

Alta California Regional Center  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday, November 14, 2022  
Minutes

**Present:**

Dan Lake, President  
Anwar Safvi, Vice President  
Michelle Rewerts, Secretary  
Kelly Pennington, ARCA Rep  
Amy Lampe, ARCA-CAC Rep  
Carmen Aguilar, Member-at-Large

**Absent:** (\* excused)

Yang Sun\*, Finance Comm. Chair

**Board Members:**

Jackie Armstrong  
Elaine Linn

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk

**Visitors:**

Steve Andrews  
Maureen Fitzgerald  
Peter Mendoza  
Karen Mulvany

**Staff:**

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

The Executive Committee met on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 4:07 p.m. by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) Approve Conservatorship Policy; 2) Approve 2023 Performance Contract; 3) President's Report; and 4) Executive Director's Report.

- *Ms. Fitzgerald would like to know how ACRC requested public input on the 2023 Performance Contract.*
- *Ms. Mulvany provided input on the draft Conservatorship Policy. She would like to see more inclusion in the decision-making process. It would be helpful for the proposed conservator to know what information is relevant in determining what powers can be granted and what options are available.*
- *Mr. Mendoza noted that the State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) heard concern from the community about ACRC not having the draft 2023 Performance Contract posted on the agency's website. This brings up an issue of accessibility and transparency. In order to get feedback, the process needs to be clear. He would like the Board to look at this process for the future.*

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

**1. Approve Conservatorship Policy**

- Due to the ABC News 10 conservatorship series, it was important to Ms. Banales for ACRC to state its position on conservatorship. Within the policy, it states that individuals with developmental disabilities have the same constitutional rights guaranteed to every individual. With AB 1663

being signed into law on September 30, 2022, this is also an opportunity for the Board to state what other options are available to clients/families including Supported Decision-Making (SDM). After this policy is approved, ACRC will define the other options that are available, knowing that conservatorship is the last resort in order to support the health, safety and welfare of the clients we serve.

- ACRC staff separated the policy from the procedure. Ms. Banales emphasized that this procedure is not the only document that leads our staff through this process; there are multiple documents that she is happy to share with the community (e.g., a list of questions for limited conservatorships that clients/families answer).
- Ms. Banales noted that the policy states the purpose. Conservatorship is the most restrictive option, understanding that all other options have been researched prior to supporting conservatorship. She shared that sometimes conservatorship is the option that is needed.
- Once ACRC has a policy in place, the conservatorship guide that is posted on our website will be updated; the policy will be its foundation.
- It is also ACRC's intention to host comprehensive trainings, making sure that clients/families know all of the options that are available. These trainings will share what SDM is and how to implement a plan.

**Without objection, Michelle Rewerts made the motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Conservatorship Policy as presented.**

## **2. Approve 2023 Performance Contract**

- Every year, Ms. Banales reviews the Directive from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) regarding the Performance Contract process. Regional centers are charged with showing the community what was approved the prior year and how we affected positive change. They then seek additional community input that can possibly be included in the next year's contract.
- ACRC accepted public comment through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Staff then infused the public comments into our 2023 draft plan.
  - Ms. Johnson, John Decker and Ms. Houston reviewed the public input and drafted the 2023 plan, which was shared on screen.
  - Ms. Johnson provided an overview of the revisions that were made.
  - Ms. Banales noted that a good number of activities are still in play from the previous year's plan.

**Without objection, Kelly Pennington made the motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2023 Performance Contract as presented.**

## **3. President's Report**

- Mr. Lake appreciates everyone's support and interest.

#### 4. **Executive Director's Report**

- ACRC is hosting a Micro-Enterprise Fair on November 30<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at our Sacramento office. Everyone is invited.
- Our Santa Day/Tour Around the World is scheduled for Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year, ACRC is supporting all different customs and traditions.
- Ms. Banales shared that ACRC has several Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs (ARFPSHNs). These homes are under a housing organization, who leases the homes to licensed service providers. What is unique about these homes is that when the provider is no longer available to support the individuals, the clients do not have to move, but a new provider is brought in to provide the needed support.
  - For two ARFPSHNs, the administrator was delicensed/decertified and a new service provider was located. DDS and ACRC staff are working collaboratively, and continue to perform unannounced visits to ensure that clients are cared for. The continuity of service was sustained.
- Shannon Willoughby, ACRC's new Dental Coordinator, starts on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Ms. Banales will introduce her to the Board at a future meeting.
- On October 13<sup>th</sup>, DDS released the implementation guidelines for the 2022-23 State budget. Mr. Decker reviewed the entire document at a "Coffee with Community Services" meeting a few weeks ago. Ms. Banales invites everyone to view the YouTube channel recording.
- The Little Hoover Commission held their first hearing in October, along with a roundtable discussion. Last Thursday, they held their second hearing; the group did not cover all of the agenda items so a third hearing will be scheduled.
  - Ms. Banales encourages individuals to send in written comments to the Little Hoover Commission so that they are aware of the good stories that are out there. She would like everyone's experience reflected on record and fears that the only voices that are being heard are those that are not happy with our statewide service system.
- Ms. Johnson provided a preview of the National Core Indicators (NCI) Data public meeting which will be shared at the November 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
  - Ms. Banales shared that DDS has an interactive dashboard of the NCI data posted on their website, as well.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 9, 2023**. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Lori Banales