



Valley Mountain Regional Center
702 N. Aurora Street, Stockton, CA 95242

Board of Director Meeting
Minutes, October 12, 2015

Present:

Robert Balderama	✓	Nancy Meier	✓
S. Rush Bailey	✓	Rick Moen	✓
Tom Bowe	✓	Paula Newman	--
John Forrest	✓	Dena Pfeifer	✓
Melinda Gonser	✓	Andrea Rueda	✓
Robert Grimsley	✓	Chris Varela	✓
Ivan Johnson	✓	Eric Ybarra	✓
Claire Lazaro	✓	Candice Bright (CLASP)	✓
Tom Martin	✓		

VMRC Staff: Paul Billodeau, Mary Sheehan, Cindy Mix, Claudia Reed, Cindy Strawderman

Visitors: Maren Paris, Dena Hernandez
Facilitators Jacqueline Price, Karen Leyba, Alicia Janae Mikbel, Anna Garcia.

Executive Session: The Board went into Executive Session at 5:30 pm
Discussion items were as follows:

- Tentative Agreement with SEIU 1021
- Management Compensation Proposal
- Executive Directors Contract

MOTION TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION (Ybarra/Pfeifer)

Melinda Gonser Board President called the Board meeting to order at 6:12 pm.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

M/S/C (Balderama/Ybarra) Motion to begin general session.

Introductions were made and VMRC's Mission Statement was read by Dena Pfeifer.

B. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/S/C (GRIMSLEY/YBARRA) to approve the revised agenda as presented.

C. ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

September 14, 2015 Board Meeting minutes as presented.

M/S/C (BOWE/MARTIN) to approve the minutes as written Melinda Gonser abstained

D. VOTE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING

From Finance and Personnel Committee

- Approval of contracts over \$250,000 listed below. There were 21 total renewal contracts.

Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Service Code	Contract Amount
HL0621	Accredited Respite Services	862	\$769,953
HV025	Applied Behavior Consultants Infant Dev Program	805	\$1,515,322
H24291	Applied Behavior Consultants, Inc. EIBT Program	48	\$836,701
H29329	ARC Amador/Calaveras	510	\$644,635
H29436	ARC Amador/ Calaveras CITP	55	\$757,426
SV0002	ARC Amador/Calaveras SLS	896	\$416,739
PV0046	Behavioral & Educational Strategies & Training ESAIP P	48	\$1,858,235
HV0387	Behavioral & Educational Strategies & Training Infant	805	\$501,595
PV0250	Behavioral & Educational Strategies & Training EIBT Pr	48	\$1,231,603
HV0288	Central Valley Autism Project Infant Development Prog	805	\$529,070
PV0195	Central Valley Autism Project EIBT	48	\$1,916,495
PV0783	Central Valley Autism Project ESAIP Program	48	\$1,730,185
HV0339	Central Valley Autism Project Infant Development Prog	805	\$335,806
PV0628	Genesis Behavior Center EIBT	48	\$287,700
PV1008	Genesis Behavior Center ESAIP Program	48	\$370,957
HV0211	Horrigan Cole Enterprises Cole Vocational Services	55	\$967,915
HV0257	Human Services Projects, Inc. Encore Wrap-Around Ser	102	\$504,804
HV0235	Pacific Homecare Services	862	\$3,522,635
HA0515	Premier Healthcare Services	862	\$964,074
PV0914	Therapeutic Pathways ESAIP Program	48	\$1,395,785
P7530	Therapeutic Pathways EIBT Program	48	\$2,615,703

M/S/C (BOWE/BAILEY) to approve the contracts over \$250,000 as presented. One abstention, Candice Bright.

E. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

M/S/C (GRIMSLEY/BAILEY) to approve the negotiated bargaining agreement with SEIU Local 1021 as presented in Executive Session.

**M/S/C (MARTIN/BAILEY) to approve the management compensation proposal.
Abstentions from Bright and Meier.**

F. ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENT

The Choices Conference will be held on April 8, 2016. The conference will be held at the San Joaquin County Office of Education. The registration fee is \$25 for consumers and their family members and \$35 for all others. The registration fee includes lunch.

G. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Paul provided a report to the Board on the status of the Executive Directors Annual Goals for 2015. A hard copy of his report was distributed to Board members. The Executive Director reported on the eight goals as follows:

- i. **Review and Update all Interagency Agreements (IA's) and Memorandums of Understanding (MOU).**
 - Staff has reviewed all existing IA's and MOU's and revised them as needed. Through the review process there were agreements and memoranda that were obsolete. The IA's and MOU's that were updated were primarily agreements with local school districts, mental health agencies and those related to the Early Start Program, all of which are required by statute. This will be an ongoing activity and staff is assigned the responsibility for updating and revising the agreements as needed.

- ii. **Continue Implementation of VMRC Strategic Plan for CY 2014-18**
 - The Board is provided updates twice a year (March and September) regarding the progress being made on the goals and objectives of the plan. Out of the five focus areas, Employment is substantially ahead of the objectives contained in the plan, and will be proposing new objectives to the Board during their March 2016 report. Housing is not progressing as expected, and revisions to this focus area are also anticipated. The Communications Committee continues to make significant progress toward their objectives.

- iii. **Review and modify as necessary, the Plan approved in 2013 to Address VMRC's Unfunded Liability in both the CalPERS Pension and Health Insurance Plans**
 - The Health Care Plan for retirees (OPEB) fund is now fully funded. The money used to pay this fund down is now available for other expenses in the Operations budget. The monthly payments for the CalPERS Pension fund will continue with unused funding prior to closing the fiscal year.

- iv. **Establish working relationships with local area State legislators**
 - The Executive Director and Board Members (Melinda Gonser, Maren Paris, John Forrest and Tom Bowe) met with Legislators and/or their staff in the spring of 2015 as part of the ARCA Grass Roots effort. Efforts to meet with Legislators will continue, to advocate for the goals of the Lanterman Coalition and the Association of Regional Center Agencies.

v. Review and Update the Valley Mountain Regional Center Purchase of Service Standards

- This goal became less of a priority given other events that occurred this year, but there is continuing review of the current VMRC Purchase of Service Standards. A revised Employment First policy was submitted to the Board and approved this fiscal year.

vi. Continue working with the Communications Committee to identify strategies to increase employee engagement and improve their work environment

- The VMRC Communications Committee continues to be very productive in identifying methods for improving communication within VMRC and with the Community in general. The most recent additions are the new VMRC Connections Newsletter, and the improved Intranet which was debuted in October 2015. The Communications Committee will continue to provide reports to the Board annually.

vii. Meet with SEIU Local 1021 to Negotiate modifications to the Contract that are Fair and Reasonable for VMRC and its Employees

- There is a tentative three year agreement that was presented to the Board at this meeting for review and approval. The tentative agreement was approved by the Board as noted earlier in these minutes. VMRC and SEIU Local 1021 will have a contract from November 1, 2015 through October 31, 2018. VMRC Management continues to work with staff to resolve remaining disputes.

viii. Effectively Manage Ongoing Budget Challenges for VMRC

- The Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer are continually working toward a balanced budget given the funding challenges that the regional center system continues to face. As of this fiscal year, VMRC has managed the finances that will continue to ensure consumers and families receive needed services, and employees receive their benefits and compensation.

H. BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM VISITS:

Ivan Johnson was attended the Disability Resource Fair and System Technology Exposition in Modesto at the Howard Training Center. He shared his experience and also highlighted some of the innovative supports that were on display at the exposition.

The Program Visit sign up book was passed around to Board members to sign up for visits scheduled in November.

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i. Consumer Services Committee

(S. Rush Bailey on behalf of Paula Newman, Chair)

Cindy Mix provided a summary of the meeting as follows:

- Mary Sheehan attended a recent training at Health Plan of San Joaquin (HPSJ) that consisted of area pediatricians and their medical assistant staff. The topics included the role of HPSJ helping MDs, VMRC eligibility criteria for Early Start and Lanterman consumers, and CCS and how it functions.

- CCS will become part of managed care MediCal in all counties in California. Details not final yet, transition postponed until 2017. Counseling access was discussed. Barbara Johnson, VMRC Clinical Psychologist will clarify the process and provide a list to staff, as well as a training to Service Coordinators about when to make referrals.
- Resource Development reported there are 3 Community Placement Plan (CPP) homes opening in October.
 - Anka Home located in Stockton will address high-risk adults
 - Delta Star Paradise, a step-down home for registered sex offenders in Manteca
 - Linden Grove, which is a step down facility for adults.
- Re: Quality Assurance, there were no Community Service Alerts more than 90 days overdue. This demonstrates much improvement.
- The Residential Screening Committee is reviewing all Level 4, ICF & Negotiated Rate residential placements in an effort to better utilize VMRC residential resources. The committee is a positive addition to the placement process. VMRC will now be implementing a second committee to review only children's placements.
- The Self- Determination program waiver application was submitted by DDS to CMS on 9/29/14, after receiving a lot of input concerning the infrastructure of the program and the need for clarification of duties. DDS will receive word in 90 days whether it was approved, denied, or deferred for more information. It is recommended that all visit the DDS website for the latest information.
- The final revision of the Respite Assessment Tool has been made and includes a combination of in-home and out of home respite. This change was made at the recommendation of two OAH judges who felt the combination could meet very different needs for consumers. The revised tool was effective immediately.

Cindy Mix thanked Rush Bailey for stepping in as chair of the Consumer Services Committee meeting today. Rush stated that he was impressed with VMRC staff and their dedication. The next Consumer Services Committee meeting will be November 9, at 4:30 p.m.

ii. VMRC Consumer Advisory Committee Report
(Dena Pfeifer, SAC6 Representative)

Dena reported on the SAC 6 meeting that was held on September 16, 2015.

- The goals for the SAC6 were discussed at the September meeting.
- A calendar of general and also Finance Committee meetings for 2016 was established by the group.
- The SAC6 is requesting a schedule of the 2016 VMRC meetings to add to their calendar.
- The group discussed and participated in a survey from SCDD about systematic advocacy vs. direct advocacy.
- A committee has been established to organize and coordinate the February meeting that will be held at the San Joaquin County fairgrounds.
- The next SAC6 meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2015 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Howard Training Center in Modesto. Meetings are open to everyone who would like to attend.

iii. Finance and Personnel Committee

(John Forrest, Treasurer)

Claudia Reed, CFO, provided the report on behalf of John Forrest.

The Finance and Personnel Committee met on October 7, 2015 and approved the minutes from the September 8 meeting. The committee discussed the Contract Status and Cash Flow reports. HR Director, Bill Rutgers, reviewed the New Hires and Separations, and Caseload reports, copies of which are included in the supplementary report provided with the meeting handouts. The full minutes of this meeting will be included in the November board meeting packet.

The next meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee will be held November 4, 2015 at 5:30pm.

iv. Executive Committee

(Melinda Gonser, Board President)

Melinda gave a report on the Executive Committee meeting held October 7, 2015. The majority of the meeting consisted of discussion regarding the Executive Director's contract and compensation. Per the Board Bylaws, the Executive Committee approves the contract and compensation for the Executive Director. The Committee and the Executive Director agreed on a three year contract and a salary increase that includes realignment of salary to be commensurate with other similarly situated regional center directors.

The Committee also discussed the upcoming Board Retreat and Training, scheduled for October 31 from 8:30am to 12:00pm at VMRC's Stockton office. The agenda will include Diversity Training for board members, which is required by statute. Additional agenda topics will be Board Roles and Responsibilities and Conflict of Interest. Melinda asked Board members for additional suggestions for topics to be presented at the training. Dena Pfeifer expressed interest in a review of the Board Resource binder. Tom Martin would like more information on roles and responsibilities during Board member program visits. Candice expressed interest in receiving training on the fiscal information.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held November 4, 2015 at 6:00pm, directly following the Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting.

v. Nominating Committee

(Tom Bowe, Chair)

No report was given as the Nominating Committee has not met this month.

vi. Strategic Planning Committee

(Melinda Gonser, Chair)

There was no additional information to present at this time.

vii. VMRC Professional Advisory Committee

(Candice Bright, CLASP Representative)

The Board welcomed Candice who will represent the CLASP group. At the November board meeting, Candice will provide a report on the last CLASP meeting.

viii. Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA)
(Paul Billodeau, ARCA Alternate Representative)

The next ARCA meeting will take place October 15 and 16 in San Diego. This will be a Strategic Planning session to develop a three year plan for ARCA. A report will be provided at the November board meeting.

J. OTHER MATTERS:

There were no other matters this month.

K. NEXT MEETING:

The next board meeting will be held on **Monday November 9, 2015, at 6:00 pm** at the VMRC office in Stockton, in the Cohen Conference Rooms.

L. ADJOURNMENT: Ybarra/Bailey motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.