



## Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting

12/14/2022 | 06:00 PM - 08:00 PM

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

**Board Members Present:** Robert Balderama, Margaret Heinz, Jose Lara, Lisa Utsey, Crystal Enyeart, Emily Grunder, Brandy DeAlba, Tom Toomey, Anthony Owens, , Dr. Suzanne Devitt, , Lynda Mendoza, Jessica Quesada, Dr. Li,

**Board Members Not Present:** Alicia Schott informed absence, Linda Collins, Tina Vera, Linda Collins, Liz Herrera Knapp (informed absence), Ken Britter, Dr. Steve Russell, Erria Kaalund, Gabriella Castillo

**VMRC Staff Present:** Tony Anderson, Doug Bonnet, Christine Couch, Bud Mullanix, Tara Sisemore-Hester, Brian Bennett, Aaron McDonald, Melissa Stiles, Claire Lazaro, Corina Ramirez, Emelia Vigil, Donna Sioson, Mark Creer, Sandra Smith, Angie Shear, Marlene Lombardo, Michele Poaster

**Public Present:** Bobbi, Chelsea Silviera, Erin Brady, DDS, Holli Ivory-Jones, Iphone, James Ford, Julie De Diego, Melanie Gonzales, Irene Hernandez, Chelsea Silveira Burgos, George Lewis, Lisa Culley, Angela Lewis, Tumboura Hill, Jeannett K., Graciela Estrada, Lourdes Gomez, Trina Castro, Erika Millan, Lilian Escudero, Reyna Rangel-Simon, Rubi Saldana, Maria Solano, Nancy Avila, C. Hernandez, Cristina Marquez, Caro Azarte, Ana Soto

Margaret Heinz, President, called the meeting to order at 6:04pm

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

Tony Anderson took the roll. A quorum was established. Margaret thanked everyone for showing up both in person and online.

### **B. Review and Approval of the Meeting Agenda - Action**

Lynda Mendoza motioned to approve the meeting agenda with amendments. Crystal Enyeart seconded the motion.

## **C. Review and Approval of the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 10/26/22 -**

### **Action**

Emily Grunder made a motion to approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 10/26/22. Lisa Utsey seconded the motion. The Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of 10/26/22 was approved unanimously.

## **D. Presentation – Performance Contract, Tony Anderson**

Tony Anderson presented the Performance Contract.

1. Board Member Comment:
  - a. Margaret Heinz: appreciated the comment about employed students
  - b. Brandy De Alba: how is it presented to the public? Tony explained done through the surveys in order to collect public comment. There were 10 responses. One survey was sent out in English and another in Spanish, we didn't receive any Spanish language survey comments.
2. Public Comment:
  - a. Rubi Saldana: thank you. In my experience it was totally different. She heard from Hispanic people or people who speak Spanish, VMRC doesn't have any. She can help with that. Her experience is totally different. Our kids have a lot of regression because of the pandemic and other issues. We can help with the surveys. Our experience is totally different with the districts at this moment.
  - b. Gricelda Estrada: Thank you all and appreciate you taking all of our comments. I just want to talk on the support and the help that our youngsters are receiving to finding employment. I find that the help that VMRC provides is very slow when it comes to finding a job coach for our youngsters that are out looking for employment. Many are finding barriers with agencies stating that they don't have the personnel and or the resources needed for them. They don't want to take us. This has been an ongoing issues for over a year and still are unable to find a coach. I really do appreciate a lot of the great information I heard tonight however I would like us to further look into this matter and see what else VMRC can do to help with those barriers. My other question is regarding soc rec and community integration and I would prefer it would be reinstated the way it was originally placed.
  - c. Lourdes Gomez: I want to point out something that is a big concern to me. I work with SDP families only. Services are added into the IPP and there is a transition period to get SDP. I find that we write goals, and agree on services and then 0 implementation for a couple of months. This is a disparity and it takes a couple

months to get an FMS and then there are no services. There are traditional services that can work during the transition period and we can work together on this and people get options while transitioning into SDP. They don't have to wait for SDP to get services. They should get services until they get in SDP. Thank you.

- d. Maria Solano: My comment is regarding Griceldas comment about employment. My son is 21 yo high functioning young man and seeking job for 8 months and unsuccessful. We have been referred to agencies without success. I understand that there is higher funding and now there is such difficulty finding employment. He shouldn't be at home, he should find a job, why does this injustice keep happening?
- e. Tumboura Hill, Quality Assured Training and Advocacy, Inc.: before I left VMRC I was the HCBS evaluator. The first question is that we just had a disability fair with over 400 people, was there a survey provided to share the information. Is VMRC HCBS compliant? Does this setting meet HCBS compliance. Home and Community based services final rule. Is VMRC with the locked gates and doors, lack of community involvement, no outside vendors, is it really and truly HCBS compliant?
- f. George Lewis: per Dena Hernandez wishes a happy holiday season on behalf of SCDD.

## **E. Presentation – National Core Indicators (NCI)**

George Lewis presented the NCI data for the in-person survey for 20/21 and now we are conducting 22/23.

- 1. Board Member Comment:
  - a. Brandy De Alba: what languages in written and in person interviews? Interviews are conducted in all languages. The mailed surveys are sent out in all languages.
  - b. Emily Grunder: wanted to address the limited access to the building comment. She has been a consumer for a long time and she hasn't had any trouble with the limited access. She believes our limited access is due to a shooting that happened in southern California a few years ago and is for our safety.
- 2. Public Comment:
  - a. Fernando Gomez: what was the return rate for completed surveys and was it reflective of the diversity of the community? George responded that it was diverse data from all communities. There were a wealth of surveys returned. it may be on the dds website.
  - b. Tumboura Hill: the shooting was not the reason. This is the most locked up place. There are cameras. This is for the consumers and not for you. this is their hub. Just making sure this is clarified. I toured the campus and this place is locked up.

## F. Public Comment:

- a. Tumboura Hill – I asked on 9-8-21 for OT reports for all SCs for last two years. I want to verify that VMRC employees is getting OT. I want to see how much OT you are giving the SCs that work on the extra caseloads. Everything I'm doing I am making a complaint on. I'm being transparent. The bagley keene is being violated by the Finance Committee. IT's an open meeting and you are meeting big decisions on \$28 million contract and this is public money. I want to see every last meeting. Look at these chairs, look at this stuff. I can yell across the room at you. this is not the senate floor. This is my advocacy hat. This is my complaint, a 4731 complaint. This is the investigatory process I helped write with Patricia Green. This is the process I helped write. It is not followed. We went to a trinaing. I have a certificate that says what we do. I'm goin forward with DDS. this is a report from the state auditor. I looked though the report, this on the condition of the RC and DDS right now. It says the income was frozen in 1991. This is the report from the state auditor. This is all the complaints I'm making next week. I'm trying to talk to you. trust me, you know I know. if anyone knows I know. it would behoove you to contact me. the doors aren't ADA compliant. Do I have to contact? You have all of these obstacles.

1. Consent Calendar Items – **Action** Lisa Utsey made a motion to approve the consent calendar items, Crystal Enyeart seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.
2. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of November 2022 –
3. Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of November 2022
4. Consumer Services Committee Meeting Minutes of November 2022

## G. Committee Reports

1. VMRC Professional Advisory Committee, Coalition of Local Area Service Providers (CLASP) Liz Herrera-Knapp was not present. No report.
2. Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SDAC), Mariela Ramos – Tony shared that they meet next week. Many of the members attended a large SDP conference. We paid for anyone who wanted to attend this online conference. There were over 20 people who attended. Tony was a moderator for one of the break out sessions.
3. Consumer Advisory Council, Self-Advocacy Council 6 (SAC6) Crystal Enyeart

Sac 6 report to VMRC Board, December 2022

On November 2, Sac 6 had their practice zoom chat. We decided to only do the Friday zoom chats once a month now. Since people are returning to day programs and work. This way at least once a month we get to share an important topic / training

November 4<sup>th</sup> was our Friday Zoom Chat, and the topic was on voting. It was presented by sac 6 members, and we showed a power point to go along with our presentation.

November 10<sup>th</sup>, some Sac6 members joined the Transportation meeting via zoom.

November 15, sac 6 had their monthly Leadership meeting with Executive Director and Sac6 Liaison and the SCDD North Valley Hills Office. Her we talk about business matters and future Friday Zoom Chat topics.

November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Catrina C. attended the DDS CAC (Consumer Advisory Committee) meeting via zoom.

November 17, Sac 6 had their quarterly Finance Committee meeting, via zoom.

November 23<sup>rd</sup>, Chairperson Dena assisted VMRC with delivering Thanksgiving meals to the Stockton Area. Sac 6 consultant Lisa U. also assisted VMRC with delivering meals to the Modesto area.

November 30<sup>th</sup>, Sac 6 meet via zoom for the monthly Friday Zoom Chat practice.

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sac 6 Friday Zoom Chat was on Fire Prevention and have an escape plan presented by Sac6.

December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lisa, Jessica, Crystal and Robert all attended the VMRC Board retreat where we listened to presenters and learned lots of new things.

Upcoming events:

December 21<sup>st</sup>, some Sac 6 members will be having Coffee with the COPS at VMRC, in Stockton.

December 28<sup>th</sup>- Sac 6 will be having a meeting to have their annual elections and discuss office hours in the different VMRC offices.

January 7, 2023, we are having our goals meeting to talk about our contract goals.

Sincerely,

Crystal Enyeart

SAC6 representative to the VMRC Board and Consumer Services.

4. Finance Committee, Alicia Schott. Melissa Stiles shared the information on behalf of Alicia who had an informed absence.
  - a. Approval of Contract Status Reports (CSR) for November and December 2022 –  
**Action**
    - i. Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the amended CSR report for November and December as presented. Emily Grunder seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- b. Purchase of Services (POS) Expenditures and Operations (OPS) Expenditures for November and December 2022 – presented by Melissa Stiles.
  - c. Approval of Contracts over \$250,000 for November 2022 – **Action**.
    - i. The Finance Committee presented as a motion to approve the contracts over \$250,000 for November 2022. Emily Grunder seconded the motion. The contracts over \$250,000 for November were approved.
    - ii. Corina presented the December 2022 contracts. Brandy De Alba asked about the day rate for some of the contracts but not all contracts.
      - 1. Brandy De Alba made a motion to approve the December 2022 contracts. Lisa Utsey seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
5. Consumer Services Committee, Suzanne Devitt: The last meeting was November 2, 2022. There was a presentation by Joe Stancil from Department of Rehabilitation. The next meeting is January 4, 2023.
- a. Brian Bennett gave an update on transportation, 637 application process. VMRC identified with R&D, about 250 total individuals impacted by transportation, either delays or entirely that there is not a service for them to return to their adult day program. Our approach is to pursue with DDS, a 637 waiver. These 637 waivers allows for RC to negotiate with the vendor, based on their actual costs rather than the way we currently set rates (thru DDS median rate chart). We recognize these rates are too low to hire qualified drivers and retain them. We've talked over the last year about the statewide transportation issues. We believe pursuing 637 for 880 and 875 is the best route to offer a competitive rate to address our transportation deficits right now. we've met with DDS and they have provided some cost worksheets that R&D will distribute, if the board supports this. Consumer services and clasp will be part of this. R&D has helped us identify timelines. The 637 process is rigid with steps that must occur before any date can be submitted for consideration to DDS. The first step was on Dec 8 in our transportation forum that we want to pursue this waiver with the providers. Now we are sharing with the board and consumer services. we want to present ab637 to clasp on 12-19 and then we would like to notify the public of our intent to pursue a waiver, 10 days before the public hearing. We will notify on 12-20 to have public comment section on 1-4-23 at the next consumer services meeting. if these things occur then we would like to have service providers under 880n and 885 submit data to R&D and VMRC through the month of January 2023. We return on 2-22-23 board meeting to review findings and cost statement on 2-27-23. That's our proposal to petition the DDS to modify the rate for the 2 service codes.

This allows us to apply the rate to new providers and can be used as a mechanism for recruitment and is ongoing. It will no longer be necessary when the median rate chart rises to the current level. We have 23 current 880 providers that are considered active. We have 37 total, 14 of those are not doing the service because it's cost prohibitive.

6. Legislative Committee, Lynda Mendoza shared they have a presentation on 12-20 from 330-5pm. It will be a hybrid presentation. They did meet last week to plan the presentation.
7. Bylaws Committee, Linda Collins is not here tonight. There is no update until April or June 2023.
8. Nominating Committee, Linda Collins is not here tonight. Doug shared that we are always looking for people to join the board when there is a vacancy.
9. Popplewell Review Team, Erria Kaalund is not here tonight. There was not a meeting last month. They meet as needed when the fund is used to cover expenses we are not able to support based on Lanterman regulations. The Popplewell Fund did approve Target gift cards for December. They also approved Thanksgiving meals in November.

#### **H. Executive Director's Report – welcome Mark.**

1. Closed Session – not needed

#### **I. Other Matters - none**

**J. Board Member Activities and Reports –** Margaret shared that she had fun delivering meals for Thanksgiving and helping the community. On December 3 we came together with Peter Johnson, Matthew Bahr, VMRC staff, Doug Bonnett and Tony Anderson as well as Christine Couch, thank you to everyone who participated. It was an enriching day. She learned a lot.

#### **K. President's Report – Margaret Heinz.**

Bud Mullanix presented the three new positions that will focus on customer service and welcoming visitors. WE feel strongly about this new concept.

1. Approval of Senior Receptionist Job Description – **Action.**
2. Approval of Front Desk Receptionist Job Description – **Action**



3. Approval of Administrative Clerk Job Description- **Action**

The Executive Committee brought this motion to the Board. Lisa Utsey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Margaret asked Tony if the board can approve a holiday gift to the employees. Tony will check with Melissa and confirm that we are able to provide this gift and he will report back to the Executive Committee.

**L. Next Meeting** – Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 6pm, Hybrid

**M. Adjournment at 816pm**