



## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

10/19/2020 | 06:00 PM - 08:00 PM - Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**Board Members Present:** Dena Pfeifer, Erria Kaalund, Mohamed Rashid, Tom Toomey, Yan Li, Gabriela Castillo, Andrea Rueda, Steve Russell, Lynda Mendoza, Alicia Schott, Anthony Owens, Margaret Heinz, Kenneth Britter, Linda Collins

**Board Members Not Present:** Crystal Enyeart, Emily Grunder, Cherina Shaw, Tina Vera, Suzanne Devitt

**Staff Present:** Doug Bonnet, Christine Couch, Cindy Mix, Tara Sisemore-Hester, Brian Bennet, Nicole Weiss, Claudia Reed, Claire Lazaro

**Public Present:** Carlos Hernandez (Interpreter for Gabriella Castillo), Irene Hernandez (Meeting Interpreter), Rachelle Munoz (Facilitator for Crystal Enyeart), Lori Smith (Facilitator for Dena Pfeifer), Dena Hernandez SCDD, Ami Sullivan,

### **A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Reading of the Mission Statement**

Doug took roll call.

Everyone read the mission statement.

**B. Review and Approval of the Meeting Agenda – Action Item** – No comments. Unanimous consent, motion passed.

**C. Review and Approval of the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 08/17/20 – Action Item** – No comments. Unanimous consent, motion passed.

**D. Board Presentation - Performance Contract and National Core Indicators (NCI)** – Cindy Mix reviewed the Performance Contract and National Core Indicators (NCI). See attached presentation slides.

**E. Board Discussion and Public Comment on Performance Contract and National Core Indicators (NCI) – Action Item**

- Discussion:
  - 4 bed facilities are our goal. This gives opportunities to individuals to have their own rooms.
  - Shared concerns about safety issues expressed in the NCI survey. It may have something to do with some of our communities where the crime rate may be higher and you do need to be careful.
- Action:
  - Dena Pfeifer made the motion, Mohamed Rashid seconded the motion. Unanimous consent, motion carries.

**F. Public Comment**

**Dena Hernandez Regional Manager- SCDD North Valley Hills Public Comment:**

- Thank you to VMRC for collaborating with SCDD & SAC6 again for the Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) drive throughs and for willingness to schedule more in other towns.
- The State Council on Developmental Disabilities is holding Public Comment online until November 9, 2020 on the DRAFT State Plan for 2022-2026. I would appreciate it if you would please look at the State Plan and give any feedback or comments. It is available in English and all the threshold languages and Plain Language. The link is <https://scdd.ca.gov/stateplan/>
  - Concern about Sprouts in Lodi, not allowing families with children who are not able to wear masks, inside the store.

**Jose Lara Public Comment:**

- Called the Sprouts office in Arizona about the local Lodi Sprouts concerns. It is their store policy, not state law, according to the Arizona office. Sprouts believes they are not discriminating and are offering curbside pick-up.

**G. Consent Calendar Items – Action Item:** Mohamed Rashid made a motion, Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. No comments, unanimous approval, motion passes.

1. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of 09/02/20 and 10/07/20
2. Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 09/02/20 and 10/07/20
3. Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes of 09/14/20 and 10/05/20

## H. Committee Reports

1. VMRC Professional Advisory Committee, Coalition of Local Area Service Providers (CLASP) - Liz Herrera Knapp, CLASP Appointee:
  - Last meeting was September 28<sup>th</sup> via Zoom
  - As of Sept 28<sup>th</sup> we had 70 paid members and \$10,278.27 in our CLASP account
  - During our meeting we had a presentation from Ernest Supply from owners Greg and Dan. Ernest supply is a PPE supplier that was created in light of the pandemic aiming to have fair pricing ([www.earnestsupply.com](http://www.earnestsupply.com))
  - Our provider conference registration is now live and its \$25 per person for 6 total CEUs. It will be held as a Web Series:
    - DAY ONE 11/5/20: Our California Department of Developmental Services Director Nancy Bargmann on the state of developmental services followed by Laura Brackin, PhD talking about person-centered thinking, the HCBS intersection and other issues identified by local providers.
    - DAY TWO 11/10/20: Vance Taylor, Chief of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and Nicole Patterson from the DDS Consumer Advisory Committee will discuss emergency responses.
    - DAY THREE 11/17/20: Jason Freeman, Advocate and Author, will provide the closing key note followed by a session with the team from Valley Mountain Regional Center's Community Services Department.
    - Registration Link: <https://tinyurl.com/CLASP2020Conference>
  - The Residential Work Group presented and indicated that they need more staff, specifically people who can pass a background check. For anybody interested in working as a DSP for the one of the Residential Providers in the workgroup contact Marni [marnijd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marnijd@sbcglobal.net)
  - Day Program Work Group met twice during the month of Sept
    - They discussed certification statement that must be completed for VMRC
    - Went over Alternative vs. Remote Services
    - They are looking to connect with their consumes at the Residential Homes
    - They received the vulnerable population list from Cindy which indicates consumers who are not able to attend in-person day program
  - The CLASP President, Corinne Seaton, who is the Director of Adult Programs and Services UCP of San Joaquin, Calaveras and Amador Counties is resigning from her position at UCP and leaving the field. She will no longer be President of CLASP Effective 10/30/20. Our current Vice-President Diana Bonnett, RSP will be acting as President and CLASP Nominating Committee will be working toward filling the VP Seat.
  - During our next meeting we will be discussing Alternative Services specific to Day Programs, Rates for Non-Residential Services, as well as, the increase in minimum wage coming in January and how this will impact RSPs Financially, especially when the 8.2% rate increase will sunset in December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.
  - Our next meeting is Monday October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 10am via Zoom .
2. Consumer Services Committee - Dena Pfeifer, Committee Chair

September 14 and October 5 meeting minutes are in the packet for review. Meetings will continue to be monthly. SAC6 will do a training on end of care planning to support Service Coordinators.

- a. Approval of Personal Assistance Service Standard – Action Item – Dena Pfeifer made the motion, Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.
3. Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC): Our chairperson is not present tonight. Tony updated the board to inform us that VMRC is doing really well. We have the most people on board with the program, out of the regional centers that did not have a pilot program. Cindy reported will have 32 by the first of November, 13 people are working on spending plans and 11 are working on their budgets. All of those could be in the program within the next month. We are getting a lot of positive feedback from families in the program already. Our team is very excited and doing great work. Tony discussed the survey that was completed to find out why people were dropping out of the program. About 40% of the people reported that they were happy with their current program. The other group shared that it was complicated. DDS is reviewing the results and potential barriers. VMRC's team is working very hard on helping people overcome barriers.
4. Consumer Advisory Council, Self-Advocacy Council Area 6 (SAC6) - Crystal Enyeart, SAC6 Appointee – Rachelle Munoz, facilitator shared the SAC6 report on behalf of Crystal. For the month of September, Sac6 continues to have our Friday Zoom Chats:

August 21st Zoom Chat Topic was on VMRC (POS) Purchase of Services, presented by Gabriela Lopez- VMRC Cultural Specialist and Sac6.

August 27th, we had our monthly Leadership meeting with Tony Anderson.

August 28th Zoom Chat topic was on Feeling Safe Being Safe & Disaster Preparedness by Nicole Paterson with DDS CAC and Sac6 Chair, Lisa Utsey.

September 3rd, 2020 Sac 6 partnered with SCDD and VMRC to distribute PPE Equipment to vendors and families in San Joaquin county.

On September 4th, Zoom Chat Topic was on Coping with Loss and Grief with Dr. Dave Demetral. After the Zoom Chat, Sac6 also assisted with handing out PPE Equipment at the Modesto VMRC Office.

September 11th, Zoom Chat Topic was on Person Centered Planning presented by Dena Hernandez from SCDD North Valley Hills office and Sac 6 member Dena Pfeiffer. We also had a moment of silence to honor those of 9-11.

September 12th, Sac6 held their Board meeting via zoom.

September 18th, Zoom Chat Topic was on Law Enforcement and YOU- How to be safe in our communities together with Sac6, presented by Officer Jesus Zavala.

September 19th, Sac6 held their quarterly Finance Committee meeting via zoom.

September 21st, Sac6 members attended the California Memorial Project 18th Annual California Remembrance Ceremony webinar, to honor and restore dignity to our peers with mental health and developmental disabilities who lived and died in state institutions without the recognition they deserved.

5. Finance Committee - Linda Collins, Treasurer and Committee Chair
  - a. Approval of Contract Status Report (CSR) – Action Item – Claudia Reed, CFO presented the CSR. Dena Pfeiffer made a motion, Alicia Schott seconded the motion. No questions. Motion passes unanimously.
  - b. Purchase of Service (POS) and Operations (OPS) Expenditures – Claudia Reed, CFO gave a report on the current POS and OPS expenditures.
  - c. Acceptance of Restricted Donations for September and October 2020 – Action Item – Claudia Reed, CFO presented the restricted donations. Linda Collins made a motion, Dena Pfeiffer seconded the motion. No questions. Motion passes unanimously.
  - d. Approval of Contracts over \$250,000 – Action Item – Brian Bennett was available to answer questions. Linda Collins made a motion, Steve Russell seconded the motion. There were no questions. Motion passes, with one abstention by Liz Herrera Knapp.
6. Legislative Committee - Lynda Mendoza, Committee Chair – no meeting since last board meeting. November 4 at 3pm is the next meeting. Tony shared the most current report on the VMRC website.
7. Nominating Committee - Linda Collins, Committee Chair – no meeting since last board meeting.

8. Bylaws Committee - Lynda Mendoza, Committee Chair – no meeting since last board meeting. The committee does need to meet once per year. They will schedule a meeting in the first part of the calendar year.
9. Special Events Committee - Tina Vera, Committee Chair – no meeting since last board meeting.

### **I. Executive Director's Report - Tony Anderson**

Strategic Planning – thank you for filling out the survey!

Ami Sullivan, Kinetic Flow shared that we have 5 strategic plan areas: Given the data, there is a natural delineation that makes for 4 Board strategic areas -

1. Training,
2. Consumer Health
3. Consumers feel empowered/supported
4. Communication

with the 5th area the internal/operational being:

5. Organizational Culture, which can include employee well being.

Alternative and transitional services are two main policy matters being worked on with DDS.

There is a new policy on half-day billing. These things will impact on day services. QA is working hard on creating liaisons with Public Health and developing relationships. The goal is to be informed on how to best open day programs and provide for safe monitoring, and quick changes when/if necessary.

We continue hiring people. There will be an exciting new onboarding opportunity to show the big picture of the organization. We have approximately 37 speakers, including our partners from the community. This will be recorded so we can show new employees that join us throughout the year.

We are seeing a small uptake in Covid 19 exposures. This isn't a surge, rather a mild uptake.

Tony is working with Jason Toeple on integrated programs within the 5 counties on ....he's talking too fast and my internet is cutting out.

Health Advisories still coming out. This week will be #34 – thanks Doug for all of your work on these.

Staff survey shows that they are thankful about our strategies put in place to keep them safe.

Case load ratio survey coming out and we will write our annual report to DDS to explain why we remain out of compliance.

Tony is excited to be a keynote speaker for the Supported Life Conference on October 22, 2020. He is going to share inspiring information about energizing information during this time.

**J. Other Matters - none**

**K. Board Member Visits/Activities**

Margaret is still participating in the Presentation Food Pantry food delivery program. She made a donation on behalf of the VMRC board and sent a thank you card. This high impact activity is worthwhile.

**L. President's Report - Margaret Heinz-** thank you to the transition team for their presentation this morning. ARCA meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> was covered by Tony. Thank you to Gaby for the Food Pantry program. Thank you to everyone who works on the Health Advisory, especially Doug and Tony. Thank you to all of the board members for completing the strategic plan survey. If you missed the September 26 Strategic plan presentation, please watch it on the website or you tube.

1. Executive Committee Action Item - Director of Community Services – Tony shared that we are making some staffing changes. Nicole Weiss, a great leader for our organization is retiring. She had half of Community Services. We are combining the two halves and creating one position, the Director of Community Services. Brian Bennett will be the Director of Community Services. The job description is in your packet. Margaret Heinz made the motion, Steve Russell seconded the motion. No comments, no questions. Motion carries unanimously.

**M. Next Meeting - Monday, December 21, 2020, 6:00 PM, via Zoom Video Conference**

**N. Adjournment at 7:46pm**