



Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting

06/22/2022 | 06:00 PM

VMRC Stockton Office, Cohen Board (702 N. Aurora Street, Stockton, CA 95202) Room and Via Zoom Video

Board Members Present: Margaret Heinz, Lisa Utsey, Lynda Mendoza, Ken Britter, Linda Collins, Crystal Enyeart, Robert Balderama, Tina Vera, Dr. Steve Russell, Tom Toomey, Anthony Owens, Erria Kaalund, Alicia Schott, Gabriela Castillo, Jessica Quesada, Dr. Yan Li

Board Members Not Present: Suzanne Devitt (Informed Absence), Emily Grunder (Informed Absence)

VMRC Staff Present: Brian Bennett, Bud Mullanix, Melissa Stiles, Doug Bonnet, Christine Couch, Tony Anderson, Claire Lazaro

Public Present: Irene Hernandez (interpreter), Isela Bingham (Intepreter), katie ASL, Lorie ASL, Phone listener, Aleida O, Alejandra Lugardo, Ana Soto, Ana Valdez, C, Claudia, Comunidad Latina, Danielle Wells, Dena Hernandez, Diaz Aguilar Ernesto, Gricelda Estrada, Integrated Community Collaborative, Ipad, James Ford DDS, Jeannet K, Karina Obeso, Kourtney Alcantara, Liliana Escudero, Lisa Culley, Liz Diaz, Maria Elena Diaz, Maria Solano, Maria's Iphone, Marias Guevara, Maricela Robledo, Mariela, Marisela M, Michele poaster, Miguel Lugo, Nancy Millan, Neidra Clayton, P Pfeifer, Pam Kidroske, Patricia aflores, Patricia Campos, Rubi Saldana ICC-Integradora, Sandra Guerra, Susan Heiny, Tania Delgado, Tim Cabral, Usuario de Zoom, Victoria, Xiomara Lopez

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm. Doug Bonnet called roll and we have a quorum. The board read the mission statement aloud.

B. Review and Approval of the Meeting Agenda – **Action Item**

Lynda Mendoza made the motion to approve the meeting agenda. Lisa Utsey seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

C. Review and Approval of the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 04/27/22 **– Action Item**

Lynda Mendoza made the motion to approve the meeting minutes. Crystal Enyeart seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

D. Presentation - Caseload Ratios and Performance Contract – Tony Anderson

Tony Anderson presented the caseload ratio report and our performance contract report.

E. Public Comment

Susan Heiny – My son, Daniel is 21 with autism. Lives in a residential care home. Received a 30-day notice. Lives in a 4I placement. Has exceptional behaviors, but not unmanageable with an appropriately trained staff. Received a 30-day notice from STEPS. We have looked at over 7-8 homes since April. He has been declined. Now we are expected to look outside the county, throughout the state for a placement. This is unacceptable and there is no current local placements available. For me, this is unacceptable. He is not unmanageable. VMRC is to provide responsible placement and bridge the gap. No solutions are being proposed. Everything is a standstill. This is like buying a broken car. How long does Daniel have to stay in an appropriate placement, where his rights are being violated? I see it with other clients. I have to do his personal care during my visits. Now we are stuck with no options. I would love to forward a picture of a home we visited. There was a marijuana bong and leaves sitting in the backyard. I am a whistleblower of STEPS and now he is being given a 30-day notice. I've always been an advocate for VMRC. Margaret stopped her.

Gricelda Estrada – The state has a legislation last year for soc/rec since June. This VMRC center wrote a policy. Cutting services to only offer certain activities. Cutting services to only offer certain activities. That restricts our children. To total access to all services reestablished by the governor. This is why I'm asking that it's opened up. And they rewrite the policy. For camping and recreation, with the community help. thank you.

Integrated Community Collaborative, Fernando Gomez – The ICC has been working closely with VMRC for the last 3 years addressing a lot of the issues that Tony presented today. Thank you to this board and every board member of your service. For being the conduit to engage the community and listening to the community and integrating the messages for needs and wants. I also acknowledged that Tony and his senior staff are very open. We hold monthly meetings to review

information. Even though the SCs are going through a stressful time which we know they are, it completes a full circle. The stress then impacts the community that they service and in turn creates a full cycle. In the middle of understanding these dynamics, hardships like covid 19 and others, it's imperative that this is an opportunity to open the doors, even wider and accommodate the dialogue of issues and challenges can be a collaborative with RC and other stakeholders. Extend gratitude to VMRC for their leadership position and encourage the community to continue to express their concerns, needs and wants, not in an adversary way. the reports are important. The people served behind the data is important. The system is person centered. The systemic change has needs to come. Thank you.

Claudia – I'm actually from the previous comment. I'm an example of that cycle. I'm facing obstacles. My SC is overwhelmed. Services are delayed. Questions and information are delayed for approval of my son's budget in the person-centered program. because of that my son has been without services for a couple of months. There is a workload overload and it's directly impacting myself, my son and my SC, who I love. That's all I had to share.

Tania Delgado – hello thank you for the opportunity. Why parents take so long to get reimbursed for soc/rec. I waited more than 3 months to get reimbursed. The services are not cheap. Also, our adults need appropriate ABA services. Why VMRC only allows rec. services and not nonmedical therapy? I agree with Griselda. I have heard from community to change the SC and case manager, because of the stress. The families are obligated to work with person they don't feel comfortable with anymore.

Maria Elena Diaz – I apologize my internet is slow. Please be patient that have slow internet. My comment is to please add a few more items to the next meeting that we have direct comments. I request that we have behavioral services for adults through regional center. And this regional center has the same situation. It's effecting the entire community. We also need more vendors in this area. Various. I'm also in agreement with Griselda and tania to reopen the policy for recreation. And permit the community to give suggestions. so that the clients can benefit. I'm going to repeat that we need services, behavioral services, for adults. And also to take into consideration that with us as parents to be reimbursed, we have to wait. It takes RC a very long time to reimburse us. we as parents have to ask for money from a third party. So that our children do not lack services. this process is taking up to 9 months. It's supposed to be the RC help the client. And also not supposed to stress the family or client so that he doesn't receive his proper developmental services. So, I hope that all of this information is added to the next agenda. Thank you

Ernesto Diaz Aguilar – the internet is very slow where I live. My name is Ernesto Diaz. I have family that receives services at VMRC. My comment is ABA services for the adults, we are missing agencies. My daughter is 23 years old. She is with RC. RC does not have behavioral services for adults. I'm aware that other RC do have that for adults. She does need those services. I reinforce Maria Elena's comments and Griselda Estrada as well. That's it. thank you very much.

Alejandra – Good afternoon. Thank you for giving us this opportunity. My son is a RC consumer. I feel that you are not giving me a professional service for my son. I have been VMRC for 5 years. And since I started with VMRC I asked for a person that speaks Spanish. I was always told we don't have one, we don't have one, we don't have one. And three years ago, my son started with respite for 24 hours. That's unfair. He is 9 years old and uses a diaper. I asked manager for extra hours, and she would deny them. That's when I contacted Tara Sisemore. She said no I can't change managers, that is the best manager that can assist me. with the regional center for 5 years and they can't switch me for a person who speaks Spanish. And even a manager to help me with the process for my child. Tara was not helping me. So, I feel that you are not doing your job professionally because he is only getting 24 hours respite. And Tara Sisemore told me that they would not switch my manager. I don't understand why that is being blocked if she is not helping me. in your policies tha you do state that you have 10 days to complete the request and as of yet I don't have a response with a change. This is why I'm here, I'm not happy with the services to tell you the truth. Thank you.

Rubi Saldana – Rubi for ICC. I just want to clarify that the board of directors help us bring ADA for adults. We know there is behavior intervention in the area. Adults are at risk right now. please, please, please help us. ADA for adults. NO BIS for adults. It's not helping us. We need more vendors. We need courtesy vendors. I don't know how long this is taking. Help us make process shorter. We will appreciate it. thank you very much.

Mariela – good evening, everyone. Can you hear me? ok, good evening. Thank you for the opportunity I'm just here to request the board of directors to reopen and rewrite the soc/rec policy. TO have the community participate and have input. That would be appreciated. We need that. thank you.

Community Latina – My name is Nancy Avila. Good evening. My comment today is to talk today about SC who use generic resources for IHSs for integration in the community. It's very unfair to use the resources for IHSS. To take resources for PA. when we know that PA belongs to the integrated community. And the IHSs is only a service for the home. That's it. thank you very much.

Nancy Milan – Good evening. I would like to ask that you assist families with vendorizing to reimburse the cost we pay as parents. I have had to wait one year just to get reimbursed for one class alone. It's only fair for not just families but for any consumers that are requesting those services. and don't delay payments or reimbursements. Thank you.

Maria Solano – good evening. I'm here to support what Elena said. I'm here to speak about adults, my child. The services for ABA are needed. I have two adults and they only have PA. and it's a need for all of adults that Griselda said, it's lacking. That's it, thank you.

Community Latina – hi. Delila hernandez. I have the same problem as the other mother, Alejandra. My case manager is not helping me at all. They won't let me switch service coordinators. She feels that she is the best service coordinator. I have spoken to her and told her I am very stressed out. I've been like this for a month. And she's in t respecting my rights to switch coordinators and get a response within 10 days. and she is pretty much made it very clear that I have to remain with the SC that I'm not happy with. What is the resolution for this? I'm not the only one. others are going through this. why? So, our children and us as parents are already stressing and they should support us and not cause more stress. So, who do I go to if my case manager is not helping me. thank you.

F. Consent Calendar Items – Action Item

Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the consent calendar items. Anthony Owens seconded the motion of the consent calendar items. The motion passes unanimously.

