

Alta California Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, July 14, 2025
Minutes

Present:

Dan Lake, President
Kelly Pennington, Vice President &
ARCA Rep
Steven Sanchez, Secretary
Amy Lampe, ARCA-CAC Rep
Carmen Aguilar, Member-at-Large

Absent: (* excused)

Anwar Safvi*, Finance Comm. Chair

Board Members:

Jackie Armstrong
Garrett Broadbent
Tom Hopkins

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Naomi Smith

Visitors:

Steve Andrews
Maureen Fitzgerald

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Operating
Officer
Jennifer Bloom, Director of Client
Services
John Decker, Director of Community
Services
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake &
Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client
Services
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Executive Committee met on Monday, July 14, 2025, at 4:10 p.m. to discuss:
1) Approve Board Members' Terms of Office on behalf of full Board; 2) President's
Report; and 3) Executive Director's Report.

- Ms. Pennington shared that ACRC's Open House was phenomenal. Six Board members were able to attend, and fun was had by all.

Without objection, Dan Lake made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of June 9, 2025, as submitted.

1. *Approve Board Members' Terms of Office on behalf of full Board*

- As per the Board Development Committee's motion, we are looking for a motion to approve Dan Lake's, Amy Lampe's and EunMi Cho's next terms of office.

M/S/C (Pennington) To approve Dan Lake's, Amy Lampe's and EunMi Cho's next term of office on behalf of the full Board.

2. *President's Report*

- Mr. Lake expressed appreciation to those in attendance today.

3. **Executive Director's Report**

- Ms. Banales shared that ACRC opened its doors last Thursday and showcased 26 client micro-enterprises, as well as 20+ service providers.
 - We had over 50 volunteer staff that helped make this day a success.
 - ACRC was able to contract with the cafeteria to provide appetizers for everyone in attendance.
 - We also had a band from the Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB). This band performed most of the four hours.
 - For those individuals who completed a survey, they were given a \$25 gift certificate to spend at one micro-enterprise table.
- The State budget was signed with a "poison pill" or "trigger" attached. Shortly after, the federal government passed the "Big Beautiful Bill", which may affect the federal dollars that come into the state. It is hard to guess how this will affect California. In preliminary discussions with DDS, they believe that the Governor may not reopen the budget in the fall as the impact is over out years. Regardless, should those federal dollars not flow, we will have to have discussions over the next few years. Ms. Banales continues to remind the Board, clients and staff that our statewide service system, as well as the entire state, has been through challenging times and remains resilient. Pete Cervinka, Director of DDS, believes our service system will remain strong. Regional center clients should not hold the anxiety.
- At the March Board meeting, the Board approved a contract for Dr. Peter Himber, a retired annuitant from the Regional Center of Orange County (RCOC). After discussions with CalPERS, they have asked for the language documented in the minutes/resolution to be changed.
 - We will be bringing an updated action before the Board at the July 24th Board meeting.
- Ms. Banales reviewed the "Dashboard Indicators for the Quarter Ending June 30, 2025" and noted the following:
 - We are trending down and making progress on the timelines for Lanterman Intakes. We are continuing with the strategies that we have in play – hiring more Intake Specialists (who are assigned 16 to 20 cases per month), allowing overtime for our clinicians, etc.
 - ACRC received 379 Intake applications in April, 486 in May, and 332 in June. In total = 1,197. These numbers compound month over month.
 - ACRC completed 363 eligibility reviews in April, 283 in May, and 238 in June. In total = 884; of those, 81% (716) were determined eligible.
 - We continue to work with our 37 vendored psychologists.
 - Ms. Banales noted that the numbers coming through the doors across the state are historically high. The standardization of the Intake process will help the state report more accurately. ACRC has always reported from the day of referral. She looks forward to a more equitable reporting process.

- Regarding the Caseload Ratios:
 - We are holding steady for the “Medicaid Waiver” caseloads at 1:73 (the required ratio is 1:62).
 - We are trending in the right direction for “Age 5 and Under” and “All Others.”
 - 1:43 for “Age 5 and Under” (the required ratio is 1:40).
 - 1:70 for “All Others” (the required ratio is 1:66).
- ACRC has hired 60 additional staff within the last quarter and continues to work with student interns, as well.
- Service Coordinators (SCs) have consistently met our requirement of 400 Targeted Case Management (TCM) units per month (one unit = 15 minutes) over previous quarter. Training adds to this outcome.
- Thanks to the great work of ACRC’s Federal Programs Department, almost 44% of ACRC’s clients are on the Medicaid Waiver.
 - ACRC has the second highest Medicaid Waiver counts and is the fourth largest regional center.
- Special Incident Reporting (SIR) is at 93%. ACRC staff cannot control whether a service provider turns in a late SIR or if we learn about a death days later, but we are making every effort to move the submissions to the department every morning.
- Regarding client demographics:
 - Status U (Provisionally Eligible) has increased by nearly 48% over the last year. This is a safety net program for clients who do not meet all criteria for eligibility.
 - The net growth is close to 9% (Status 2).
- ACRC has 552 clients participating in the Self-Determination Program (SDP).
 - 164 clients are between the ages of 0 to 17, and 388 are 18+.
 - 252 clients reside in Sacramento County, 110 live in Placer County, 81 reside in Nevada County, 52 live in El Dorado County, 43 reside in Yolo County, and 6 live in other counties.
 - Almost 61% are White, and 39% are non-white (8.9% Asian, 11% Black/African American, 17.3% Latin, 8.2% Mixed, and 16.8% other).
- The largest categories of services purchased for clients are: Residential Facilities, Supported Living Services (SLS), Day Programs and Respite.

4. **Closed Session** – at 5:00 p.m. the Executive Committee adjourned to executive session in order to discuss personnel issues.

5. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** – at 6:01 p.m. the Executive Committee reconvened in open session following a closed session in which personnel issues were discussed.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, September 8, 2025**. The meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales