



REGIONAL CENTER OF THE EAST BAY
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes

Monday, May 23, 2016 7:04 p.m.

500 Davis Street, CA

Approved 6/27/16

RCEB BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Evangeline Iyemura, Vice President
Rose Coleman, Secretary
Mike Treppa, Budget & Finance Committee Chair
Steve Whitgob, Treasurer
Morena Grimaldi, Diversity & Equity Chair
Sister Marygrace Puchac, PVAC Representative
Nyron Battles, CAC Chair
Kathy Hebert
Chi Lee
Carmen Quinones

ABSENT:

Gwen Nash-Butler, CAC [excused]
Marie Parra [excused]

STAFF PRESENT:

Jim Burton, Executive Director
Terri Jones, Director of Human Resources
Lisa Kleinbub, Director of Health & Behavioral Services
Nancy Kubota, Director of Finance & Administration
Ronke Sodipo, Director of Community Services
Steve Robinson, Director of Community Placement & Sonoma Developmental Ctr Closure Plans
Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Associate Director of Children Services
Priscilla Gomez, Manager of Transportation
Gabriel Mendoza, Case Manager
Laura Woodford, Case Manager
Michi Toy, Executive Assistant

GUESTS:

Maria Marquez, Vice Chair SD Committee
Sandi Soliday
Josh Sullivan
Geneva Ziaouré

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President, Evangeline Iyemura presided over the meeting tonight and called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay at 7:08 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 Agenda from May 23, 2016 as presented.”
 [Whitgob/Battles] Unanimous

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the Minutes from April 25, 2016 as presented.”
 [Whitgob/Battles] Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments during this period.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Evangeline Iyemura

CONTRACT APPROVALS

Community Placement Plan [CPP] Housing

Rehab. & Employment Services of the East Bay - Project #22

Ms. Iyemura distributed the contract for the Community Placement Plan [CPP] start-up agreement to the board members. This contract is effective 6/1/16 through 3/31/18 to develop an adult day program for individuals (30 consumers total) transitioning from Sonoma Developmental Center who need enhanced behavioral support.

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve of the startup funding contract with Rehab.
 & Employment Services of the East Bay as presented.” [Treppa/Battles]
 Unanimous

Department of Developmental Services [DDS]

C-Series Preliminary

Ms. Iyemura distributed the Department of Developmental Service’s C series *preliminary* contract [2016/17 fiscal year] allocation with the terms of the contract from 7/1/16 through 6/30/21 with \$32,187,441 in Operations and \$259,835,687 in Purchase of Services Allocation for a total of \$292,023,128. Once the State budget is finalized and distributed to the 21 regional centers, we will receive our first amendment to the contract. The purpose of receiving a preliminary contract is for the regional centers to have a budget put in place and access to cash until the budget process is complete. We are asking the board for their approval of this preliminary contract at this point, in order to quickly return it to DDS and eliminate the need to borrow money from the bank.

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the C-Series Preliminary Contract allocation as presented.” [Treppa/Puchac] Unanimous

State Staff Contract

Ms. Iyemura distributed the Department of Developmental Service’s State Staff contract with a term of 7/1/16 through 6/30/17 in the total amount of \$475,588 in restricted Operations funding. This is part of the allocation for the Agnews Ongoing Workload and the CPP Sonoma Closure Plan. This will be used to fund 2 nurses and one occupational therapist for the clients associated with either of those plans.

M/S/C “The Board moves to approve the Department of Developmental Service’s State Staff contract as specified.” [Whitgob/Battles] Unanimous

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE- Report from May 18, 2016 - Steve Whitgob

There is little change in our Purchase of Services Projections for Fiscal year 2015-16. RCEB is currently projecting a sufficiency of approximately \$4.5MM mid-range NON-CPP Purchase of Service. Last month, our mid-range projection was \$4.3MM so overall our POS projections remain very stable. At this time, 16 out of the 21 Regional Centers [including RCEB] are projecting balanced POS budgets for Fiscal Year 2015-16. Regional Center’s system wide are reporting a projected Purchase of Services surplus of approximately \$16.3 million best case scenario, and an approximate deficit of \$2 million worst case scenario.

Operations

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

Cash Flow status

As reported last month, the agency has adequate cash to fully fund our invoices for May services to be paid in mid-June.

We are now receiving partial warrants to offset the cash advances we received earlier in the fiscal year as we approach that time of the year where cash resources are critical. RCEB will make it to the end of the fiscal year but our cash reserves will be extremely limited until the beginning of Fiscal Year 2016-17 when we should be receiving our cash advance.

DDS released the preliminary 2016-17 C series contract to allow Regional Centers to get their contracts signed and get the Fiscal year 2016-17 cash advances more quickly. However, this is also contingent upon the timely passage of the State budget.

The agency currently has an active \$49.6M line of credit in place until August 31, 2016. However, we cannot borrow beyond the limits of our State contract and claims receivables. Staff will keep the Executive Committee of the Board updated on our cash flow status.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Evangeline Iyemura

We currently have 12 board members and are seeking an additional Alameda County Latino and Asian member in order to maintain ethnic representation that is consistent with our community.

We received a board application and interviewed *Maria Marquez* this month. Both her application and the Membership Development Committee interview comments had been sent to the board members in their packets. Ms. Iyemura nominated Ms. Marquez as a Board Director at this meeting, and a ballot election will be conducted at the June board meeting.

At our April meeting, the board voted for *Kathy Hebert* to begin her first term. At this May meeting, Ms. Iyemura nominated Kathy Hebert to fill the vacant Board President position until the Board of Director's yearly meeting in November [RCEB's ByLaws Section 5.10(b), officers of the Corporation shall be elected by the Board at its annual meeting, which is in November]. Ms. Iyemura also asked if there were any other interested candidates for Board President, for which there were none. After a ballot vote counted by board member Carmen Quinones, Kathy Hebert was elected as RCEB's Board President with 10 yes votes, 0 no votes.

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

The last PVAC meeting was on May 13th where there were a couple of presentations by the Alameda County EOC. One was titled "Get out the Vote" by a couple of CRIL representatives and the other was given by representatives from the Alameda County Sheriff's office and an emergency coordinator on preparing for emergencies.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Nyron Battles

The CAC meeting was on May 9th, and the focus was on a presentation by representatives from the Schreiber Center. This center services developmentally disabled adults with mental health care needs in Berkeley. Mr. Battles also informed the board that the CAC is taking on the project of trying to get our local Wendy's restaurant to install an automatic door for disability access.

DIVERSITY and EQUITY COMMITTEE: Morena Grimaldi

The committee began this evening sharing information on the impact of support groups in the community and the difficulty in getting together this time of the year due to families being on summer break. Since RCEB's Concord office is in the midst of the move to another building, and ACMHS staffs are also going through changes, the support groups and trainings have been put on hold but there were discussions on the feasibility of having informational sessions for the parents of new consumers, and how to attract families to these sessions. One idea was to have the topic of the training on something common to many parents other than developmental

disabilities, such as how to cope with stress. This is one way to facilitate the comfort level of the participants before tackling the issues that they are dealing with.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton

New Concord Office

1320 Willow Pass Road

Mr. Burton stated that the Concord move of 160 staff members today was a major undertaking and was planned and executed very well. Mr. Burton congratulated both Nancy Kubota who researched, found and negotiated a lease for the property, to Bob Patterson and the I/T staff who planned and also came in during the weekend to set up the computers and phones, and to the Concord staff who were very organized for the move. This new office has more room to grow, has a large conference room for our many community meetings and provides good, professional work space for staff.

May Revise

The Governor's May Revise was introduced on May 13th beginning with a statement that April revenues are down \$1B. This statement set the tone for a May Revise that would be frugal as the Governor is concerned about a pending recession and wants to make sure we are better prepared this time around. The May Revision to the budget was primarily updating caseloads and projections with very few changes from his January budget. This also means there are no proposed cuts to anything that was approved in the Special Session as well as in the January budget proposals for our service system. The Legislature will have little latitude for additional spending, so it is expected that they will concur with the Governor. Both the Senate and the Assembly met on the same day last week to consider the proposals. The Senate and the Assembly moved through the process very quickly. Mr. Burton stated that he cannot see any reason for the budget to be late, and believes that it will be done on time.

Special Session

Managed Care Organization [MCO] Tax

The Federal Government has approved California's MCO tax. This is very important as it is the revenue source for all of the increases approved for our service system.

ABX2 1

Everything that was included in ABX2 1 was included in the budget. We are proceeding with the implementation of this, beginning with DDS sending out surveys to @1,800 vendored service providers. These surveys require important information to be used to calculate rate increases which will then be used to provide wage, salary & benefit increases to direct care staff. Although the surveys were due on April 15th, many service providers still have not responded. One of the reasons could be attributed to smaller service providers not being as well connected and not understanding the importance of this survey. Therefore, we have been in contact with all of our service providers who were surveyed to encourage them to fill out the surveys. The

State can then provide us with the recalculated rates so that direct care staff can receive this critically needed increase in July.

