

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, March 24, 2016
Minutes

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Janet Brandon, Nasim Hedayati, Romilda Jones, Dan Lake, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Steven Sanchez, Austin Taylor, Rita Walker

Absent (* excused): Walter Kaweski*, Amy Lampe*, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor*, Kristin Wright

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Alfonso Carmona, Camelia Houston, David Lopez, David Rydquist, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

Facilitators: Larry Prosser

Visitors: Janelle Lewis, Berenice Mendez, Kabir Wahedi, Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 4:06 p.m. on Thursday, March 24, 2016, 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 absence for Walter Kaweski, Amy Lampe, and Rosa Meza-Villaseñor; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of February 25, 2016; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, Finance and PAC reports.
4. **New Business**
 - ◆ *Community Comments*
 - No community comments were shared.
 - ◆ *Finance Committee*

Issue 1: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee met on March 14, 2016, and at that time the finance report was not available.

Mr. Tiedemann distributed the February 29, 2016 financial report which reflects eight months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 59.8% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 65.4% of Operations (OPS).

On March 4th, ACRC received the second amendment from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), which included \$441,785 in OPS, \$1.9 million in POS, and \$1.3 million in Community Placement Plan (CPP) funding. At this time, Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will either require up to \$1.1 million in additional funding or have up to \$2.6 million in surplus.

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

Issue 2: Resolution for Retirement Plan

Discussion and Action: Mr. Tiedemann shared that because of changes under the Pension Protection Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act and the Internal Revenue Service, one of ACRC's retirement plans, VALIC, is requiring the Board to adopt a resolution restating the plan. He read aloud the resolution. These changes do not change the contributions or any vesting rights. Mr. Tiedemann clarified that this is a legal requirement to keep the plan in compliance with all laws.

M/S/C (Anwar Safvi) **To accept the restatement of the plan, which brings this plan into compliance with the current laws as presented.** (11 in favor)

Issue 3: Independent Audit Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the committee reviewed the independent audit report with its eleven findings, which are noted in the Finance Committee minutes of March 14th. If anyone has any questions, please contact Mr. Tiedemann.

M/S/C (Anwar Safvi) **To accept the Independent Audit Report as presented.** (11 in favor)

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on March 14th.
 - The group discussed the upcoming Board training, which will be held just prior to the Board meeting on Thursday, May 26th.
 - They reviewed the attendance bylaw.
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Mr. Taylor shared that the CAC met on March 8th.
 - Mr. Bonnet updated everyone regarding the new funding that is coming into the statewide system.

- The group will be holding its June 14th meeting at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC).
 - Mr. Taylor was nominated as the Chair & designated representative to the Board of Directors for the 2016-17 FY.
 - Members provided updates from the various committees that they serve on.
 - Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Ms. Brandon shared that the PAC met on March 10th.
 - With the passage of the Managed Care Organization (MCO) Reform, some providers will be asked to complete a rate survey. The group is willing to assist in any way possible to make sure that the data that DDS receives is correct.
 - The group suggested holding a gratitude rally at the State Capitol to thank the legislature for the additional funding on the Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) Grassroots Day, March 30th.
 - Ms. Brandon was nominated as the designated representative to the Board of Directors and Eric Ciampa was nominated as the Chair for the 2016-17 FY.
 - The group continues to discuss the ongoing staff crisis in the community. Providers are having difficulty hiring and keeping quality employees. The PAC will not be meeting in April, but will meet in May and continue to discuss this issue.
- ◆ *President's Report*
- Mr. Peacock shared that we are all elated that there is new money coming into our system. ACRC has established great partnerships throughout our catchment area.
 - Project Search is hosting an Open House & Information Night on Tuesday, April 5th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Kaiser Permanente on Morse Avenue.
 - The Board of Directors is still focused on outreach opportunities. We have a few Board members who may be requesting a leave of absence in the near future. In that light, there is a lot of work to be done. Mr. Peacock encouraged everyone to continue to attend committee meetings to help support the Board's work.
- ◆ *Executive Director's Report*
- Mr. Bonnet shared that David Rydquist, ACRC's Director of Adult & Residential Services, will be retiring next week. He has dedicated the past 40 years to regional center clients and their families.

Alfonso Carmona will be taking on the Director of Adult & Residential Services position. Camelia Houston will be filling the Director of Intake & Clinical Services vacancy.

- Governor Brown signed into law the two bills that will bring over \$400 million in additional funding into our statewide system beginning July 1st. This all happened outside of the normal budget process. Prior to this happening, the Governor proposed additional funding for the 2016-17 FY for growth and caseloads. ACRC may be able to hire up to 20 additional Service Coordinators (SCs).
 - The Association of Regional Center Agencies' (ARCA's) Grassroots Day is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30th. With the assistance of ACRC's Provider Advisory Committee, ARCA has organized a "Thank You" Rally between noon and 1 p.m. on the west steps of the State Capitol. The power of speaking with one voice is amazing!
 - ACRC's CAC will be holding their June meeting at SDC on June 14th. This year's event has been expanded to include invitations to family members of the individuals living at SDC. Mr. Bonnet invited Board members to attend as well.
 - ACRC held two public meetings to discuss our POS expenditures. Mr. Bonnet will be submitting suggestions to DDS on how ACRC can reach out to underserved communities to make sure that folks in all ten of our counties get the necessary services that they need. Part of the new funding will allow regional centers to hire a full time Cultural Diversity Manager to assist with this. There is also money to assist with bilingual staff.
 - Last week, Mr. Bonnet was invited to be present on the Senate Floor for the reading of Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 98. He was able to bring a mom and her son along to share the experience. It was an honor to be there. The client's mother was very thankful for the opportunity.
- ◆ *ARCA Report/ARCA Equity Committee*
- Mr. Lake attended the ARCA Board meeting last Friday. This meeting was overwhelming for him and he has come to respect Walt's reports.
 - DDS presented a budget update.
 - ARCA recently updated their paper "Beyond the Brink of Collapse".
 - Rick Rollens gave a legislative report on the 14 bills that ARCA currently supports.
 - Mr. Lake believes that the Board may want to consider one of the topics for the September Retreat Training to be how ARCA fills the gaps in our service system.
 - A suggestion was made to possibly distribute the ARCA Board meeting minutes to the entire Board once they are approved.

5. **Closed Session** – At 5:09 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session in order to discuss legal issues.
6. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** - At 5:50 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session following a closed session in which legal issues were discussed.
7. **Adjournment**
The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet