

**Minutes of Regular Meeting
of
North Los Angeles County Regional Center
A Nonprofit Corporation**

The Board of Trustees of North Los Angeles County Regional Center, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, held their regular board meeting at Desert Haven Enterprises, 43437 Copeland Circle, Lancaster, California, on October 9, 2013.

Trustees Present

Daniel Becerra
Yolanda Bosch
Mary Jo Fernando
Jenean Glover
Jessica Gould
Dawn Hamilton
Sharoll Jackson
Duane Joslin
Eric Leh
Martha Lopez
Jenni Moran
Debra Newman
William Rayber
Tavia Wooley

Trustees Absent

Craig Girard
Jay Lytton
Meredith Rimmer
Jeremy Sunderland

Staff Present

Diane Ambrose
Joan Daniels
Gabriela Eshrati
Michele Marra
Kim Rolfes
Kathryn Watts
Anna Whitlock
Liliana Windover

Guests Present

Patricia Becerra
Victoria Berrey
Gerald Butler
Carolyn Caldwell
Michelle Heid
Kathleen Secchi
Gay Wane

1. Call to Order & Introductions

The meeting was officially called to order by Eric Leh, president, at 7:00 p.m. when it was determined that a quorum was present. Introductions were made.

2. Public Input & Comments

A. Gay Wane congratulated the board and staff for NLACRC's successful candidates' forum that was held last evening at Sam's Café.

3. Consent Items

A. Approval of Revised Agenda (*Packet #2, page 1*)

M/S/C (W. Rayber/D. Hamilton) To approve the revised agenda as modified.

B. Approval of September 11th Board Meeting Minutes (*Packet #1, page 7*)

M/S/C (J. Moran/D. Joslin) To approve the minutes as presented.

4. Committee Action Items (*Packet #1, page 16*)

A. Administrative Affairs Committee (Meredith Rimmer)

- * 1. Approval of Contract with Southland Transit, Inc. – *Deferred*

B. Consumer Services Committee (Jeremy Sunderland)

- * 1. Approval of Proposed Changes to IPP Service Standard

M/S/C (D. Joslin/S. Jackson) To approve the proposed revisions to the center's IPP service standard as presented.

C. Strategic Planning Committee (Meredith Rimmer)

- * 1. Approval of 2014 Performance Contract

An additional change was made to the contract on page 6. Unfortunately, the change was not made to the contract that was included in the board meeting packet.

Action: The approval of 2014 performance contract will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

D. New Horizons' Partners for Independence Award

New Horizons would like to honor NLACRC with their 2014 Partners for Independence Award. NLACRC and New Horizons have been working collaboratively for many, many years.

M/S/C (D. Joslin/D. Hamilton) To gratefully accept the Partners for Independence Award from New Horizons and the commitment to send board members to accept the award at their gala in the spring.

5. Director's Report (*Packet #2, page 2*)

George addressed the following areas in his report: allocation methodology; the state budget; legislation; regional center operations; and community activities. Copies of the

director's report were included in the meeting packet along with the center's monthly quality assurance, consumer statistics, and special incident reports.

6. Association of Regional Center Agencies (*Packet #1, p. 41*)

A. Next Meetings: October 17th & 18th (Embassy Suites at LAX South)

Jeremy and Craig will be attending the meeting and Diane Ambrose will be attending the meeting on George's behalf. Board members are always welcome to attend the ARCA Board of Directors meetings when they are held locally and many of our board members have expressed an interest. Jennifer has arranged for a bus to take board members to the ARCA Board of Directors meeting on Friday, October 18th, which will be held from 8:00 a.m. to approximately 2:00 p.m. She also sent out directions to the hotel for those board members who prefer to drive. Lunch will be provided for those board members who attend.

7. Administrative Affairs Committee (*Packet #2, page 25*)

A. Minutes of the September 24th Meeting

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Meredith with any questions.

B. Financial Report for August 2013

The financial report showed that the operations budget is \$33,471,768 with projected expenses of \$33,606,402, leaving a deficit of \$134,634. The purchase of service (POS) budget is \$245,355,009 with projected expenses of \$245,480,893 leaving a deficit of \$125,884. We won't know the actual figures, in terms of deficits or surpluses, until we complete our first Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR) next month.

C. 1st Quarter Human Resources Report

During the 1st quarter of this fiscal year, the center had 32 positions on hold, 14 new hires, 1 promotion, and 11 separations for a quarterly turnover rate of 0.25%.

D. NLACRC's Santa Clarita Valley Office

The center will be moving its Santa Clarita Valley office to a new location effective Monday, October 28th. Notices are going out to all our service providers and to our consumers and families residing in the Santa Clarita Valley.

8. Consumer Advisory Committee (*Packet #2, page 45*)

- A. Minutes of the October 1st Meeting - Deferred
- B. Updated CAC Event Calendar

Copies of the committee's event calendar were included in the meeting packet for the board's information.

9. Consumer Services Committee (*Packet #1, page 45*)

- A. Minutes of September 18th Meeting

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Jeremy with any questions.

10. Executive Committee (*Packet #2, page 36*)

- A. Minutes of the September 24th Meeting

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Eric with any questions.

