



VMRC Self-Determination Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes-July 17, 2025

VMRC SDAC Members - Present

Karen Bonacci (FA)
Jeannet Cardenas (FA)
Lisa Culley (FRN)-secretary
Gricelda Estrada (FA)-vice chair
John Forrest (FA)
Kenneth Huntley (SA)-chair
Vivian David Nicolas (FA)
Arelly Solano (FA)-vice secretary
Colleen Yoder -DRC/OCRA

VMRC SDAC Members- Absent

Mary Bonacci (SA)
Mariela Ramos (FA)

SA=Self Advocate

FA=Family Advocate

Interpreters

Irene Hernandez-Zoom (English to Spanish)
Isela Bingham -Zoom (Spanish to English)

State Council on Dev. Disabilities

Dena Hernandez, North Valley Hills Office

PUBLIC WHO IDENTIFIED

Mari Ahymada
Carolina Arzate
Independent Facilitator Training Academy
Ernesto Diaz
James Ford, DDS
Megan Yberra
Dora Contreras, ICC
Elizabeth Gomez, ICC
Mariana Guerrero, ICC
Jeannette Castro, GT Independence
Maria Elena Diaz
Josefina Romo, ICC
Nestor Nieves
Oscar Mercado, ICC
Fernando Gomez, ICC
Mari Sierra
Blanca Mercado
Kayley Proenza
Ricardo

VMRC Staff

Gabriela Lopez, Cultural Specialist
Michele Poaster, Sr. Participant Choice Specialist
Emelia Vigil, Program Manager, SDP
James Rosales, Participant Choice Specialist

Item 1: Call to Order – Kenneth Huntley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. Kenneth began the meeting by reading the “Role of the Committee” and the “Five Principles of Self Determination” documents that are attached to the agenda for every meeting.

Item 2: Introductions- Committee members introduced themselves. Public guests added their names to the chat.

Item 3: Quorum was established by Kenneth, and a roll call was taken.

Item 4: Approval of agenda- Passed unanimously.

Item 5: Approval of the minutes from June 26, 2025-Passed unanimously.

Item 6: Vivian reported on the Statewide SDAC Meeting from 6/24/25; the report is attached.

Item 7: ICC Self Determination Support Project-Information-Fernando reported that ICC used June to train staff and create materials. They have received a total of 28 referrals for 1:1 coaching and are having their first larger event next week. Fernando shared the program flyers that will be distributed (attached to this report). Flyers in English & Spanish. The Referral Form was shown to the committee.

Item 8: Barriers: None were reported during this time.

Item 9: Public Comment:

Dora-parent input-confusion of who VMRC SDP staff is-Gaby was able to introduce the SDP team: Emelia Vigil, Program Manager; Michele Poaster, Senior Participant Choice Specialist; James Rosales-Participant Choice Specialist, and Victoria Moreno-Participant Choice Specialist.

Nestor-there needs to be more FMS companies so there is more competition and maybe better service.

Arely-PCP's-thought Michele was the only PCP. More PCP's allows more people to receive assistance. FMS-it is unfair that the FMS companies are receiving payment even if they are not doing their jobs. Would like to see a meeting between our committee, VMRC, and DDS to discuss this.

Karen-RAZ-provides virtual job coaching services, executive functioning skills, and self-regulation.

Item 10: VMRC update: see attached report. James Rosales introduced himself as a PCP.

Item 11: Event Workgroup-next meeting is August 7, 2025, from 3:00pm-5pm

Item 12: Membership-Chrys Quiwa had to step down from the committee, and the Calaveras representative had to be removed. Sue Collie applied to SCDD to join the committee. She is from Tuolumne County and was previously on the committee in 2022.

Item 13: Next meeting: Thursday, August 21, 2025, from 3:30 pm-5:00 pm on Zoom.

Item 10: Meeting Adjourned 4:32 pm

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Culley