

Alta California Regional Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, July 23, 2015  
Minutes

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

**Absent** (\* excused): Janet Brandon\*, Walter Kaweski\*, Austin Taylor\*, Kristin Wright\*

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

**Facilitators:** Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

**Visitors:** Kathy Brian, Sheryl Ledford, Ed Plon, Mia Six, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 23, 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.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved:** a) excused absence for Janet Brandon, Walter Kaweski, Austin Taylor and Kristin Wright; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of June 25, 2015; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, and Finance reports.

**\*change in agenda was noted**

4. **New Business**

- ♦ *Community Comments*
  - No comments were shared.

♦ *Executive Committee*

**Issue 1:** Approve 2015-16 Board Committees

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Peacock noted that the proposed Board committee assignments for the current fiscal year (FY) were distributed for review and approval.

**M/S/C** (Romilda Jones) **To approve the proposed Board committee assignments for the 2015-16 FY as presented.** (9 in favor)

***\*Nasim Hedayati & Rosa Meza-Villaseñor joined the meeting***

**Issue 2:** Board and Committee meeting dates & times

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Peacock shared the Board Development Committee (BDC) and Executive Committee discussed changing the date of the BDC to the second Monday of the month, prior to the Finance and Executive Committees. The proposed schedule would be:

- BDC @ 4 p.m.
- Finance Committee @ 4:30 p.m.
- Executive Committee @ 5 p.m.

This change would take effect in September 2015.

The committees also discussed moving the Board Meeting time to 4 p.m., with the exception of the September meeting. The change in time would allow for the Board to hold "Board Sponsored Trainings", which would begin at 3:30 p.m.

**M/S/C** (Jon Nelson) **To approve the change of the Board and Committee dates and times.** (11 in favor)

♦ *Finance Committee*

**Issue 1:** Monthly Financial Report

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee met on July 13<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the May 31, 2015 financial report which reflects eleven months of expenditures for the 2014-15 fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 93.4% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 89.8% of Operations (OPS).

ACRC will need between \$13.2 and \$13.6 million in additional POS funding for the 2014-15 FY. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will not be sending the next contract amendment for the 2014-15 FY until late July or early August.

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

**Issue 2:** Proposed Board Budget for 2015-16 FY

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Tiedemann shared that having a Board budget is not a requirement of DDS, but it is ACRC's practice to allocate funds for the Board's functions. He reviewed the proposed budget with those present.

**M/S/C** (Amy Lampe) **To approve the proposed budget as presented.** (11 in favor)

**Other:**

- Earlier this month, ACRC had to borrow \$1.2 million from our line-of-credit with U.S. Bank while we were waiting on our first cash advance for the current FY from DDS. As soon as it was received, the agency paid back the funds to the bank.
- Mr. Tiedemann received a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a HUD 11 grant opportunity in our catchment area. This resolution needs to be approved by the Board and the application is due August 6<sup>th</sup>. With this MOU, there is a possibility that some of our clients could access affordable housing. This action item will take place through email.

- **Information only.**

♦ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
  - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on July 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed:
    - Introduction format
    - Training for meetings
    - Meeting dates and times
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
  - No update was shared.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
  - No update was shared.

♦ *President's Report*

- Mr. Peacock shared that his search for a new position as an educator has sent him to many Board meetings, whether paid or volunteer. He believes we have a great group of folks here and he is happy to be a part of it.
- Earlier this month, Mr. Peacock attended the CAC meeting and was impressed on how dedicated and professional the members are. It was an uplifting meeting and he was reminded that this committee

remains a great place for those interested in Board membership to begin.

- Mr. Peacock is thankful for the change in the Board and committee meetings schedule and remains hopeful that this will provide more input and attendance from Board members.
- He looks forward to the Board trainings that will be taking place this year. Any suggested topics should be brought to the BDC for consideration. The trainings will allow us to gain knowledge about the regional center system and may help with our outreach efforts in recruiting new Board members.
- Mr. Peacock joined Mr. Bonnet on a tour of this agency with a group of individuals from the Department of Finance and DDS last week. He remains impressed with the dedication of the staff that work here.
- The September Board Retreat is scheduled for Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9 a.m. Lunch will be provided and the Board meeting will start at 3 p.m. that day.

♦ *Executive Director's Report*

- Mr. Bonnet expressed appreciation to all of the Board members for their dedication to this agency.
- The infrastructure of our service system is based off of software that was written in the 1970's. ACRC recently had a glitch in our e-billing system and our Accounting Department worked tirelessly to make sure our service providers were paid in a timely manner.
- An extraordinary session of the California State Legislature was called by Governor Brown to address issues related to Medi-Cal and Developmental Services. Senator Jim Beall authored SBX2-1, which calls for an across the board increase to regional center funding of 10% for POS and OPS. Advocacy groups from across the state will try encourage the Department of Finance and the Governor to once again not veto this provision that is moving through the legislature.
- The Self-Determination Program (SDP) is on a slow pace, but the excitement is growing. ACRC will make sure we inform all of our outlying counties that they can participate in this exciting new program. The first time DDS applied for this program, they did not allow for public input. The department is working on a new version of the SDP Waiver Application, which will be submitted to the public for a thirty day review and comment period, before they file it with the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) in Washington D.C. Once CMS receives the application, they will have 90 days to approve, reject, or suggest modifications to the waiver. With these types of timelines, the pilot project may begin sometime within the next calendar year. Regional centers remain busy working with their local office of our State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD).

ACRC's SDP Advisory Committee has already met twice this summer, and is making plans for a series of public meetings to share information throughout our community with people who may have an interest in participating in this program.

- The "ACRC Dashboard Indicators for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2015" were distributed and Mr. Bonnet briefly reviewed the document with everyone.
- ACRC will be hosting a public meeting at our Sacramento office on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, at 1 p.m. to discuss the closure of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). Staff will discuss our preparations with family members of SDC residents and take suggestions regarding the closure of SDC by the end of 2018. Mr. Bonnet attended a meeting last month at SDC where parents and family members expressed their concern. It is critical that these individuals focus of a person-centered plan to make sure their loved one has the needed supports to make their move into the community a success. ACRC will get additional funding from the state specifically for this purpose.
- Mr. Bonnet remains concerned about the quality and availability of residential services for our most vulnerable clients. ACRC adopted a policy several years ago to limit most new developments to no more than four residents per home with individual bedrooms. Some providers have wanted this agency to increase the number of clients that we serve in a particular home. Such a move would require approval from DDS and would almost certainly violate the new CMS rules for federal funding. Rate reform for all regional center services is desperately needed.

♦ *Announcements*

- Mr. Prosser shared that on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, individuals with disabilities have free admission to the Nevada County Fair. The Nevada People First Chapter has partnered with the Office of Emergency Services in Nevada County, the American Red Cross and the FREED Center for Independent Living, and will have an emergency preparedness booth at the fair.
- Mr. Nelson got a new seat for his wheelchair!
- Ms. Lampe's surgery was a success!

5. ***Adjournment***

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet