amy Lampe
 - Ms. Lampe enjoys being a Board member. She is a great advocate and will do her best in this position.
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC) designated rep – Michelle Rewerts
 - Ms. Rewerts is honored to be part of the CAC. As the CAC designated representative to the Board, she is looking forward to learning more and helping other clients. Ms. Rewerts prides herself in being a hard worker.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) designated rep – Eric Ciampa
 - Mr. Ciampa works for UCP of Sacramento, Inc., and has been a member of the PAC since 2013. The PAC discusses service coordination, provider challenges, legislative issues, and hopes to provide feedback and resources to ACRC on how to best serve our clients. He is looking forward to the opportunity to serve on ACRC's Board of Directors.
 - Ms. Ramirez, with On My Own, will be the PAC Chair for the 2017-18 FY and will fill in for Mr. Ciampa, as needed.
- Board member seeking second term – Rita Walker
 - Ms. Walker has served on this Board for a year and a half, and stated that it has been an incredible opportunity. She has been involved in our service system for most of her adult life.
- Mr. Peacock shared that if anyone is interested in serving as ACRC's Board Vice President for the next FY, please contact Ms. West as soon as possible.

♦ *Finance Committee*

Issue: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Tiedemann shared that the Finance Committee met on May 8th, and reviewed the March 31, 2017 financial report which reflects nine months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 69.8% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 70.4% of Operations (OPS).

Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will have between \$4 and \$4.9 million in remaining POS at this FY's end. Since most regional centers are projecting a surplus at this time, he believes there is enough money in the statewide system this FY.

There are no cash flow issues at this time.

- **The monthly finance report was accepted as submitted.**
- ♦ *Committee Updates*
 - BDC
 - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on May 8th.
 - The Board Officer Slate was introduced and discussed.
 - The group reviewed the Board's demographics and committee meeting attendance.
 - CAC
 - Mr. Taylor shared that the CAC held their meeting at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) on May 9th.
 - Prior to the meeting, the group said their final farewell to Sheryl L. at a private memorial on the mountainside above Sonoma.
 - It was the fifth time that the CAC held their meeting at SDC and committee members shared their own personal stories about their lives in the community.
 - Mr. Taylor believes that whatever impact the committee's presence makes at SDC, it is a lesson that their commitment always makes a difference.
 - PAC
 - Since Ms. Brandon wasn't able to attend the meeting on May 11th, Mr. Ciampa provided a brief overview.
 - Some providers were able to attend the CAC's meeting at SDC earlier this month. They remain encouraged by ACRC's efforts in developing critical service options for the individuals who reside in developmental centers and are pleased with the placements that have been made over the past three years.
 - The group discussed how the federal administration announced plans to extend the deadline for compliance with the new Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) Rules to March 17, 2022.
 - Committee members began to discuss the PAC's priorities for the next FY; Ms. Ramirez sent a survey link to members to gather their input and ideas.
 - Cultural diversity continues to be a big topic of conversation amongst providers. It is critical that the services that are provided to clients are relevant and that we continue to try to break down any barriers that may be present.

♦ *President's Report*

- Mr. Peacock attended the CAC's meeting at SDC and expressed his appreciation for everything that those in attendance did to make the trip. It was a powerful meeting and he was honored to be a part of it.

♦ *Executive Director's Report*

- The California Legislature is finalizing the budget for the new FY that will begin on July 1st. Recommendations from both the Senate and Assembly Budget Sub-Committees will soon be considered by the conference committees and eventually the full Senate and Assembly. There may be additional funding in the statewide budget for regional centers to hire more SCs. The legislature is also considering reversing the prohibition that was enacted in 2009 upon social/recreational services and camp, and a lifting of the mandated cap on respite hours for families.
- Mr. Bonnet spoke with DDS this morning regarding our continued efforts with the closure of SDC. ACRC currently has only 35 individuals remaining there, despite the fact that nearly twenty residents have transferred to ACRC from other regional centers.
- The construction at ACRC's Sacramento office is now complete, with additional conference room space on the first floor, as well as a new Clinical and Intake building that is a wonderful and welcome space for our newest clients and families.
- ACRC will be hosting the upcoming Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Board meeting on Friday, June 16th. Mr. Bonnet encourages Board members to attend if their schedule permits. A lot of important information is shared and it is interesting to hear what other centers are experiencing across the state.
- As Mr. Ciampa mentioned earlier, the federal government has announced that they are planning to delay the implementation of the new CMS Rules by three years. ACRC has hired a CMS Specialist, Katherine Weston, and Mr. Bonnet will be asking her to present to the Board in early fall the changes and what these new rules mean to our clients and families. During this FY, DDS offered \$15 million in transition funding grants to service providers who created proposals to modify their service model in order to meet the new rules. Of the 21 regional centers, ACRC had the most applicants and was awarded the most funding; nine grants totaling \$2 million.

♦ *ARCA-CAC Report*

- Ms. Benson attended the last meeting which was held on April 21st.
 - The group received an update from the State Council's Statewide Self-Advocacy Network (SSAN).

- Elizabeth R., from Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC), was elected the ARCA-CAC's Chairperson for the 2017-18 FY.
 - ARCA shared information on bills that they are sponsoring or watching closely.
 - Members provided updates on what their local regional centers are doing.
 - Ms. Benson shared information about the CAC's upcoming trip to SDC. She also spoke about ACRC's Community Services Department and the services and supports that the agency is developing for the individuals who are moving into the community.
 - The group discussed their Facebook page.
 - The next telephone meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 9th. The next in-person meeting will be held on Friday, July 14th, in Sacramento.
5. ***Closed Session*** – At 5:26 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session in order to discuss legal issues.
6. ***Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion*** - At 5:38 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session following a closed session in which legal issues were discussed.
7. ***Adjournment***
The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Robin LeMay
Executive Assistant

cc: Phil Bonnet