

Alta California Regional Center  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday, September 12, 2022  
Minutes

**Present:**

Dan Lake, President  
Michelle Rewerts, Secretary  
Yang Sun, Finance Comm. Chair  
Kelly Pennington, ARCA Rep  
Amy Lampe, ARCA-CAC Rep  
Carmen Aguilar, Member-at-Large

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Anwar Safvi\*, Vice President

**Board Members:**

Johnny Deng  
Elaine Linn  
Michelle Ramirez  
Patty Wallace

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk

**Visitors:**

Maureen Fitzgerald

**Staff:**

Lori Banales, Executive Director  
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Financial Officer  
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, September 12, 2022, at 4:35 p.m. by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) President's Report; and 2) Executive Director's Report.

- *No announcements/comments were shared.*

**Without objection, Dan Lake made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of July 11, 2022 as submitted.**

**1. *President's Report***

- Mr. Lake wished Mr. Decker a "Happy Birthday"!
- He encouraged Board members to make every effort to attend the September 22<sup>nd</sup> Board Retreat/Training.

**2. *Executive Director's Report***

- Ms. Banales shared that ACRC is hosting a Coalition for Compassionate Care of California (CCCC) Training for Adult and Residential Client Services Managers tomorrow. Attendees will learn how to address the sensitive conversations about end of life/advanced care planning with clients. The goal is to decrease barriers and utilize tools to support these types of conversations.
  - This is currently a pilot project; CCCC will be gathering feedback over the next several months. The plan is to have this training rolled out to all regional centers by the end of the year.
- ACRC continues discussions with Valley Mountain Regional Center (VMRC) on ways to attract individuals to our statewide service system. The group is making terrific strides on ways to promote this workforce stability project.

- The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) had leftover funding from when they were assisting service providers with coming into compliance with the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver. The department split the remaining dollars amongst the regional centers equally; centers were required to submit their plans for approval. ACRC asked for \$142,000 for this project and VMRC requested \$50,000; both proposals were approved.
  - Mr. Decker has had conversation with a website developer out of Ohio.
  - Tony Anderson, Executive Director of VMRC, and Ms. Banales have met with Joey Travolta and the workgroup will be utilizing Inclusion Films, who employees regional center clients.
  - The group may be able to access additional funding with the workforce initiative that DDS is promoting.
  - ACRC is developing a cohort of Person-Centered Specialized Trainings for service providers to bring up their competencies to assist with HCBS.
  - After reviewing the D-1 amendment which ACRC just received from the department, Ms. Banales will be able to share our strategic hiring plan with the Board. DDS has shifted a bit on the 1:40 caseloads for Early Start. As we go through the budget season next year, we are hopeful that this goal will be realized. In the meantime, we have quite a number of Service Coordinator (SC) positions that we need to hire to bring down caseload ratios.
  - At our Board meeting this month, Ms. Banales has asked Robin Black, ACRC's Legal Services Manager, to speak to the Board about the changes to the appeals process that is stipulated in law.
  - The Mosquito fire has impacted 167 clients and three ACRC staff. We have contacted everyone that has been affected by this fire; there are no unmet needs at this point. The fire is 10% contained.
    - Our Emergency Response Coordinator is utilizing our Everbridge messaging system to reach out to clients/families.
  - In October, Ms. Banales will begin discussions with the Board and its advisory committees on the draft 2023 Performance Contract.
    - Any suggestions can be sent to [performancecontractfeedback@altaregional.org](mailto:performancecontractfeedback@altaregional.org)
  - ACRC is seeking to waive the median rates for psychological assessments in order to assist with Intake eligibility timeline requirements. In order to do this, we will be hosting an AB 637 public meeting on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 12:30 p.m.
3. **Closed Session** – at 4:58 p.m. the Executive Committee adjourned to executive session in order to discuss legal issues.
4. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** – at 5:16 p.m. the Executive Committee reconvened in open session following a closed session in which legal issues were discussed.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 11, 2022**.  
The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Lori Banales