



EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER
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**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
 July 12, 2011
 Approved September 13, 2011**

Present:

Olga Sarabia, President
 Terry Munoz, Treasurer
 Jiang Guo
 Marvin Brown
 Robert Hazard
 Elton Lui
 Tammy Bachrach, VAC

Staff Present:

Gloria Wong, Executive Director
 Rosalie Estrada, Executive Asst.

Absent:

Deborah Gallardo
 Felicitas Navera, Secretary
 Miguel Lugo
 Joe Utar
 Pat Gomez, Vice-Chairperson
 Theresa Chen

Guests:

Refer to Sign-In Sheet

 Olga Sarabia, President, called the meeting to order at 6:20 P.M.

I Welcome and Roll Call

Olga Sarabia, President, welcomed all present. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present in order to conduct business.

II Introduction

The Board and the members of the audience were introduced.

Robert Hazard, who has a sister residing at the Lanterman Developmental Center, shared this past month he spent a week in Washington, D.C. representing the developmentally disabled. He visited 21 congressional offices, and fourteen for North Carolina and four senate offices in an effort to persuade them to not cut Medicaid and Medicare allocations to the developmentally disabled. He shared with them photographs of consumers who are mild, severe and profoundly mentally retarded which assisted him with his presentation. All offices with the exception of one, supported his efforts. Regional Centers are extremely reliant on federal dollars as a system, 44% of the regional center's entire budget is federal dollars, Medicaid Waiver.

III Community Input

Elsa Flores requested the Board of Directors please consider video-conferencing to Whittier. There are many parents who would take advantage of this if it were implemented.

Olga Sarabia, President, responded the Board is committed to planning two meetings in Whittier in 2012.

Yvette Baptiste, parent and Director of the Family Resource Center (FRC), reported the FRC is one of forty-seven centers statewide. DDS is in the process of contracting with the FAC Network of California to develop and serve families who have at risk babies and is a reduction of the Prevention Program which the regional centers have been funded to do for the past two years. The scope of the program has been reduced and is more about referring families to generic services. There is some movement to begin to talk to the regional centers across the State to develop a Memorandum of Understanding. Yvette also reported the FRC is part of "Family Voices California" which is a family health information center.

IV Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

A. Minutes of June 14, 2011

M/S/C (Terry Munoz/Marvin Brown) To approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2011 as recorded. Unanimous.

B. Minutes of Executive Session

M/S/C (Elton Lui/Terry Munoz) To approve the Board of Directors Executive Session Minutes of June 14, 2011 as recorded. Unanimous.

V Executive Director's Report - Gloria Wong

C. Budget Status - FY 2010/2011

1. Monthly POS Report

A copy of the POS Expenditure Projections Summary through the month of May 2011 was distributed and reviewed. This report is submitted to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) on a monthly basis and is due on the 10th. There is a deficit reported from a high of \$1,944,490 to a low of \$1,681,336, a slight decrease from what was reported last month. There are eight regional centers reporting a deficit. There will be a B-5 allocation to the deficit regional centers but have not heard word from DDS as to whether they will be providing technical assistance.

The graph of the year-to-year estimated savings was reviewed. Services such as behavior modification intervention services have increased by \$1.3 million over previous fiscal year, and respite costs have also increased by \$500,000 from previous fiscal year.

2. Budget Performance Report - Operations

The Budget Performance Report was reviewed.

Gloria reported a balance for general regional center operations of \$21,389. The operations section is divided into four sections, of which three of the budgets are dedicated funds that cannot be transferred from one budget section to another. The budget items are divided by: Clinical Team, Community Placement Plan, and Prevention. Any remaining money in these four areas not spent will be returned to DDS.

B. Fiscal Year 2011-12

1. Budget Agreement Article &
2. ARCA Budget Summary

Reference was made to Attachments 4 and 5 which provides a perspective of the budget passed by the Governor on June 28, 2011. The budget was passed on time therefore there was no need to borrow from City National Bank.

When the budget was passed there were no additional cuts to the regional center budget, the budget cut holds at \$576 million. Along with the Budget Act, SB 87, there were two additional bills passed, AB 121 and SB 73. These are referred to as trailer bills language because they trail behind the original budget act SB 87 and provide additional details on the enactment of the budget as it relates to the Regional Center System. A substantial increase to state revenues adjusted an original shortfall of \$26 billion to \$9 billion. The \$9 billion dollar deficit was corrected by an assumption that revenues will continue to increase throughout the fiscal year. Of the \$9 billion shortfall, \$4 billion includes cuts in services, the remaining \$4 billion is based on a projection that revenues will be generated to cover this deficit.

AB 121 details the action to be taken if the projected revenues are not realized. The Department of Finance must report by 12/15/11 as to the projected revenue status and whether it will “trigger” the savings plan as outlined in the bill. There are three Tiers to the “trigger” savings plan. The Regional Center System falls under Tier I. Should the projected revenues fall within the \$2 - \$3 billion range, instead of the projected \$4 billion, the regional center system is slated to receive an additional \$100 million reduction, revising the total cuts to \$676 million.

SB 73 directs DDS on the parameters to be used in achieving the \$100 million savings. The cuts can impact DDS, developmental centers and regional centers. The bill states that two measures can be used, (a) cuts and (b) savings to meet the \$100 million reduction.

3. Trailer Bill Language Affecting Regional Center

Some of the items in the Trailer Bill Language include, Conflict of Interest Policy, Request for Proposals, Accountability and Transparency policy, board training, and administrative limits set at 15% for regional centers. ELARC is currently at 12.6% of administrative cost. There is also mention to the 4.25% reduction which went into effect on July 1st for vendors and regional center operations. ELARC has instituted this reduction and is going on its third year for this reduction. ELARC has been meeting the caseload ratios, staffs have not been laid off, but we have been operating on a reduced work schedule. Reference was made to page 10 of attachment #6, “March 2011 Trailer Bill Language Affecting Regional Centers”. Regional Centers have been given the ability to suspend certain positions that were requirements, Criminal Justice expertise, Special Education expertise, but ELARC has not suspended these positions. Tammy Bachrach, VAC Representative, stated some of the vendors have inquired if the 15% administrative limits would apply to them. The answer is that vendors who have a negotiated rate will need to adhere to the 15% administrative limit. Additionally vendors that fall into this category will be required to have independent audit assessments if they exceed revenues within the ranges set in the regulations. Gloria will ask Frances Jacobs, Manager of Community Services, to take additional information to the vendors at their upcoming meeting, 7/28/11. Regional Centers may not use an independent accounting firm that has been used five or more times in the previous ten years.

4. Preliminary Contract (a) Regional Center Advance

The preliminary contract was received and signed by Olga Sarabia, President, and returned to DDS. Notice has been received that DDS is attempting to process the advance as soon as possible. The Department of General Services must first authorize the contract.

Practice was the regional centers would receive 25% of the total amount. Approximately six years ago DDS implemented a procedure whereby we receive the 25% in installments. In July ELARC will receive one-third of the 25%, in August another one-third and then in September one final third.

5. Performance Contract Community Meetings

Every calendar year the regional centers renew their performance contract. Community Meetings have been scheduled for Wednesday, August 3, 2011 in Alhambra at 10:00 A.M. and in Whittier at 6:30 P.M. in order to obtain input for the 2012 Performance Contract. The draft which will contain the input from the community will be presented to the Board of Directors at the September Board Meeting. The final Performance Contract will be presented to the Board in October for final approval and then sent to DDS for their approval in November. The Performance Contract will go into effect January 2012.

Olga Sarabia, President, encouraged the Board of Directors to attend one of the community meetings for the Performance Contract.

C. Board Retreat Follow-up Discussion: Mark Starford

1. Mission Statement & Core Values
2. Boardsmanship Training Series

Mark Starford provided background information regarding his experience.

The *"Draft" Plain Language Mission Statement* and draft #1 was reviewed. Gloria read aloud the original Mission Statement approved by the Board in 1998 and stated even though it was done years ago. It still reflects the spirit of the Lanterman Act. It is important to ensure the revised Mission Statement captures the spirit of the Lanterman Act. The Plain Language Mission Statement and the "Values" were reviewed. The board has been working on developing a new Mission Statement for the last five meetings and feels the one presented this evening best represents what the Lanterman Act is about.

Mark shared a view entitled "Work for All" which featured three ELARC consumers (Miguel Lugo, Alison Liao and Nick Tanita).

Following the video Mark provided a power point presentation on Collaborative Projects and the Boardsmanship Series. A training series is being planned for current board members, and for those who aspire to join the board.

M/S/C (Robert Hazard/Jiang Guo) To approve the content of the Collaboration and Boardsmanship projects as presented. Unanimous.

A special session to further discuss the training series project and the filming of the project will be scheduled in August.

VI Consumer Services Report

Felipe Hernandez, Chief of Consumer Services is on vacation therefore there was no report.

VII Committee Reports

A. Vendor Advisory Committee

The notes of the VAC meeting held on May 26, 2011 and 6/23/11 were distributed to the Board. Also distributed was the VAC Agenda for 7/28.

B. Consumer Advisory Committee

Miguel Lugo was not present and therefore there was no report.

C. Family Advisory Committee

The agenda for 7/6/11 and notes of the FAC meeting held on June 1, 2011 were distributed.

D. Finance Committee

There was no meeting of the Finance Committee therefore there was no report.

VIII Misc. Announcements

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Felicitas Navera, Secretary
ELARC Board of Directors

Recorded by: Rosalie M. Estrada, Executive Assistant