



Minutes for VMRC Finance Committee Meeting September 10, 2025 | 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Valley Mountain Regional Center, Stockton Office, Cohen Board Room and via Zoom Video Conference

Committee Members Present: Dr. Steve Russell, Erria Kaalund, Jody Burriss, Lisa Utsey, Alicia Schott, Jeff Turner

Committee Members not Present: Jose Lara, Thomas Crooker

VMRC Staff Present: Leinani Walter, Aiko Blancaflor, Amanda Verstl, Christine Couch, Mayra Ochoa, Athena Jurado, Evelyn Ledesma-Solis, Nathan Sioson, Gabriela Lopez, Midori Perez, Emelia Vigil, Lizzie Valerio

Public Present: Delia Sanders (ASL), Xavier Chin (ASL Interpretation), Rachelle Munoz, Isela Bingham, Irene Hernandez

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

Dr. Steve called the meeting to order at 4:38pm.

B. Review and Approval of the Finance Committee Minutes of 7/27/25

Dr. Steve made the motion to approve the finance Committee Minutes of July 27, 2025. Alicia motioned to approve. Lisa seconded the motion. The Finance Committee minutes were approved unanimously.

C. Public Comment

No public comment

D. Fiscal Department Update

Aiko presented the financial report with the same report from the August 27th Board meeting as the month-end close is on the 15th of each month. August will be finalized on September 15th we also did not receive any new allocations from DDS for any of the three open fiscal years.

CPA audit is closer to being done. She has been asking Windes for a timeline and is hoping to have it finalized before 10/22 Board meeting. The bank is asking for a copy of the report as the line of credit expires in November. There may be a special meeting if the report is not done by a certain date. We will public notice the meeting and would be a cause for a special session.

Alicia asked with tax season being over what is the reason why Windes is pushing the completion of the report until now. Aiko informed that Windes has certain weeks that they allocation for continuing education events, staff time off and two levels of review. Depending on other tasks or calendar we have to account for that. Leinani shared because of the depth of audits not having been done in three years, having to get it this quickly, we are ahead of schedule. They have done three audits in less than a year, with support and commitment from Brenda Crisler, Pete Tiedemann and VMRC staff helping to make this a priority.

In regard to caseload ratio, they are regularly monitored. The caseload ratio reported to DDS is calculated differently than how we do internally for recruiting purposes. DDS categorizes based off funding category. Medicaid waivers for example is based on different age groups. In our internal, it's based off age group and location. It's calculated very differently. Dr. Steve asked if employees are aware of this. Aiko mentioned they have an upcoming All-Staff and the opportunity to share with them will be done there. Connie asked if by location they mean where consumers live, Leinani shared it's based off the VMRC office.

Dr. Steve asked if they have heard about budget cuts. Aiko reported to have received a draft allocation, but revisions needed to be done. The second allocation doesn't report any cuts, we are aware October and January is coming up.

Alicia asked that another complaint about Mountain Counties, are there people starting resources. Christine shared there are 3 day programs currently being developed in the counties. Leinani shared that it's a result of the CPP grant that Brian's team has been working closely with. Christine shared one day program that is being developed in Tracy as well.

Aiko shared an update on Modesto office space, it has been in the works for a while but held off due to transitioning spaces for more workspace for staff equals dollars and resources we need to allocate. We have been working with contractors and obtaining quotes and looking for long-term solutions. We have identified conference rooms that can be opened for staff to meet with families. Alicia asked if that complaint was for Modesto or other offices. Aiko reported she has not heard concerns about Stockton, there is plenty of space. Amanda added there have been concerns about Tracy, but much less than Modesto.

Alicia thanked everyone for addressing the union complaints. They wanted an update on the concerns so this was great.

E. Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 4:30 p.m. in-person and Zoom

F. Adjournment