

Alta California Regional Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Thursday, May 24, 2018  
Minutes

**Present:** Jackie Armstrong, Cindy Benson, Eric Ciampa, Romilda Jones, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Michelle Rewerts, Anwar Safvi (via phone), Retha Seabron, Austin Taylor, Rita Walker

**Absent** (\* excused): Tatiana Kuzminchuk\*, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Steven Sanchez\*

**Staff:** Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, Jennifer Crick, Camelia Houston, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

**Facilitators:** Amy Fulk, Larry Prosser

**Visitors:** Cheryl Worthley

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 3:09 p.m. on Thursday, May 24, 2018, at the Yolo County Office of Education in Woodland.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC’s Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Ms. Rewerts read aloud ACRC’s Mission, and Ms. Armstrong read aloud ACRC’s Vision.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved: a) excused absences for Tatiana Kuzminchuk and Steven Sanchez; b) regular session Board meeting minutes of March 22, 2018; and c) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive, Finance and PAC reports.**
4. **New Business**
  - ◆ *Community Comments*
    - No comments were shared.
  - ◆ *Board Development Committee*

**Issue:** Approve New Board Member

**Discussion and Action:** Ms. Walker shared that the Board Development Committee (BDC) interviewed Dr. Yang Sun earlier this month. The BDC is recommending him for Board membership.

**M/S/C** (Amy Lampe) **To approve Dr. Yang Sun for Board membership representing El Dorado County.** (11 in favor)

◆ *Executive Committee*

**Issue:** Approve Conflict Resolution Plan – Austin Taylor

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Lake shared that the Executive Committee reviewed Mr. Taylor’s Conflict Resolution Plan; his hours per week and employment years have been updated.

**M/S/C** (Jackie Armstrong) **To approve the Conflict Resolution Plan for Austin Taylor as presented.** (11 in favor)

As of yesterday, Mr. Taylor accepted the position of Administrative Assistance at Strategies To Empower People (STEP) in their Rocklin Office beginning July 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Board will need to review and approve a revised Conflict Resolution Plan in a few weeks.

◆ *Finance Committee*

**Issue 1:** Monthly Financial Report

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee met on May 14<sup>th</sup>, and reviewed the March 31, 2018 financial report which reflects nine months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). With 75% of the year elapsed, ACRC has expended 70.9% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 70% of Operations (OPS).

Mr. Tiedemann is projecting that ACRC will need \$506,000 in additional POS funding for the Community Placement Plan (CPP) budget due to the increased cost for clients that ACRC has moved from the developmental centers (DCs), as well as additional DC clients that have been assigned to ACRC from other regional centers.

At the request of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), ACRC will be developing a program that will work with clients transitioning from Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) facilities. All Northern California regional centers will be able to access this service.

Additionally, Mr. Tiedemann has added some graphics to the financial statements so that Board members might have a better understanding of the information that is being shared.

**Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to accept the monthly finance report as submitted.**

**Issue 2:** Contract over \$250,000 (Crisis Behavioral Services)

**Discussion and Action:** Mr. Safvi shared that the Board needs to approve a contract for Crisis Behavioral Services. This contract pays the service provider a flat rate of \$75,277 per month, for a minimum of 988 hours of service. If they provide less than that, their rate will be prorated.

This contract is funded through ACRC's Community Placement Plan (CPP) and the service provider will assist six clients at a time.

Some clients have remained in emergency rooms for extended periods because regional centers don't have the necessary services to assist them. Crisis services are a critical, identified need, and services through this contract will be available in Sacramento, El Dorado, Placer and Yolo Counties.

Mr. Tiedemann clarified that the provider will be able to step in right away. The contract does not specify a timeline.

**M/S/C** (Anwar Safvi) **To approve the contract for Crisis Behavioral Services as presented.** (11 in favor)

**Other item:**

Mr. Tiedemann shared that ACRC may need to borrow more money than our line-of-credit due to cash flow issues with the state; he is currently talking with US Bank. DDS has indicated that they may not be able to pay regional centers until the third week in July. Therefore, ACRC may need to borrow an additional \$8 to \$10 million; this could cost the agency up to \$25,000 in fees.

