

Alta California Regional Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, September 24, 2015  
Minutes

**Present:** Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Janet Brandon, Nasim Hedayati, Romilda Jones, Walter Kaweski, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Steven Sanchez (via phone), Austin Taylor

**Absent** (\* excused): Jon Nelson\*, Kristin Wright\*

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

**Facilitators:** Cheryl DeForest, Amy Fulk

**Visitors:** Kathy Brian, Maureen Fitzgerald, Ed Plon, Anna Shands, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 3:01 p.m. on Thursday, September 24, 2015, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Ms. Meza-Villaseñor read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved:** a) excused absence for Jon Nelson and Kristin Wright; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of July 23, 2015; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, Finance 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 met on September 14<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the July 31, 2015 financial report which reflects one month of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 6% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 10.2% of Operations (OPS).

The OPS expenditures are usually higher in the first months of the FY due to advance payments of some expenses such as insurance, rent and employee benefits.

The annual projections are not due to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) until November, so there is very limited data in this month's financial report.

Mr. Tiedemann shared that the "ACRC's Board Finance Committee Training" will be shared with the full Board at a future date.

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

**Issue 2:** Line of Credit

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Tiedemann shared that U.S. Bank is willing to provide ACRC with a \$12 million line of credit without a fee. There has been a change in banking regulations so fees will be imposed for any additional money. Initially, U.S. Bank was going to charge \$90,000 for a \$23 million line of credit.

**M/S/C** (Anwar Safvi) **To approve the \$12 million line of credit as presented.** (12 in favor)

**Other:**

- ACRC will be required to conduct 17 vendor audits this FY as part of our contract with DDS.
- Mr. Tiedemann expressed appreciation to Mr. Safvi for his assistance in developing the Board training.

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
  - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on September 14<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following:
    - Board Retreat Draft Plan
    - Regular Board Meeting Training
    - Demographics and Meeting Attendance
    - The Executive Director's Evaluation
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
  - Mr. Taylor shared that Mr. Bonnet discussed the new CMS Rules with the committee. The goal is that clients will have the same quality of life as others who are not disabled.

- In October, the CAC will help choose the recipients of awards that ACRC and the State Council are giving out in November.
- Amy Westling, with the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA), gave an overview of ARCA and what they do to assist regional center clients across the state.
- Committee members provided updates on the various committees that they serve on.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
  - Ms. Brandon shared that there was a strong presence at the rally on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Crest Theater, and the march to the State Capitol.

*\*Walter Kaweski joined the meeting*

◆ *President's Report*

- Mr. Peacock was proud to be part of the rally on September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- He welcomed everyone to attend the standing committee meetings on the second Monday of the month.
- The Board will be developing an outreach plan and Mr. Peacock encouraged Board members to reach out to the Chairs if they are interested in participating.

◆ *Executive Director's Report*

- Mr. Bonnet expressed appreciation to the BDC for putting together today's Board training. He is grateful for the time that everyone put into today's retreat.
- This has been the most collaborative year that he has seen, but it hasn't netted our statewide system any new funding. Not only did we not get our 10% increase, the Governor is now threatening a \$1 billion cut to Medi-Cal and our system if he doesn't get a new version of a managed care tax approved. Committees are working across the state to try to figure out more efficient ways of running our program. It will be challenging without the additional funding. It's important to note that DDS supports rate increases for our service providers.
- Mr. Bonnet shared that DDS has not yet submitted the plan to the Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) for the implementation of the Self-Determination Waiver. Our local advisory committee continues to meet monthly, and excitement is growing about the program. Clarification was made that the 90-day timeline does not start until the application is received by the federal government.
- Fiesta Educativa was a huge success this past weekend. Many ACRC staff attended this annual event, which drew hundreds of local

participants who were encouraged to become involved in ACRC and statewide activities on behalf of those we serve.

- Earlier this month, ACRC held a meeting for family members of those clients who reside at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). The meeting was well-attended and the overall response from families was very positive and receptive to our pledge to do everything possible to ensure that their loved ones will have the opportunity to live a better and more included life in our community.
- ACRC is partnering with the State Council to recognize accomplishments of our clients. Nominations must be submitted by Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. The CAC will be working with the State Council's Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) to choose the awardees. The awards ceremony will take place here at ACRC on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m., prior to our Board meeting.

◆ *ARCA Report/ARCA Equity Committee*

- Mr. Kaweski attended the ARCA bi-monthly Board of Directors meeting, which was held at Harbor Regional Center on Thursday and Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The group discussed the special legislative session and how party lines were drawn.
- There was a great deal of effort to help the new legislators know who we are. Hopefully this will benefit us in the next year.
- The Equity Committee is looking at diverse ways to help support the clients that we serve.
- In October, the ARCA Board will be updating their Strategic Plan. Since Mr. Kaweski will be representing ACRC's Board at this retreat, any input would be greatly appreciated.

◆ *ARCA-CAC Report*

- Ms. Benson shared that there was a teleconference on Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>. The group discussed their Facebook page, which has pictures of the Special Olympics World Games. They also discussed the budget.
- The next in-person meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

◆ *Announcements*

- A reminder that the Board Member Code of Conduct Policy is in the monthly Board packets.
- Ms. Benson entered a necklace into a contest at the Nevada County Fair and she won first place!

**5. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:49 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet