



REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, January 23, 2017
500 Davis Street, San Leandro
Approved 2/27/17

RCEB BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathy Hebert, President
Evangeline Iyemura, Vice President
Chi Lee, Treasurer
Mike Treppa, Budget & Finance Committee Chair
Nyron Battles, Secretary
Morena Grimaldi, Diversity & Equity Chair
Sister Marygrace Puchac, PVAC Representative
Maria Marquez, Self Determination Committee Vice-Chair
Rose Coleman
Gwen Nash-Butler
Marie Parra

ABSENT [excused]:

Carmen Quinones

STAFF PRESENT:

Jim Burton, Executive Director
Beth DeWitt, Director of Community Services
Terri Jones, Director of Human Resources
Lisa Kleinbub, Director of Health & Behavioral Services
Lynn Nguyen, Director of Finance & Administration
Steve Robinson, Director of Community Placement & SDC Closure Plans
Ronke Sodipo, Director of Consumer Services
Evelyn Hoskins, Associate Director of Federal Programs
Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Associate Director of Children Services
Priscilla Gomez, Transportation Manager
Antonia Heinrich, Sr. Account Clerk
Gabriel Mendoza, Case Manager
Meredith Rosenberg, Case Manager
Michi Toy, Executive Assistant

GUESTS:

Nancy Kubota	Santi Rogers
Arthur Lipscomb, CRA	Bob Sale
Cleo Manspeaker	Sandi Soliday, ACDDC
Sheraden Nicholau, SCDD, Bay Area	Josh Sullivan, CCCDDC

GUESTS (cont.)
Richard Palmer

Steven Whitgob

CALL TO ORDER

President, Kathy Hebert called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay at 6:57 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Self introductions were made and a quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA / MINUTES

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the January 23, 2017 agenda as presented”
 [Battles/Marquez] Unanimous

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the November 28, 2016 minutes as presented”
 [Lee/Battles] Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cleo Manspeaker expressed her appreciation and congratulations to Jim Burton on his retirement plans.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Kathy Hebert
No contracts needed approval at this meeting.

Work Plan for 2017

The board strives to achieve 4 major goals with multiple objectives every year. These are basically the same goals/objectives every year but with adjustments which do not change the overall plan.

→ Suggested changes to the Work Plan are related to Goal 3 regarding board skill development:

- [C] Replace the word “will” with “may”
- [F] Replace the word “will” with “may”

M/S/C “TheBoard moves to approve the 2017 Work Plan with the two amendments listed above.” [Battles/Puchac] Unanimous

Master Calendar for 2017

The Board of Director's Master Calendar is a schedule of target months for the completion of reports and activities. Mr. Burton re-iterated that consistent with the Work Plan, it is basically the same calendar that we have been using annually.

→ Suggested changes to the Master Calendar:

- Move the ARCA Grassroots Day to April from March
- Move the Executive Director Review to December from June

M/S/C "The Board moves to approve the 2017 Master Calendar as presented."
[Butler/Puchac] Unanimous

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE Report from 1/23/17 – Mike Treppa

Purchase of Service

Our Fiscal Year 2016-17 Purchase of Services projections remain stable with almost half of the fiscal year expenditures in base.

Based on our expenditures through December 2016, RCEB is currently projecting a sufficiency ranging from approximately \$800K to \$3.7MM for Non CPP Purchase of Services Expenditures, which is basically a balanced projected budget for Purchase of Services. Currently, six Regional Centers, including RCEB, are reporting balanced projections in their POS budgets.

This year, the Statewide Projected system-wide deficit is currently at a low of approximately \$8.7MM and a high of \$43.9MM. Last year at the same time, the overall system was projecting a statewide deficit from a low of \$43.3MM and a high of \$85.3MM. Therefore, the Regional Centers statewide deficit projections in Purchase of Services seem to be decreasing.

For RCEB, there are some factors to consider:

- RCEB's projected program development for community clients (Non-CPP) continues to be low. For our area, RCEB continues to have an extreme challenge to establish new programs and services in our area due to rising housing costs, no start-up funding (except for CPP), frozen and capped rates, and other limitations.
- Our current POS projections also include our estimated cost for the increase of state minimum wage of from \$10 to \$10.50 per hour, but we are still analyzing the true cost of this mandate. At this time, the Department has not allocated the funding for the state minimum wage increase effective 1/1/17. We do not know at this time if there will be an allocation for this mandate.

We will continue to monitor the status of our POS projections carefully until year end.

Operations

We continue to monitor our operations budget and are pleased to report a projected balanced operations budget for current year fiscal year 2016-17.

Cash Flow status

The agency is currently maintaining a stable cash flow at this time. To date, we have been receiving full reimbursement for our claims. DDS recently announced they will begin to offset cash advances starting in May (for March claims) as anticipated.

We will keep the Board and the Executive Committee updated on our cash flow status. At this time, the agency has no active line of credit. We are working with Union Bank to finalize our line of credit which we expect to reestablish beginning in April or May of 2017.

Bank Signature Cards

RCEB is updating our bank signature cards to authorize new check signers and to replace signers who have changed positions. Bank signature cards establish the authorized signers of all the RCEB's bank accounts. Currently, the check signers for the agency are James Burton, Nancy Kubota, Ronke Sodipo and Elizabeth Kleinbub. The updated cards will add the following individuals as check signers:

Santi Rogers – Interim Executive Director
Lynn Nguyen – Director of Finance and Administration
Beth Dewitt – Director of Community Services
Steve Robinson – Director of Community Placement
Terri Jones – Director of Human Resources

Please note that the vast majority of our checks are released with the facsimile (automated) signatures of Jim and Nancy. We plan to update the facsimile when the new Executive Director is hired.

M/S/C “The Board adopts and approves of the additional authorized RCEB staff individuals listed above, as the check signers for the agency's bank accounts in accordance with the Bank and DDS agreement.”
[Battles/Marquez] Unanimous

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Kathy Hebert

Ms. Hebert stated that we have received a couple of inquiries for board membership, and will be working on setting up interviews for additional members on RCEB's Board of Directors.

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE [PVAC]: Sister Marygrace Puchac

The last meeting was on January 13, 2017 with many people in attendance, as it was Jim Burton's last PVAC meeting. The meeting started with a toast and well wishes to Mr. Burton.

There was a presentation titled *CalABLE: Providing People with Disabilities Greater Financial Security* presented by Carrie Fisher Stone, Deputy Executive Director of CalABLE Services.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE [CAC]: Nyron Battles/Gwen Nash-Butler

The CAC meeting was on February 13, 2017 where the main discussion was on the content of a letter that they are finalizing, to send to several fast-food restaurants that are not wheelchair accessible. The February 10th Town Hall meeting at the State Building as well as Grass Roots Day in Sacramento on April 5th were also discussed.

DIVERSITY and EQUITY COMMITTEE: Morena Grimaldi

Lisa Kleinbub informed the committee on the Purchase of Service 2015/16 data and the deadlines to hold public meetings in February/March regarding that data:

In accordance with Section 4519.5 of the Welfare & Institutions Code, Regional Center of the East Bay will hold public meetings regarding data relating to Purchase of Service (POS) authorization, utilization and expenditure with respect to consumer's age, ethnicity, primary language, residence type, and disability.

Ms. Kleinbub will work on adding the meeting dates on our website under Transparency and Public Information and also added that we will also post the Request for Proposal forms for the Diversity & Equity funds that we received from the Department. These are the proposed programs that RCEB plans to incorporate to reduce purchase of services disparities.

Board President, Kathy Hebert requested input from the committee on what traits, characteristics and qualities they feel are important for the next RCEB Executive Director to possess. Ms. Hebert is compiling this information from many different sources for the Executive Director Search Committee.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton

Local Objectives: 2016 Performance Contract – Presented by Ronke Sodipo

Ms. Sodipo informed the Board that this yearly report for the Department of Developmental Services [DDS] reports statistical measures of our regional center's performance in 2016. Ms. Sodipo summarized the three Local Public Policy Outcomes and the events that RCEB supported or sponsored in 2016 that addressed the needs of our culturally diverse community.

Budget

Mr. Burton stated that the Department of Developmental Service's [DDS's] January 2017 Governor's Budget Highlights were sent out to our Board members and are also available on our website under CURRENT NEWS/Legislation and Budget. Mr. Burton added that it's the budget that everyone had expected to see in California, which is a continuation of the existing budget. This budget funds the current services already in place and adds a little amount of funding for new consumers and programs added to our services. There are no new initiatives or

new cuts but there are a lot of good initiatives that remain in the budget, which Mr. Burton credits to Nancy Bargmann and DDS. The budget included enough funding for the State to adjust median rates retroactive to July, 2016. The passage of ABX2 1 increased rates for service providers to provide salary increases for direct-care staff, and the median rates should have all been adjusted back in July based upon the higher new rates.

This was a clear and predictable budget from the Governor; however, there is incredible uncertainty at the Federal level. There has never been a greater time of uncertainty and although the economy has slowed down, we are not in a recession. Although there are no expansions to ABX2 1, such as the case load reduction effort that began last year, ABX2 1 will remain fully funded. All the decisions around this budget will be made in the May Revision. The enormous estimate to replace the Affordable Care Act in California is \$15-20 billion dollars. For years the Governor has been preparing for a recession and setting money aside, and is predicting that without modest action, that there will be a \$1.9B deficit; although the Legislative Analyst Office suggests that there is a \$2.9B surplus.

The community services budget will increase by \$359M in next year's budget, and we are expected to grow by 13,836 net new individuals to serve next year. We are growing yearly as a medium to large regional center. On the State level, our budget is being reduced in the current fiscal year because expenditures are down. We have median rates for services (same as what we had during the recession) and no start-up funding, which has prevented businesses from providing services or from expanding their services. Therefore, the IPP's that are agreed upon with our large and growing consumer population includes promises that we are unable to keep. Although the recession is over, the rates have been held at very low levels, particularly in high cost areas such as the Bay Area. This results in an inadequate availability of services to our consumers. This is a very important point to make when speaking to members of the legislature. There will be hearings in March or April, and committees are being formed, assemblies are being appointed, and a lot of changes are being made. Mr. Burton states that we all need to be prepared and to organize and advocate, as the times ahead will be very challenging.

Minimum Wage Increase

Although the statewide minimum wage increased January 1st, we have over five cities with different minimum wages. RCEB partnered with San Andreas Regional Center to try to put together the same process for our service providers to pay these local minimum wages and the increases in their rates will be reflected. We had developed a workable process listed by service provider, to achieve that goal. However, it was not approved by the Governor, so we are back to using the Health & Safety Rate Process for all minimum wage increases statewide as well as local. This requires that we submit a rate adjustment for each client in each program.

Sonoma Developmental Center [SDC] Closure

Mr. Burton stated that Nancy Bargmann, Director at DDS, has been working to use the funds for people moving from the state developmental centers. The Community Placement Plan [CPP] start-up funding will now serve those in the community. The budget has language in a trailer bill

that gives the Director of DDS authority to move in that direction and to offer the safety net for those in the community.

Mr. Burton stated that the closures are well underway, and in respect to Sonoma Developmental Center [SDC], we have specific goals and objectives for completion by December 2018. We have purchased many homes in great areas, and are on track with our extensive meetings with the families. We have a lot of work to do in building service systems as well as adding all the services necessary. We do expect that the closure of SDC will be a big issue in the budget hearings. All the other regional centers are making progress in this area as well and the families are feeling pleased and hopeful about the new services that will be available to their family member. After December 2018, the Federal government will no longer fund SDC. Currently, they are funding 50% of the cost to run the developmental center. RCEB will not compromise as we make sure that every individual who is placed in the community will have a great life in a great community. We still have a few homes to purchase in Contra Costa County, and are receiving help from our community partners. Fairview and Porterville Developmental Centers [non-secured treatment portion], passed their licensing review and will continue to operate as we find housing for our clients who reside there. It's critical that we do not lose any State or Federal funding.

Retirements

Mr. Burton announced that Eileen Richey, Executive Director of the Association of Regional Center Agencies [ARCA] has announced her retirement for the end of February. There are also two regional center Executive Directors who will be retiring as well.

This board meeting is also the last one that Mr. Burton will be attending as the Executive Director of Regional Center of the East Bay. Mr. Burton sincerely thanked the Board, the community members and the staff at RCEB, and expressed his deep appreciation and honor to serve our community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sheraden Nicholau, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Bay Area [SCDD, Bay Area]

Ms. Nicholau started off by thanking Mr. Burton for his leadership for so many years.

The Self-Determination Advisory Committee has two new committee members; one appointed by RCEB, and the other who was recommended for appointment by SCDD.

NCI [National Core Indicators]- This Bay Area Office has sent 6,000 surveys focusing on adults and their family members in their community. SCDD will share the data with the Board when it is available.

Jan 24: This is the next State Council meeting in Sacramento at 10 am.

Feb 22: This is the next SCDD, Bay Area meeting at 7 pm at GGRC/San Mateo.

Sandi Soliday, Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council [ACDDC]

Feb 1: This is the next East Bay Legislative Coalition [EBLC] meeting at the Oakland Public Health building from 10-12 pm. The main topic will be the Town Hall Meeting.

Feb 8: This will be the next ACDDC meeting where there will be a presentation on Home and Community Based Services [HCBS] by Sheraden Nicholau/SCDD, Will Sanford/Futures Explored and Julia Lowe/Dungarvin.

March 25: ACDDC Transition Fair at the College of Alameda starting at 9:30 am. There will be Chinese and Spanish speaking workshops available.

Josh Sullivan, Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Council [CCCDDC]

Jan 20: Transition Conference. Over 200 in attendance

Jan 25: Next CCCDDC meeting at the RCEB/Concord office with a special presentation by Assembly member Jim Frazier on legislative highlights and community priorities.

Feb 10: EBLC Town Hall Meeting at the State Building in Oakland from 10-12 pm. The theme is *Unfinished Business*.

Feb 15: Developmental Services [DS] Task Force meeting at the Department of Health building in Sacramento from 10-4 pm. Mr. Sullivan thanked Mr. Burton for being on that Task Force as he acknowledged his retirement.

ARCA REPORT: Kathy Hebert

Ms. Hebert reported on the meeting and the retirement dinner recognizing the three retiring regional center Executive Directors.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Burton announced his retirement plans after 41 years in the developmental disability service system. He informed the guests of the board's transition plan of Santi Rogers stepping in as the Interim Executive Director at RCEB. Ms. Hebert stated that Mr. Burton will be assisting in the transition, and will continue to be involved in the developmental center closure process. The process of recruitment for a permanent Executive Director will commence in January by the Board of Directors Executive Director Search Committee.

On behalf of the Board of Directors at RCEB, Kathy Hebert expressed the Board's gratitude, gratefulness and appreciation towards Mr. Burton as poems and presentation of gifts to Mr. Burton.

CLOSED SESSION – Personnel Issue

MEETING ADJOURNED

The board meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on February 27, 2017
500 Davis Street, San Leandro
There is a Diversity & Equity Meeting at 6:00 prior to the board meeting