- B. Action Taken to Send Letter Opposing SB 555 (Correa)

The Executive Committee took action, on behalf of the board, to send a letter to the governor urging him to veto SB 555. A copy of the letter, signed by Eric Leh, was included in the meeting packet.

- C. Action Taken to Send Budget Letter to DDS

The Executive Committee took action, on behalf of the board, to send a letter to Terri Delgadillo, director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) urging them to expedite our A-2 allocation to resolve the shortfall in the A-1 allocation. A copy of the letter, signed by Eric Leh, was included in the meeting packet

- D. Action Taken re: U.S. Bank Securities

The Executive Committee took action, on behalf of the board, to have Eric Leh sign a U.S. Bank securities notice that the center's account statements will serve as proof of confirmation of securities transactions. Copies of the notice were included in the meeting packet

E. Draft Letter to the Department of Health & Human Services – Deferred

George was unable to finish drafting the letter in time for tonight's board meeting.

Action: The draft letter to the Department of Health and Human Services will be presented at the Government & Community Relations Committee for review and then to the Executive Committee meeting for approval.

F. Activation of Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee

Eric will be activating the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee to review the center's board bylaws to make sure they are accurate and up-to-date.

11. **Government & Community Relations** (*Packet #1, page 49*)

A. Minutes of the September 18th Meeting

The minutes were included in the meeting packet; please see Jeremy with any questions.

B. Legislative Update (Bill File)

The bill file was included in the meeting packet for the board's review and information.

C. Report on 2nd Candidates Forum: Tuesday, October 8th, at 6:30 p.m. (Sam's Café)

The center held a Candidates' Forum for the final 2 candidates running for Bob Blumenfield's former Assembly seat last night, Susan Shelley and Matt Dababneh. It was a great event with nearly 200 people in attendance. George stated that we will need to follow up with the candidate who wins the November 19th election to make sure they understand how our system is impacted by decisions that are made in Sacramento – and to get a commitment of support from them. Michele took a moment to thank her staff for helping to organize the event and to the board members who attended it.

D. Discussion: Legislative Assignments

Tavia reported that at the last committee meeting, the members discussed ways to take the board's interaction with legislators to the next level. They are recommending that each board member be assigned to one of their local legislators and develop a relationship with by attending their events, inviting them to our events, etc. The board felt this was a good idea. The committee will discuss this idea further at their next meeting. Gay Wane added that in addition to developing relationships with Assembly members and Senators, that it is also important to develop relationships with city and government officials.

12. **Housing Committee – *No Report***

13. **Nominating Committee - *No Report***

Yolanda thanked those board members who completed the officer interest forms and urged those who haven't to please complete one and submit it to Jennifer. The Nominating Committee will be reviewing the completed forms at their next meeting on January 7th.

14. **Post-Retirement Medical Trust Committee - *No Report***

15. **Strategic Planning Committee – *No Report***

16. **Vendor Advisory Committee (*Packet #2, page 48*)**

A. Minutes of the October 3rd Meeting

The minutes were included in the meeting packet.

B. VAC Input on the Proposed Elimination of Sub-Minimum Wages

The National Council on Disability is recommending that a provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Section 14(c) (which allows companies to obtain government permission to pay subminimum wage) be eliminated over the course of six years. If approved, they plan to phase out the 14(c) program gradually as existing resources are enhanced and new mechanisms are created for supporting people in obtaining integrated employment. Since the 1930s, employers have been able to request special permission from the U.S. Department of Labor to pay those with disabilities less than the federal minimum wage, which is currently \$7.25 per hour. If this proposal is approved, it would have a dramatic effect on many service providers.

Jenni reported that the proposed elimination of the sub-minimum wage certificate was discussed at length at last week's VAC meeting as it would present a very perplexing problem. For example, consumers at Desert Haven Enterprises are paid based on their productivity, so if they produce 50% of what a non-disabled person could, they are paid 50% of the wage. This allows even the lowest functioning individuals to work and gain work experience. The unemployment rate in the Antelope Valley is currently at about 16%. If the sub-minimum wage certificate is eliminated, many more people would become unemployed.

Jenni added that if Desert Haven had to pay its consumers the increasing minimum wage, she projects at it would cost her agency \$1.7 million the first year, \$2 million the second year, and \$2.4 million the third year. In other words, Desert Haven would be put out of business.

These issues will be discussed further in the VAC's break-out groups next month.

17. Old Business / New Business (*Packet #1, page 68*)

A. Attendance Sheets

Board meeting and board committee meeting attendance sheets are always included in meeting packet #1.

B. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Eric asked the board members to please complete evaluation forms and submit them to him with any comments.

C. Visitation Reports

No visitations were reported.

D. NLACRC Board Retreat: May 16 & 17, 2014

Eric reported that the planning committee held their first meeting and have outlined the format of next year's board retreat. It will be a 2-day event. More details to come.

18. Announcements / Information / Public Input

A. Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 13th, at 6:30 p.m. (Van Nuys)

19. Adjournment

Eric adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Submitted by,


Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

for:



Sharoll Jackson
Board Secretary

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