



Minutes for VMRC Executive Committee Meeting

02/14/2024 | 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM

Valley Mountain Regional Center, Stockton Office, Cohen Board Room and via Microsoft Teams

Committee Members Present: Lisa Utsey, Alicia Schott, Lynda Mendoza, Suzanne Devitt, Brandy De Alba

Committee Members Not Present:

VMRC Staff Present: Evelyn Ledesma, Doug Bonnet, Aaron McDonald, Gabriela Lopez, Christine Couch, Bud Mullanix, Claire Lazaro

Public Present: Irene Hernandez (Interpreter), Gloria Sanchez, Isela Bingham (Interpreter), Minette Oliver, Tumboura Hill, Erick Thurmond

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Review of Meeting Agenda

Brandy DeAlba called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. A quorum was established. The agenda was reviewed with no changes.

B. Review and Approval of the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024

Alicia Schott made the motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024, and Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. The Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024 were approved unanimously.

C. Items for Approval

Christine Couch, Director for Case Management Services presented the proposal

1. Compliance Officer Job Description and Approval – Suzanne Devitt made the motion to approve the Compliance Officer Job Description. Lisa Utsey seconded the motion. The Compliance Officer Job Description was approved unanimously.
2. Cultural and Language Division Manager Job Description and Approval – Suzanne Devitt made the motion to approve the Cultural and Language Division Manager job description. Margaret Heinz seconded the motion. The Cultural and Language Division Manager Job Description was approved unanimously.

D. Public Comment

Tumboura Hill commented on outreach and responsibility. Since Thanksgiving he has identified 8 individuals who are homeless and do not receive services, though they are eligible. One person has been homeless for 17 years and there is no pathway to access the regional center. They have no knowledge on how to access the regional center.

E. Items for Discussion

ED report – new ED starts tomorrow and will be in the Stockton office!

Notable Consumer Information

1. HH lived with his parental grandparents, attending maintain stream charter school. Grandparents were unable to support him in the family home due to his extensive needs. The SC, Rhoda Legaspi supported the family with making a residential placement referral. HH, approved for Kavere crisis home for 16 months. HH then met his goals and moved into a step-down facility for 6 months. We are happy to report HH returned home to live with his grandparents in January 2024. The family is receiving behavioral support for the transition. HH is doing well and is improving his social skills.
2. SC, Nikki Misasi held an IPP a few months ago for a KI, teenager with Autism. The parent was vulnerable with the SC for the first time and showed emotion when recalling how she just wants to get her son the attention he needs and provide opportunities he's worthy of. The parents agreed to accept social rec services. KL is now signed up for dance classes in Tracy with other special needs children. Parent later followed up with the SC with absolute joy and excitement, reported how much KL loves this activity and how much she appreciates the SC and VMRC.
3. Mrs. M mentioned that although the Self Determination process took a bit long it was well worth the hard work and wait! She wanted to thank the team and Service Coordinator for working so diligently on O's case. She shared that it has only been one week since O began to receive the extra support and he's already blooming! O expresses how happy he is that people care for him and his interests and he even told mom that " he now feels like he has a purpose in life". – Truly moving! Mrs. M is so excited and can't wait to see how far O

will go in the long run. Mrs. M made it a point to say that she truly believes in SDP and its vision so she is also willing to share her story with other parents and will welcome any invitation as a guest speaker.

Vendor Information – no updates

Self-Determination Update

Other Matters - none

Personnel and Union Update - Bud

531 employees with 8 additional in backgrounds. We have a 2% turnover rate for the year. We had 4 staff leave us in January.

We are working with the Union on changing our remote policy. We were in our Executive Director transition and asked the Union to put the policy change on hold. The Union expressed that they are looking forward to a resolution with the new Executive Director.

The Labor Management meetings continue.

Special events/notes – this is Black History month with a potluck scheduled in each of the offices. We are also collecting canned foods for the community.

Our new Executive Director has been doing meet and greets with staff.

Mark Crear is no longer with VMRC.

We have met our expansion position hires as directed by DDS.

F. President's Report

Thank you for being here on Valentine's Day. A special thank you to Doug Bonnet and Christine Couch serving as our interim's and your dedication to the Regional Center.

G. Next Meeting - Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 6:30 PM, Hybrid (Stockton Office Cohen Board Room and via Microsoft Teams)

H. Adjournment