

Alta California Regional Center  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday, May 10, 2021  
Minutes

**Present:**

Rita Walker, President  
Ron Mainini, Vice President  
Michelle Rewerts, Secretary &  
ARCA-CAC Rep  
Yang Sun, Finance Comm. Chair  
Carmen Aguilar, Member-at-Large  
Jackie Armstrong, Member-at-Large

**Board Members:**

Johnny Deng  
Kelly Pennington  
Michelle Ramirez  
Anwar Safvi  
Steven Sanchez  
Jennifer Stratton

**Facilitators:**

Amy Fulk

**Visitors:**

DeLayna Eskridge-Brown  
Maureen Fitzgerald  
Tanisha Gordon-Flowers  
Judy Licciardello  
Samantha Morgan  
Barbara van Ingen  
Paul Wurst

**Staff:**

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

The Executive Committee met on Monday, May 10, 2021, at 4:48 p.m. by Webex/teleconference to discuss: 1) Approve 2021-22 FY Board Meeting & Committee Schedules; 2) ARCA Update; and 3) Executive Director's Report. All present provided self-introductions.

**Without objection, Rita Walker made the motion to adopt the Executive Committee meeting minutes of March 8, 2021 as submitted.**

**1. Approve 2021-22 FY Board Meeting & Committee Schedules**

- The proposed 2021-22 fiscal year's (FY's) Board meeting calendar is reflective of holidays. Ms. Walker reminded those present that the Board does not meet in August, October, December, February, April or June.

**Without objection, Jackie Armstrong made the motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2021-22 FY Board Meeting schedule.**

- Because of a holiday, ACRC is closed the second Monday of October. Those present agreed that the three standing Board committees will meet on Tuesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4 p.m., following the Client Advisory Committee.

**Without objection, Jackie Armstrong made the motion to recommend to the full Board the approval of the 2021-22 FY Committee meeting schedule.**

## **2. ARCA Update**

- Ms. Walker shared that the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) created two info graphs (English/Spanish versions) noting the importance of Service Coordination.
  - The ARCA-CAC created a flyer with quotes from committee members on how Service Coordinators (SCs) assist them in their day-to-day lives.
- The ARCA Grassroots Day was virtual this year and Mr. Bonnet recognized Ms. West for her efforts in making this a successful day (or week).

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

- Mr. Bonnet shared that the State of California will be promoting the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program, which will offer a discount on Internet service for low-income families beginning on Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Information is posted on our agency's website.
- ACRC has not reported a single new COVID-19 positive case in the month of May to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) [i.e., for clients, service providers and staff]. We have reported the following to the department since the beginning of the pandemic:
  - 794 positive clients, with 30 deaths
  - 365 positive direct support professionals (DSPs), with two deaths
  - 27 positive ACRC staff

The decrease in positive cases has a lot to do with people getting vaccinated. Currently, ACRC has about 5,200 clients vaccinated. Mr. Bonnet noted that this means a lot of our clients still have not been vaccinated. Vaccine hesitancy or refusal is real. We need to provide more education to our clients and families. The personal touch of sharing why you chose to get vaccinated is sometimes helpful.

- Today, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) made children ages 12 and older eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine.
- Despite the hesitancy, deaths have reached an all-time low in the United States.
- ACRC is currently rolling out the DDS Directive regarding in-person visits to specialized facilities. Community Care Licensing (CCL) has also released safety protocols. The department has asked regional center staff to mitigate any issues that clients/families may have against in-person visits.
  - ACRC staff are gradually returning to the office. Safety is our top priority; we must assume that not all staff are vaccinated.

## **4. Closed Session** – at 5:19 p.m. the Executive Committee adjourned to executive session in order to discuss personnel issues.

5. ***Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion*** – at 6:18 p.m. the Executive Committee reconvened in open session following a closed session in which personnel issues were discussed.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 14, 2021**.  
The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Lisa West  
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors  
Phil Bonnet