



REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES

Monday, March 24, 2014 8:05 p.m.

500 Davis Street, San Leandro, CA

Final

Approved 3/24/14

RCEB BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Anne Struthers, President	Nyron Battles, CAC Chair
Kathy Hebert, Vice-President	Melanie Fowler, PVAC Co-Chair
Mike Treppa, Budget & Finance Committee Chair	Ron Clay, CAC
Steve Whitgob, Treasurer	Evangeline Iyemura
Rose Coleman, Secretary	Gwen Nash-Butler, CAC
Cecilia Corral, Diversity & Equity Committee Chair	Donald Morris, CAC
Darcy Ting	

ABSENT:

Chi Lee [excused]
Carmen Quinones [excused]

STAFF PRESENT:

Jim Burton, Executive Director
Francine Davis, Director of Community Services
Terri Jones, Director of Human Resources
Lisa Kleinbub, Director of Health and Behavioral Services
Nancy Kubota, Director of Finance & Administration
Pam Thomas, Director of Consumer Services
Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Associate Director of Consumer Services, Contra Costa County
Ronke Sodipo, Associate Director of Consumer Services, Alameda County
Evelyn Hoskins, Associate Director of Federal Programs
Rhonda Kimble-Kelly, Case Manager
Carol Nyhoff, Case Manager
Michi Toy, Executive Assistant

GUESTS:

John Rodriguez, CCCDDC	Sandi Soliday, ACDDC
Gabriel Rogan, Area Board 5	Todd Struthers

CALL TO ORDER

President, Anne Struthers called to order the regularly scheduled business meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay at 8:05 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 minutes of February 24, 2014 as presented [Battles/Iyemura] Unanimous

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the agenda of March 24, 2014 as presented” [Battles/Iyemura] Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Anne Struthers

Ms. Struthers presented Ronald Clay with a plaque for his 6 years of service on the Board as of this board meeting. Mr. Clay recognized Nyron Battles as the person who introduced him to the board 6 years ago, as he expressed his appreciation to RCEB staff as well as the other board members.

Department of Developmental Services Contract

Ms. Struthers distributed the Department of Developmental Services [DDS’s] D-7 contract amendment approval sheet indicating an additional \$1,180,891 to RCEB’s Purchase of Service allocation. The contract amendment is For fiscal year 2012/13.

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve DDS’s D-7 contract amendment as presented.” [Battles/Clay] Unanimous

Annual report of Strategic Plan Performance Objectives; although this report was on the agenda, it will be presented at our next board meeting, as we are gathering additional information.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: Steve Whitgob

Purchase of Service

Mr. Whitgob distributed and reviewed the Financial Status Report for March 2014.

- RCEB is currently projecting a mid-range insufficiency of approximately \$7.9M based on actual POS expenditures through February 2014. This is a decrease of approximately \$900,000 from last month's mid-range projection.
- All 21 Regional Centers are still reporting insufficiencies in their POS budgets.
- We will monitor our current year POS projection status carefully.
- RCEB also received the D-7 contract amendment which provided approximately \$1.18M in additional POS funds for F/Y 12-13.

Operations

We continue to report a projected balanced operations budget for current year.

Cash Flow status

- The agency is maintaining a stable cash flow at this time; however, the Department advised all Regional Centers of the possibility of receiving partial warrants starting this month, as they will begin to offset cash advances. This could potentially create cash flow problems for most Regional Centers. RCEB will likely see an offset to our February claim which was submitted on March 15th, but we are unclear on how much of February's reimbursement will be paid. To date, we have been approximately \$45M cash on hand which will allow us to pay for March POS services on April 15th in full. However, depending on the amount that we receive and any additional reimbursement from the State going forward, we may have difficulty fully meeting our obligations without accessing our Line of Credit.
- The agency currently has an active \$49.6M line of credit in place until October 15, 2014 but we cannot borrow beyond the limits of our state contract and claim receivables. If the Department does not provide regional centers with full and timely reimbursement, the Board is advised that there is a possibility we may need to access our LOC before the end of the fiscal year. We will keep the Board, as well as the Executive Committee, updated on our cash flow status.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Anne Struthers

The committee is continuing to recruit Latino board members from Either Alameda or Contra Costa counties.

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Melanie Fowler

- The last meeting was on March 14th where there was a presentation by Lars Eric Holm of Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters [CARD]. This organization was formed after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and helps other non-profits prepare for natural disasters.

April 29th: Ed Roberts Campus-> Ala Costa is hosting a personal emergency training by CARD from 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm.

→ The next PVAC meeting will be on April 11th.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Gwen Nash-Butler

- Ms. Butler recounted Mr. Burton’s report, which began with Santi Roger’s appointment as the new Director of the Department of Developmental Services and that this CAC sent their congratulations to Mr. Rogers.
- Ms. Butler reported that Mr. Burton encouraged members who were able, to attend either one or both of the upcoming hearings; March 19th for the Assembly, and March 27th for the Senate.
- Also discussed was the automated survey put together by SEIU regarding eliminating the overtime for IHSS workers.
- Case managers Julie Whiskeyman and Meredith Rosenberg presented “Using the Internet- How to Stay Safe” at the CAC meeting, which the attendants found helpful.
- Herb Hastings updated the members on the status of the sidewalk renovation outside the San Leandro building. Ronke added that if anyone has trouble crossing the streets for the meeting; staff will be available to accompany them.

→ The next CAC meeting will be April 14, 2014.

DIVERSITY and EQUITY COMMITTEE: Cecilia Corral

- No Diversity & Equity meeting was scheduled this month due to a Board of Director’s training session on community services given by the Director of Community Services, Francine Davis.
- The next Diversity and Equity meeting will be on April 28th at 6:00 p.m. in San Leandro, where we will resume with focusing on our sub-committees:
 - Group 1: Diversity & Equity Webpage
 - Group 2: Training {for families as well as in-house}
 - Group 3: Support Groups

→ The next meeting will be April 28th in the San Leandro office.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton

State Budget Issues

- Mr. Burton informed the board that the budget hearings are underway in the Legislature [March 19th (Assembly) and March 27th (Senate)]. The Senate hearing begins at 9:30 a.m. in Room 4203. Mr. Burton advised that attending this hearing is a great opportunity for those individuals who want to directly address the legislators who will be making policy decisions that affect the lives of the developmentally disabled and their families.
- Mr. Burton stated that the biggest issue in the State budget this year is the **In-Home Support Services [IHSS]** budget. The Governor's proposal to not allow IHSS workers to work overtime will have terrible consequences for those who rely on IHSS, as it will be very difficult for clients to access necessary care and find sufficient IHSS workers. There are also huge penalties proposed if any worker works overtime. Mr. Burton also encouraged those who can attend the hearing, to testify on IHSS overtime issues in the Department of Developmental Services budget.
- Another issue that greatly affects those infants and children at-risk of developmental disabilities is the restoration of **Early Start** services. Eligibility for Early Start services has continued to be restricted.
- The impact of California's **minimum wage increase** will also be another big issue. The Legislative Analyst does not believe that the Governor budgeted sufficient funds to cover all of the impacts of minimum wage and DDS has not yet figured out how they will be passing this money on to service providers. The method of implementing these changes in rates will be very difficult given the variety of ways rates are set. The goal is to have this all done and new rates in place by July 1st, which is when the minimum wage is increased.
- Lanterman Coalition
This year, the various agencies in the Lanterman Coalition reached a good consensus on a position on the State budget. Although lengthy, they had to address the numerous budget cuts implemented over the past few years.
[website → thearca.org to download the Lanterman Coalition Letter]

Sad News

- Mr. Burton informed the board of the passing of **William Dycus**, a former board member who was a man of few, but important words.
- Ninety-nine year old **"OV" Smith** was another person who passed this month. Ms. Smith was a longtime advocate of the developmentally disabled and was

instrumental in her work within the Developmental Disabilities services system on behalf of the residential care providers.

Contract Compliance Review Audit

- The Department of Developmental Services has regional centers go through a 5 week contract compliance review every-other-year. It is a thorough review of legal, regulatory and contract issues in addition to the standard fiscal issues. Mr. Burton was very pleased to announce that RCEB's results at the exit interview conference were outstanding and most notably the balanced fiscal reconciliations, budgets, etc. as well as being the only regional center that had transferred 100% from manual to automated billing. Mr. Burton pointed out that the two years that were being looked at were our worst in terms of staffing levels, and thanked Nancy Kubota for her important work that led to these outstanding results.

Staff Announcement

- Mr. Burton invited everyone to Francine Davis' retirement celebration on April 4th from 3:00 P.M. into the evening. He also announced that Ronke Sodipo has been appointed as the new Director of Community Services. Ronke has been with the Regional Center for 22 years, and was with Inland Regional Center for 4 years prior.

Board Training

- We started tonight with our every-other-month board training series with a presentation by Francine Davis on the community services division. The Executive Committee will determine training topics for future meetings and we will also be incorporating National Core Indicators [NCI] training by the Regional Center of Orange County. NCI is a national quality assurance process that all regional centers participate in, which provides data statewide on satisfaction, perception about the regional centers, etc.
- We are also working on a new automated case management training program that can be done on-line, and has several components that would be very helpful to board members.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandi Soliday, Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council

Ms. Soliday stated that the March 15th Transition Fair at the College of Alameda was successful.

April 9, 2014: Evelyn Hoskins, RCEB's Associate Director of Federal Programs will be the speaker at this meeting of the Council, as well as speakers from California Children's Services and Help Me Grow.

April 24, 2014: Alameda County VOAD, Volunteer Agencies Active in Disaster, will put on a tabletop exercise at the EOC in Dublin.

John Rodriguez, Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Council

March 26, 2014: This next council meeting will be at RCEB/Concord where one of the topics will be on a couple of new residential developments in Contra Costa, as they are part of the community placement plan.

April 23, 2014 The next council meeting will in El Cerrito's City Hall.

April 26, 2014: The West County Transition Fair will be in Richmond at the Vista Hills Education Center from 10:00-12:30.

ARCA REPORT: Anne Struthers

- This was the first meeting where Santi Rogers was present as head of DDS. Mr. Rogers explained the collaborative way in which he and his staff will work with ARCA. He discussed cash flow problems, allocation methodology and the continuing need to increase the Medicaid waiver enrollments [currently 106,000 people in California are enrolled].
- Grassroots Day- Ms. Struthers informed the board that she attended Grassroots Day on March 12th and met with three legislative offices to advocate for funding of Early Start. Ms. Struthers' stated that there were around 100 participants at Grassroots; 13 out of 21 regional centers participated and it was considered a success. Next year we hope to have more time to plan for Grassroots Day, and have a larger contingent attend.
- Mr. Burton added that in our community, we had the well attended Legislative Town Hall meeting in Oakland, where many of the key legislators were present.

Closed Session

There was a brief closed session regarding a personnel item.

MEETING ADJOURNED

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of William Dycus and "OV" Smith.

The board meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next board meeting will be on April 28, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in San Leandro immediately following the Diversity & Equity Committee Meeting at 6:00 P.M.