For regional center staff, we have been given the estimated amount of our allocation for staff wage and benefit increases. The next step is to enter into collective bargaining with our union, and the goal is to have everything completed by July 1st as well.

Asian Community Mental Health Services [ACMHS]

ACMHS' leadership struggles have been in the news. It has been difficult for staff of the agency since they have had six Directors in the past twelve years. Alameda County is very concerned. Their contract with ACMHS is very large, and the Board of Supervisors had requested that ACMHS make leadership changes. RCEB has been working with ACMHS staff to transfer to RCEB employment. We have received job applications from almost all the current ACMHS staff who expressed their interest in working for RCEB. Management has also been working with the Union on their smooth transition to RCEB employment. The ACMHS case managers will be keeping their current cases to maintain their relationships with the 1,300 clients and their families that they serve, many of whom are monolingual and non-English speaking. Our contract with ACMHS ends on June 30, 2016 and the new staff will be starting with RCEB on July 1, 2016.

Sonoma Developmental Center [SDC]

The SDC closure was a topic of discussion particularly in the Senate through the May Revision. Right before the legislative hearings on the May Revision, the Centers for Medicaid/Medicare Services [CMS] sent a letter to DDS stating that they will be de-certifying SDC's Intermediate Care Facility [ICF] units. Therefore, SDC will no longer receive \$26M in federal funding. CMS's letter was sent the Friday before the Legislative hearing, so there was no time to put any money in the May Revision to off-set the cuts. The State will most certainly go forward and ask for \$26M to deal with this Federal decision. The same types of agreements are being worked on with the closures of Porterville and Fairview Developmental Centers. The pressures for the closures of all three developmental centers are being felt by all involved.

RCEB is on target with our Community Placement Plan efforts. Mr. Burton gives credit to Steve Robinson and his staff for their hard work with developments and placements, as well as experience from having been through this before with the closure of Agnews Developmental Center. Mr. Burton advised the board that it is important to do this right and in a timely fashion. We will not rush to place individuals until all necessary services and supports are in place. The health, safety and well-being of every Developmental Center resident transitioning to the community is our first and foremost priority.

RCEB has purchased one home out of the 17 that are needed, and will be actively engaged in buying real estate to accomplish our goals. RCEB and Disability Rights of California gave testimony to the Assembly during the May Revision as we collaborated to put together a proposal to help address the regional centers ability to obtain financing for all the homes that need to be purchased. These concerns were generated by the rise in the housing prices in the Bay Area. In

conjunction with Disability Rights of California, we quickly put trailer bill language together that requested \$50M from the legislature. We also garnered great support from Assemblyman Tony Thurmond who is very involved in affordable housing, and was very supportive in finding a solution to this challenge. Although we did not receive the \$50M requested, we did receive help and attention from the Department of Developmental Services. Mr. Burton stated that the regional centers will work collaboratively with Nancy Bargmann, Director of the Department of Developmental Services, who has developed housing and new resources in the community and has a lot of experience in that arena to find solutions.

Helping Hand Fund

The RCEB Helping Hand Fund is our fund for donations to RCEB which is used entirely (100%) for client services and/or supports that cannot be purchased or funded with State funds.

Nancy Kubota made a presentation at a major supporter of the Helping Hand Fund, Clif Bar's large golf tournament this year. RCEB was designated as their benefactor, with proceeds from the tournament going to our Helping Hand Fund. Mr. Burton stated that this fund was at zero dollars 15 years ago. With the help of Sister Marygrace Puchac, Nancy Kubota and Mark Neiman, the fund has grown and has been extremely helpful to our consumers and families in critically important situations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandi Soliday, Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Council

June 7, 2016 There will be no standard council meeting in June due to DDC's Annual Awards Dinner meeting.

Josh Sullivan, Contra Costa County Developmental Disabilities Council

May 25, 2016 There will be a annual council meeting at the new Concord office. There will be a series of trainings over the next few meetings, where the first one will be a presentation by Adult Protective Services titled, "Partnering in Protection I: Adults" Other topics scheduled will be presented by Child Protective Services, and the ombudsman services.

ARCA REPORT: Jim Burton

There is no ARCA report this meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL ISSUE

There was no need for an Executive Session at this board meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The board meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on June 27, 2016 in the **New Concord Office at 1320 Willow Pass Road, Concord**

There is a Diversity & Equity Meeting at 6:00 prior to the board meeting