Mr. Tiedemann will be sharing additional information with ACRC's Finance and Executive Committees at their June meetings. Most likely, ACRC will need to increase our line of credit moving forward.

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
  - Ms. Walker shared that the BDC met on May 14<sup>th</sup>.
    - The committee interviewed a candidate. Ms. Walker expressed appreciation to Mr. Bonnet and his staff for all of the work that has been done to reach out to potential applicants for Board membership.
    - The Nominating Committee presented their proposed Slate of Officers for the upcoming FY. They are also recommending that Ms. Kuzminchuk and Ms. Seabron be approved for their second two-year term.

- The full Board will be voting on this in June.
- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
  - Ms. Rewerts shared that the CAC met on May 8<sup>th</sup>.
    - Mr. Bonnet talked about the special Senate Hearing and he reminded them about how important it is to vote.
    - The group reviewed the “Friends Helping Friends” questionnaire, which they will be using when they start visiting individuals that have moved out of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC).
    - Members gave updates on the various advocacy groups that they are a part of.
- Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
  - Mr. Ciampa shared that the PAC met on April 12<sup>th</sup>, but not in May, due to the scheduling conflict with the special Senate Hearing.
    - California’s State budget was of particular concern. The State Assembly and Senate have both heard issues that affect service providers – the reinstatement of camp and social recreation services, the need for affordable housing and increases to provider rates. PAC members would like the proposed uniform holiday schedule removed from the budget.
    - Many PAC members are part of a rate study workgroup that is working closely with Burns & Associates on developing DDS’ Rate Study Survey. This survey is very lengthy, but necessary in order to gather the correct data.
    - Grant awards for the Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver have been awarded by DDS. These grants will provide funding to assist providers in becoming more compliant with the new changes to the law.
- ◆ *President’s Report*
  - Mr. Lake expressed appreciation to Mr. Bonnet and his team for making today’s training a success. It wouldn’t work if people didn’t show up – this is your Board!
- ◆ *Executive Director’s Report*
  - The State budget hearings are in full swing now. Some of the issues related to regional centers that are still being discussed include camping services, social recreational programs, the uniform holiday schedule, and a request to provide additional provider funding in areas affected by local minimum wages that are higher than the state minimum wage. Mr. Bonnet believes that many of these things will likely be passed through to the conference committee. The

conference committee from both houses will then hash out any differences and present the Governor with a final version of the budget by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Governor Brown will sign the budget by June 30<sup>th</sup>, the end of the California FY.

- Mr. Bonnet believes that camp and social recreational services could be reinstated as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, with time for regional centers to “ramp up” and get providers in place. Whether non-evidence based therapies will be approved has not been decided. Our statewide service system will need an additional \$40 million in order to reinstate these services.
- The Board of Directors approved the revised Respite Policy earlier this year. ACRC staff have received verbal approval by DDS staff. Trailer bill language that is being voted on today at the State Capitol will likely require that all regional centers provide public access to any protocols, procedures or tools used in determining respite needs for ACRC clients and families.
- ACRC has one single client residing at SDC, even though he was scheduled to leave more than a month ago. Multiple staffing issues at SDC and at the community home have delayed his return to the community, but he will be coming home soon. This DC is still on track to completely close before December 31, 2018.
- Regional centers across the state have been doing deflection for years to keep individuals from being placed into DCs. ACRC has developed community crisis homes that are specifically designed for the services they will provide to our clients. In addition to these homes, we have developed two mobile crisis services that will provide intensive behavioral support and training in an individual’s home setting in collaboration with the primary caregiver. This type of service is short-term (up to 18 months). ACRC will continue to expand these types of services as the needs for these specialized services continues to grow.
- ACRC continues to hold public informational meetings on the new Self-Determination Program (SDP). It appears that the federal government will be approving California’s SDP application by June 11<sup>th</sup>. After that, DDS will need to figure out the details and many questions remain. ACRC has over 2,000 clients that have indicated their interest in participating in the three-year pilot project; of those, 175 clients will be chosen by DDS.

## 5. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet