



Minutes for VMRC Finance Committee Meeting January 14, 2026 | 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, Dr. Jody Burriss, Erria Kaalund, Alicia Schott, Jeff Turner, Connie Uychutin

Committee Members not Present:

Board Members Present: Kenneth Huntley, Dominique Mellion

VMRC Staff Present: Aiko Blancaflor, Amanda Verstl, Brian Bennett, Christine Couch, Mayra Ochoa, Gabriela Lopez, Midori Perez, Leinani Walter, Lizzie Valerio

Public Present: Xavier Chin, Delia Sanders

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

Dr. Steve called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m., Lizzie took roll call. The agenda was reviewed, no changes were made.

B. Review and Approval of the Finance Committee Minutes of 11/12/2025

Dr. Steve made the motion to approve the Finance Committee Minutes of November 12, 2025. Erria motioned to approve the motion, Alicia seconded the motion. The Finance Committee minutes were approved unanimously.

C. Public Comment

No public comment

D. Fiscal Department Update

Aiko shared that the Contract Status report for payments made through November 30, 2025, representing first five months of the fiscal year 2025-2026. She went over purchase of service expenditures and operational costs. There are no new allocations for any of the three open fiscal years. They continue to closely monitor the situation.

Aiko went over the highlights of the Governors' January 2026-2027 budget proposal. The total state budget is \$348.9B which is \$27.8B more than current fiscal year enacted budget. It is referred to as a workload budget, it is funding per services and programs as well as projected utilization of services and caseload ratio. Revenue was higher than estimated net, the State's "rainy day" fund will be suspended to offset shortfall. Leinani

added this is proposed so we are even, but between now and May revise, things can change.

She went over the DDS portion of the proposal. She shared for current fiscal year 25-26, there was no increase, but there was an increase in federal reimbursement. They are estimating that regional centers will serve 37,600 more clients than last projection. There is projected increase in caseload growth and use of services.

There is an allocation to the Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS) which is replacing current system tracking services and implementation of HCBS.

She went over Regional Center funding; there is projected savings related to service Provider Quality Incentive Program and Self-Determination Program Protections. Also to be mindful of the risk of Federal Policy changes, proposal has an increase to Medi-Cal and CalFresh changes, which doesn't account for all costs the state has to carry once changes are implemented. We continue to be conservative, streamline our processes, and efficiently use of resources.

Connie asked if money market accounts are from previous fiscal years or another allocation. Aiko let her know our cash flow is separate from how we are funded

Dr. Steve reported that this comes as a motion to the board for approval. Erria made a motion to approve, Alicia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Steve shared an update regarding the audit, he reported WINDES auditors met with him and Erria. The auditor shared how impressed he was with the team, Aiko, Leinani, Erria and the board. Erria added that moving forward, the board President and Treasurer will meet with the auditors yearly. Aiko added we are on track to present the report at the February Board Meeting.

E. Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in-person and Zoom

F. Adjournment at 4:46 p.m.