

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Dick Long

Mr. Long referred members to their information packets to review our annual report on RCEB's local public policy outcomes for our Strategic Plan Performance Objectives for 2006. Mary Brett reviewed the report with the Board and reminded members that the year-end report captures only a portion of the work completed by RCEB staff while illustrating our clear presence in supporting consumers and families in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Mr. Burton noted that the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will also provide a summary report that will show how RCEB compares to the other regional centers in the state in meeting DDS compliance standards in specific performance areas. That information will be included in next month's board packet.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: Steve Whitgob

Dr. Whitgob distributed and reviewed the financial status report for January 2007. RCEB projects a Purchase of Service insufficiency ranging from a maximum of <\$4.2 million> to a minimum of <\$1.5 million>. These figures remain consistent with the Sufficiency of Allocation Report submitted to DDS in September. Members were reminded that DDS had announced a statewide base/growth funding insufficiency and all regional centers received a prorated portion of their base deficit allocation. If the system-wide deficit projection continues to year-end as expected, an omnibus bill to address deficits in all state programs will be introduced.

Dr. Whitgob reported that his committee meeting had included the presentation of the draft audit report for fiscal year 2005/2006 by representatives of our audit firm. Dr. Whitgob introduced Roger Bulosan and Sandra Martinez of Lautze and Lautze. Mr. Bulosan provided a brief overview of the purpose and process of the audit and noted that it was an unqualified audit report with no management comments indicating RCEB's accounting policies and their implementation conform with accounting principles. Mr. Bulosan thanked Ms. Kubota and her staff for their cooperation and assistance with the audit. Members were asked to consider acceptance of the document.

M/S/C "The Board moves to accept the independent audit report for FY 2005/06 as presented." (Sanford/S. Whitgob) Unanimous.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Ralph Griffin

Mr. Griffin reminded the group that members can now serve a total of seven years within eight years. Mr. Florin has completed six years of service and has indicated his willingness extend his term for one year. Mr. Griffin also reported that Mike Kuller had been nominated for a three-year term of service at the February meeting of the Board. Following a ballot election, Mr. Griffin reported that both gentlemen had been elected.

SERVICES AND SUPPORTS COMMITTEE: Francine Davis for Claudia Sladen

Ms. Davis reported that she and Mrs. Sladen have been reviewing the role of the committee and are finalizing the agenda for the next committee meeting.

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Will Sanford

Mr. Sanford reported that Carol Zabin of the UC Berkeley Labor Center provided his group with a presentation on the Consumer Directed Services Network. PVAC members continue to monitor the wage-enhancement pass through process. It was noted that the application process for the wage enhancement funding was complex and confusing so many providers chose not to apply. The average wage enhancement increase was 3.8% and Ms. Kubota and the accounting staff have been working to process the increase for service providers. Their efforts are much appreciated.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Rose Coleman

Ms. Coleman reported they have been reviewing the process of selecting attendees for the statewide People First Conference being held in June. Committee members have agreed that half the people attending this year will be people who have never attended the conference and half the attendees will be active participants in the local People First activities.

Ms. Coleman also reported the CAC has one vacancy and three candidates for the open position. The group is reviewing the process for expanding their membership and may be requesting Board permission to increase the size of their committee.

Mr. Long announced that Ms. Coleman was the recipient of the Carlos Quintong Self-Advocacy Award given at the recent Area Board 5 annual meeting. Board members offered their congratulations to Ms. Coleman and acknowledged she was very deserving of this special recognition.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton

Mr. Burton reported that Terri Delgadillo's appointment has been approved by the Senate and she is now the Director of the Department of Developmental Services. Ms. Delgadillo received strong support from throughout the system and we look forward to working with her. Ms. Delgadillo recently spent a day at RCEB and in our community getting to know consumers and families in our area.

Mr. Burton notified the group that a number of important meetings will take place in the next several months. The Senate's Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism will meet on March 1st in Sacramento. This group has traveled throughout the state soliciting input and we are hopeful that their efforts will result in changes in public policy in addressing the needs of the growing autism population.

Area Board 5 will host a meeting to review draft recommendations for SB 1270, a bill requiring a special report to the legislature with ideas for how to make day services better for people with developmental disabilities. Members were referred to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities website at scdd.ca.gov to learn more about the process.

Legislative hearings on the Administration's proposed budget have also been scheduled. The Senate hearing will take place on April 9th and the Assembly hearing will be on April 11th. It will be important for both committees to hear from consumers and families in order for their members to understand the importance of community based services. Mr. Burton noted that the proposed budget does not include many changes for us but all cost containment items are being continued. It will be important for public testimony to clearly explain the severe impact these measures have had on services to consumers and families.

Mr. Burton reported that we have just made arrangements to purchase our tenth home to support the consumers leaving Agnews Developmental Center. We hosted a very successful meeting for Agnews family members earlier this month. The meeting was very well attended and included presentations from the Housing Consortium of the East Bay (HCEB) and residential service providers. The event provided an excellent opportunity for the exchange of information. At this time, there are about 250 people still residing at Agnews and we will continue to work with consumers and families to make this a positive experience for them.

Mr. Burton informed the group that he recently had the opportunity to visit the Lincoln Oaks apartment in Fremont and was impressed with how well these units were designed. These attractive units are a clear demonstration of the importance and success of HCEB efforts in our community.

Mr. Burton reported that RCEB is struggling with case management vacancies with nineteen open positions. We continue to aggressively recruit by advertising, visiting schools and attending job fairs but filling positions will continue to be a

challenge because we are not able to pay a competitive wage. Mr. Burton informed the Board that we will be unable to meet all of the caseload ratio requirements this year.

Mr. Burton also reported that he has seen the preliminary statistical analysis for our performance contract. These figures indicate that our staff has done a remarkable job in meeting requirements and providing service to consumers and families in spite of the increase in vacant regional center positions.

ARCA REPORT

There was no report this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rocio Smith announced that Barbara Garcia has been recognized as “Woman of the Year” by Senator Perata. Mr. Long congratulated Ms. Garcia and acknowledged Ms. Garcia’s outstanding work with our consumers makes her very deserving of this special honor.

Ms. Garcia reported that the Alameda County Transition Fair will be held on March 24. This year’s event has 54 agencies represented and should provide a rewarding and informative day.

Mr. Burton noted that Cleo Manspeaker could not attend the meeting this evening. Ms. Manspeaker has recently moved into an apartment with assistance from HCEB and she will be back with us next month.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Coleman
Secretary
RCEB Board of Directors