



Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting

07/20/2022 | 06:00 PM - 08:00 PM

Hybrid - VMRC Stockton Office Cohen Board Room and via Zoom Video Conference

Board Members Present: Margaret Heinz, Lynda Mendoza, Alicia Schott, Brandy De Alba, Jose Lara, Robert Balderama, Anthony Owens, Dr. Suzanne Devitt, Dr. Yan Li, Jessica Quesada, Lisa Utsey, Crystal Enyeart, Linda Collins, Ken Britter, Dr. Steve Russell, Tom Toomey, Erria Kaalund, Gabriella Castillo

Board Members Not Present: Tina Vera (informed absence), Liz Herrera Knapp (informed absence), Emily Grunder

VMRC Staff Present: Tony Anderson, Doug Bonnet, Brian Bennett, Melissa Stiles

Public Present: Irene Hernandez (Interpreter on-line), Isela Bingham (Interpreter in-person), Angie Lewis (Facilitator), Rachelle Munoz (Facilitator), James Ford (DDS), Melanie Gonzalez (Vendor)

Margaret Heinz, President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

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

Doug Bonnet took the role. A quorum was established. Margaret thanked everyone for showing up both in-person and on-line.

The Board read the Mission Statement together.

B. Review and Approval of the Meeting Agenda - Action

Lisa Utsey motioned to approve the Meeting Agenda. Linda Collins seconded the motion. The Meeting Agenda was approved unanimously.

C. Review and Approval of the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 06/22/22 -

Action

Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 06/22/22. Crystal Enyeart seconded the motion. The Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 06/22/22 were approved unanimously.

D. Presentation - No Presentation this Month

E. Public Comment

Each member of the public may have 3 minutes for comment. If an interpreter is needed, 6 minutes will be given.

There was no public comment this month.

F. Consent Calendar Items - Action

1. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of July 2022
2. Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of July 2022

Alicia Schott made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items. Anthony Owens seconded the motion. The Consent Calendar Items were approved unanimously.

G. Committee Reports

1. VMRC Professional Advisory Committee, Coalition of Local Area Service Providers (CLASP) Liz Herrera-Knapp

Melanie Gonzales presented the CLASP Update.

VMRC Board Meeting Report

7/20/22

CLASP Representative – Liz Herrera Knapp, MA, BCBA

Presented by: Melanie Gonzales, CLASP President

CLASP Membership Meetings Held last Board of Directors Meeting:

June 27th via Zoom 10am-12pm

- The CLASP Membership held their annual Officer Elections. Results are as follows:
 - Elected Positions:
 - President – Melanie Gonzales
 - Vice President – KC Shadman
 - Secretary – Chris Martin
 - Treasure – Tamara Hernandez
 - Membership – Karyn Gergorius
 - VMRC Board Rep – Liz Herrera Knapp
 - Appointed Positions - CLASP Representatives:
 - Finance Committee Rep – Connie Uychutin
 - Consumer Services Committee Rep – Daime Hoonaret
 - Legislation Committee Rep – Candice Bright
 - Nominating Committee Rep – Daime Hoonaret
 - CLASP By-Laws – Rita Redondo
 - CLASP Social Media/Special Events Chair – KC Shadman
- Currently working on renewing memberships for the July 2022-June 2023 Membership year. Membership remains \$25 per person for the year.
- CLASP Leadership is working on a calendar for the year and working on getting speakers to present at our monthly membership meetings.
- CLASP Leadership is also working on updating the Mission Statement and once completed will present it to CLASP Membership to vote.
- CLASP had 81 Paid Members for the July 2021-June 2022 Membership Year.
- CLASP is looking toward Spring to hold our Annual Provider Conference and the Provider Conference Committee will be meeting soon to begin planning.
- VMRC's Emergency Response Coordinator, Aaron McDonald, is scheduled to present at the Monday, August 22, 10am meeting, on VMRC Emergency Response and Initiatives from DDS.
- The Residential Provider and Day Program Provider Work groups continue to meet separately to cover issues specific to their services

Next CLASP Meeting is August 22nd 10am-12pm via ZOOM.

2. Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC) Mariela Ramos

Mariela Ramos was not in attendance. Tony Anderson reported for her.

The advisory committee is meeting this week.

The cost for the FMS will no longer come out of the individual's budget. It will come out of Regional Center operations. That law has passed. It leaves more funds for services.

We are meeting with the FMS agencies that we work with. We will talk about what's working/what's not working. We have 1 more Participant Choice Specialist to fill. We have an in-house fiscal person dedicated to Self-Determination. We are really focusing on problem solving to build up the program even more.

3. Consumer Advisory Council, Self-Advocacy Council Area 6 (SAC6) Crystal Enyeart

July 15, 2022, Sac 6 Friday zoom CHAT was presented by Sac6 Chairperson Dena#1 Pfeifer and Sac6 Treasurer Tim Cabral on Health Relationships. Lisa and Crystal also attended the VMRC Board Dinner.

July 21, 2022, Lisa U. attended the Coalition for Care for all of California-End of Life Planning Committee via zoom.

July 28th, the sac6 leadership had their monthly Leadership meeting with VMRC Director.

August 3, 2022, Dena P. attended the Resource Planning Committee via zoom. Sac6 also had their practice zoom chat.

August 5, 2022, Sac6 had their area meeting that was held via zoom. Sac 6 members shared their journey on Advocating and how they have evolved.

August 10, 2022, Lisa gave a presentation to UOP in Modesto regarding starting a Self-Advocacy group, in person. Also, later this same day Lisa and myself gave a presentation to UOP in Turlock about starting a Self-Advocacy group.

August 16, 2022, Sac6 members Catrina and Robert assisted with the legislative Committee presentation.

4. Finance Committee Alicia Schott

a. Approval of Contract Status Reports (CSR) for July 2022 Melissa Stiles Action – Action

Melissa Stiles, CFO, presented the Contract Status Report (CSR) for July 2022 that was approved at the July Finance Committee Meeting. Melissa answered any questions that the board had. Jose Lara seconded the motion brought forth by the Finance Committee. The Contract Status Report (CSR) for July 2022 was approved unanimously.

b. Approval of Contracts over \$250,000 for July 2022 Melissa Stiles – Action

Brian Bennett, Community Services Director, presented the Contracts over \$250,000 that were approved at the July Finance Committee Meeting. Brian answered any questions that the board had.

There was 1 new contract, the 21st one, from Brilliant Corners, that was new and not approved at the July Finance Committee Meeting.

Lisa Utsey seconded the motion brought forth by the Finance Committee. The Contracts over \$250,000 were approved unanimously.

c. Purchase of Service (POS) Expenditures and Operations (OPS) Expenditures for July 2022

Melissa Stiles, CFO, presented the Purchase of Service (POS) Expenditures and Operations (OPS) Expenditures from the July Finance Committee Meeting and answered any questions that the board had.

4. Consumer Services Committee Suzanne Devitt

The committee last met in June. The next Consumer Services Committee Meeting will take place on September 7th, 2022, at 515pm Hybrid. The meeting dates and times are posted on the Consumer Services Committee page of the VMRC website, www.vmrc.net.

5. Legislative Committee Lynda Mendoza

We last met on July 18 to finalize our Budget Presentation. We scheduled our Budget Presentation for Tuesday, August 16th, from 1230 PM – 230 PM. We will post the recording of the presentation on the Legislative Committee page of the VMRC website, www.vmrc.net.

6. Bylaws Committee Linda Collins

Nothing new to report. The Bylaws Committee has not met yet in the new fiscal year. The committee typically meets in the Spring to review the Bylaws and propose any changes to the Board before the end of the fiscal year.

7. Nominating Committee Linda Collins

We had some fantastic board applications and interviews. We have 3 new Board Members for this fiscal year...they are Jose Lara, Brandy De Alba, and Liz Herrera Knapp (vendor representative). They were effective July 1, 2022.

Tony – Welcome aboard new board members.

8. Special Events Committee Tina Vera

Nothing to report this month.

9. Popplewell Committee Margaret Heinz

The committee met on June 30th and went over the 2 disbursements for consumers and a handful of donations to the fund.

H. Executive Director's Report Tony Anderson

One big thing coming up next week is our All Staff Meeting on Tuesday, July 26 all day at the Ag Center, and via Zoom. It's a DEI and Implicit Bias Training run by the University of the Pacific, who we have contracted with to meet this performance standard. It is a 3-part training. The first training is 07/26, the second part is 3 different 2-hour webinars, and the third part is another in-person or hybrid training sometime in January.

I am on the Council for Elder Justice. I learned today that if there is financial abuse, we can help these victims with disabilities to get in contact with attorneys from the local bar. We can't recommend a specific attorney, but we can point them in the right direction if this does happen. We will look into having someone come speak to the board.

We are doing a collaboration with ALTA regional center and the groups of providers in both areas. We are trying to figure out how to build back our system with this huge need for Direct Support Professionals. COVID really crashed our system. Our coalition is working on a bigger approach...ways that we can promote our disability community to the general public. We want to bring more light to what their world is like. We also want to bring to light that you can have a great career working with people with disabilities. The idea is to draw more individuals to the disability community workforce. We have different subcommittees working on different projects...job fairs, public relations, a website, etc... We continue to meet both here and in Sacramento. I'm really excited about this project and the work of this coalition. We share the same media markets as ALTA so that was our thinking.

In-house our HR department has been hard at work recruiting. We must hire a lot of new Service Coordinators, and we are in good shape because most of our backfill positions are filled. Some other regional centers are 40, 50, 60 backfills that need to be done. We think we will need to hire

50 to 60 new Service Coordinators to help lower the caseload ratio. We are doing some new marketing for all of the new positions that we need to hire.

We have 3 ongoing grant projects....Partners in Policymaking, Language Access Grant, and Family Wellness Project.

Tomorrow is Guam liberation day.

I. Other Matters

No Other Matters.

J. Board Member Activities and Reports

Friday night's Annual Board Dinner and Awards Ceremony was really fun. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. It was good to be together.

I got invited to Future's Explored Open House today. It was very cool. They are very open to have visitors.

K. President's Report Margaret Heinz

1. Approval of Fiscal Self-Determination Job Description Bud Mullanix – Action

Bud Mullanix, HR Director, presented the position and job description to the board. It was previously presented and approved at this month's Executive Committee Meeting. Linda Collins seconded the motion brought by the Executive Committee to approve the Fiscal Self-Determination Job Description. The Fiscal Self-Determination Job Description was approved unanimously.

We have a great board. We have wonderful applicants as well. Thank you and welcome to Jose and Brandy. Liz Herrera Knapp will be a great addition from our CLASP community.

If any board members are interested in joining any board committees, please let me know. It's a great way to learn about VMRC and the regional center system.

Welcome to James Ford, our new liaison from DDS.

December 3rd at Wine and Roses will be our annual Board Retreat. It's an all day event. It will be a fabulous day.

L. Next Meeting - Wednesday, August 24, 2022, 6:00 PM, Hybrid (In-Person and via Zoom)

M. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.