G. Committee Reports

1. VMRC Professional Advisory Committee, Coalition of Local Area Service Providers (CLASP), Candice Bright – the minutes are in the packet to review.
2. Self-Determination Advisory Committee, Mariela Ramos – she didn't know she was included in the agenda so she doesn't have a report. She will need an agenda to invite her to give a report. Tony reported that the committee has not been meeting due to the Begley – Keene meeting rules. There is a new interpretation that the committee can meet both in person and in zoom for the first time due to this change. They were scheduled to come to the VMRC office but the office had an urgent need to close due to a positive Covid test.
3. Consumer Advisory Council, Self-Advocacy Council Area 6 (SAC6), Crystal Enyeart
Sac 6 report to the VMRC Board, June 2022

May 6, 2022, Sac6 had their weekly zoom CHAT the topic was on Special Olympic.

May 11, 2022, Sac6 consultant Lisa U. attended the VMRC Finance Meeting.

May 12, 2022, Sac6 members myself and Dena#1 had a table out in Calaveras for the Transition Fair. Catrina C. attended the VMRC Nominating Committee meeting. Also, on some Sac6 members attended the Transportation update meeting.

May 13, 2022, Sac6 Friday zoom CHAT topic was on Alternative choices by Steven R. from the Mind Institute.

May 17, 2022, Catrina C. attended the Nominating Committee meeting again as they are interviewing members for the VMRC Board.

May 18, 2022, Sac6 had their Finance Committee meeting.

May 20, 2022, Sac 6 members attended the 2022 CHOICES Conference via zoom.

May 26, 2022, Sac 6 Leadership meet with Executive Director for our monthly meeting.

June 3, 2022, Sac 6 Friday zoom CHAT was presented by Aaron McDonald VMRC Emergency Coordinator on wind and fire safety.

June 6, 2022, some Sac6 members attended the VMRC Contract Performance meeting via zoom.

June 8, 2022, Sac6 members Lisa and Dena#1 attended the Disability Resource Fair Planning Committee.

June 10, 2022, Sac 6 Friday zoom CHAT was presented by Sac6 members, and the topic was Cyberbullying. This was an important topic because so many people are spending more time online.

June 13, 2022, Sac 6 members attended the VMRC Family Wellness Project meeting.

June 16, 2022, Sac6 member Catrina attended the Compassion for All California End-of-Life planning team committee.

June 17, 2022, Sac 6 Friday zoom CHAT was presented by Sac 6 on Juneteenth, we wanted to let others know the History and why we now celebrate Juneteenth as a national holiday.

4. **Finance Committee**, Alicia Schott. Melissa Stiles gave the report. She reviewed the May and June 2022 Contract Status Report.
 - a. Approval of Contract Status Reports (CSR) for May and June 2022 – **Action Item**. Alicia Schott brought the CSR for May and June for approval. Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
 - b. Approval of Contracts Over \$250,000 for May and June 2022 – **Action Item**. Alicia Schott brought the contracts over \$250,00 for approval. Linda Collins seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
 - c. Purchase of Service (POS) Expenditures and Operations for May and June 2022 was presented by Melissa Stiles.
5. **Consumer Services Committee**, Suzanne Devitt - the committee met for their final meeting on June 1 for the fiscal year. Suzanne will continue to chair the committee in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. She is in the process of confirming the members of the committee. They will meet on the first Wednesday, of every other month. The meeting will be September 7 at 515pm.
6. **Legislative Committee**, Lynda Mendoza – met on May 26. On July 18 the committee will meet and the time will be announced.
7. **Bylaws Committee**, Linda Collins – no report.
8. **Nominating Committee**, Linda Collins
 - a. Appointment of New Board Members – **Action Item** Linda brought Jose Lara and Brandy Dealva to the board for consideration to fill 2 vacancies on the board. Alicia Schott seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
9. **Special Events Committee**, Tina Vera – no report at this time.
10. **Popplewell Committee**, Margaret Heinz – The next meeting is June 29 at 5pm.

H. Executive Director's Report – Tony Anderson

The presentation given earlier will act as his report for the month.

I. Other Matters – n/a

J. Board Member Activities and Reports – n/a

K. President's Report – Margaret Heinz

Margaret reported that we need the conflict-of-interest forms returned. Please RSVP to Doug Bonnet for the board dinner. The next board meeting is July 20. The July ARCA academy link was sent to you. Please sign up – it's a great opportunity!!

The Jun 17 ARCA board meeting was held in Sacramento. Margaret welcomed James Ford, DDS present at the meeting tonight. Bills regarding conservatorship, supported decision-making and aging was discussed, as well as self-determination. They discussed sharing information and making sure everyone is aware of information. They discussed soc/rec, employment grants, pathways to employment. There were previously 41 out of state consumers and now only 1. They discussed rate studies and the delegates meetings with the department of aging.

Please remember to attend the board meetings so we will have a quorum to complete our business. If you aren't able to attend, please notify Doug. If you have missed several meetings and it's a problem to attend, please tell us so we can help you. Whenever you are on zoom, please have your camera on if possible.

Thank you to the interpreters, great job!!

1. **Approval of 2022/2023 Board Meeting Schedule – Action Item** Margaret and Doug brought the meeting schedule to the board. Lynda Mendoza motioned to approve the schedule. Alicia Schott seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

L. Next Meeting - Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 6:00 PM, (Hybrid) VMRC Stockton Office Cohen Board Room and Via Zoom Video

M. Adjournment at 7:57pm.