

Alta California Regional Center
Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 10, 2023
Minutes

Present:

Anwar Safvi, Chair
Johnny Deng
Dan Lake
Kelly Pennington
Michelle Rewerts

Absent: (* excused)

Tom Hopkins*
Retha Seabron*

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk

Visitors:

Steve Andrews
Nichole Beebe
Maureen Fitzgerald
Peter Mendoza
Patty Wallace
Karen Young

Board Members:

Garrett Broadbent
Amy Lampe
Steven Sanchez

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Iqbal Ahmad, Chief Operating Officer
Eli Barquero, Auditor
Jennifer Bloom, Director of Client Services
Tracy Brown, Associate Client Services Director
Faye Tait, Associate Client Services Director
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake & Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client Services
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Finance Committee met on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 4:03 p.m. to discuss: 1) Monthly Financial Update; and 2) Review DDS vendor audit requirement for current FY and annual vendor audit report.

Without objection, Anwar Safvi made the motion to adopt the Finance Committee meeting minutes of September 11, 2023, as submitted.

1. Monthly Financial Update

- Mr. Ahmad shared that ACRC received the E-1 amendment from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) last week and he will have a financial statement for review/approval at next month's meeting. The statewide regional center system's budget is \$13 billion, with ACRC's budget at \$780 million. Our agency received a 3% increase for Operations (OPS), along with a 16% statewide average increase in Purchase of Services (POS).

2. Review DDS vendor audit requirement for current FY and annual vendor audit report

Issue: The committee will review the DDS' vendor audit requirement for the current fiscal year (FY) and the previous FY's vendor audit report.

Discussion and Action: Mr. Ahmad noted that Mr. Barquero began his ACRC employment within the last FY as our internal auditor and oversight of our compliance functions. In Title 17, there are three different audits that regional centers are charged with completing – billing audits, cost verification and/or staffing audits and Early Start audits.

DDS is requiring ACRC to conduct 17 vendor audits in the 2023-24 FY, but our agency may complete more whenever needed based on input received from other sources.). There are two dates listed on the final report – date of draft audit report and date of final audit date, both trigger an appeal process if the vendor chooses to exercise it. Every year, some audits are brought before DDS, or the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and ACRC has prevailed in all of these thus far.

Mr. Ahmad shared a summary of the ACRC audits that were completed in the 2022-23 FY. As of this meeting, we have collected all of the outstanding recoveries. Last FY overlapped with alternative services due to the pandemic; billing errors occurred during this period as vendors made an effort to comply with the multiple directives that were issued during this time period.

- **Information only.**

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 13, 2023**. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales