

Alta California Regional Center
Executive Committee Meeting
Monday, February 10, 2020
Minutes

Present:

Dan Lake, President
Rita Walker, Vice President
Amy Lampe, Secretary (via phone)
Yang Sun, Finance Comm. Chair
Michelle Rewerts, ARCA-CAC Rep
(via phone)
Ron Mainini, Member-at-Large

Board Members:

Carmen Aguilar (via phone)
Eric Ciampa
Johnny Deng
Paul Platner
Steven Sanchez (via phone)
Retha Seabron

Staff:

Phil Bonnet, Executive Director
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Financial Officer
Lori Banales, Deputy Executive
Director
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Executive Committee met at 5:16 p.m. on Monday, February 10, 2020, in the Brenda Smith Conference Room at Alta California Regional Center to discuss: 1) State Budget Update; 2) New Business; 3) Old Business; 4) Committee Reports; 5) President's Report; 6) Executive Director's Report; and 7) Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

1. ***State Budget Update***

Issue: The committee needs to review the Governor's State Budget.

Discussion and Action: Mr. Bonnet will send Board members the budget analysis through email. The total funding for our statewide system is \$9.2 billion; up \$1 billion from the revised estimates of last year. The majority of the budget is coming from the State of California.

The proposed budget includes a new \$80 million performance incentive program for regional centers. If regional centers meet an advanced tier of performance measures and outcomes tied to their Performance Contract with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), they will receive additional Operations (OPS) funding. Mr. Bonnet noted that the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) does not support this new program.

The three service codes (Early Start Specialized Therapeutic Services, Independent Living Services, and Infant Development Programs) that were not included in the 8.2% supplemental rate increase on January 1st of this year will receive an increase effective January 2021.

Some level of concern has been expressed regarding the Governor's proposal to mandate lower caseloads for young children (three, four and five year olds). Since the school system is the main resource for these clients, regional centers currently have a 1:62 mandated caseload ratio versus 1:45 for Early Start. Case management is the service that regional centers provide.

The LAO is strongly supporting the proposal to expand health and safety net services.

ACRC currently has over 179 clients involved in the Self-Determination Program (SDP).

- **Information only.**

****Steven Sanchez left the meeting***

Without objection, Dan Lake made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of January 13, 2020 as submitted.

2. *New Business*

- Updated Whistleblower Policy
 - Mr. Lake shared that ACRC recently updated their Whistleblower Policy to reflect that complaints will now be directed to the Legal Services Department and the fax number was updated. The web link for filing with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has also been updated.
 - It appears that the current policy was not updated; there are two missing sentences. Staff will make the necessary corrections and Mr. Bonnet will bring this back to the Board for review.
 - Board members would get involved in this complaint process if something was received about the Executive Director.
 - There should be clarification on when the Board gets notified/involved.

3. *Old Business*

- Board Approved Policies
 - Mr. Lake requested that Board members review the Services and Supports Policies that they have previously received.

4. *Committee Reports*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - The group will be conducting a Board panel interview on March 9th at 3:30 p.m. prior to the committee meeting.
 - Committee members are reviewing the agency's bylaws with consideration of the lawyer's comments/suggestions.

- The Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Grassroots Day will be held on Tuesday, April 21st, at the State Capitol.
- The ARCA Academy (statewide Board Training) is scheduled for Saturday, February 22nd, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at ACRC's Sacramento office.
- Personnel Committee
 - The draft "Succession and Recruitment Policy" will be discussed at the March 9th Executive Committee meeting.
 - The committee is working on the Executive Director's evaluation which should be completed in April. Another training will be held after the March 26th Board meeting.
 - The group is starting to develop goals for the Executive Director.

5. ***President's Report***

- No report was shared.

6. ***Executive Director's Report***

- Mr. Bonnet is part of a group from ARCA who has met several times with DVU to discuss ongoing concerns about our statewide service system. This group released their suggested 2020-2021 Budget Priorities.
 - They want individuals in the intake process to be able to file complaints; even though the complaint/appeal process is for Lanterman clients not for those that have not yet been determined eligible.
 - The group wants everything machine readable so that they can analyze data.
 - They would like DDS to set the standard for uniform postings on regional center websites.
 - Issues regarding Purchases of Services (POS) disparity remain a high priority for the group.
- Stanford Law School released their report entitled "Transparency and Accountability in California's Regional Center System".
 - If anyone is interested in reading this rather lengthy report, please let Mr. Bonnet know.
- On Wednesday, ACRC is holding an *Arts & Crafts Spring Festival*.
- Mr. Bonnet noted that Board members had expressed concern about the Special Incident Reporting (SIR) requirements on a recent dashboard report. After researching it, staff found that there was a data error (the formula should not take into account holidays), so instead of the agency being at 79%, we are actually at 93%.
- Last year, ACRC received 48 Fair Hearing (FH) requests. This calendar year, we have received five; one regarding eligibility and four regarding services. We currently have four pending FHs before the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). Staff continue to try to resolve issues with families outside of the courtroom.

7. ***Announcements***

- Next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26th, at 4 p.m. and the next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Monday, March 9th, at 5:30 p.m.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, March 9, 2020**, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Phil Bonnet