

North Los Angeles County Regional Center  
**Minutes Of The Executive Committee Meeting**  
October 24, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

**MEMBERS:**

Ana Quiles, Brian Gatus, Rocio Sigala, Andrew Ramirez, Leticia Garcia, Sharmila Brunjes

**STAFF:** Angela Pao-Johnson, Evelyn McOmie, Vini Montague, Betsy Monahan, Megan Mitchell, Arezo Abedi, Kimberly Visokey

**GUESTS:** Aaron Abramowitz - Legal Counsel, Mark Wolfe - DDS Tech Advisor, Tresa Oliveri - DDS Tech Advisor, Xochitl Gonzalez – DDS, Carmen Albanese - Recording Secretary, Minutes Solutions Inc

**ABSENT:** Alma Rodriguez

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

There being a quorum present, and adequate and proper notice of the meeting having been given, the meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. **COMMITTEE MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

Members were asked to identify themselves when speaking or making a motion.

3. **AGENDA**

**On a motion duly made and seconded, it was resolved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.**

4. **CONSENT ITEMS**

**M/S/C** (Brian Gatus / Lety Garcia) to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on August 22, 2024, and September 26, 2024.

5. **PUBLIC INPUT – AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public input regarding the agenda items.

6. **ACTION ITEMS**

6.1 **FY 2024/2025 Board Priorities**

**M/S/C** (Brian Gatus / Lety Garcia) to approve the draft Board priorities for the FY 2024/2025, as amended.

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will submit the revised Board priorities document to the Board of Trustees for review and approval.*

6.2 **FY 2024/2025 Critical Calendar**

**M/S/C** (Lety Garcia / Andrew Ramirez) to approve the FY 2024/2025 Board critical calendar, as presented.

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will add the legislative advocacy training completed in October 2024, to the FY 2024/2025 Board critical calendar.*

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will create a FY 2025/2025 Board critical calendar and include legislative advocacy training in October, 2025, for review and approval.*

### **6.3 Contract Approval – with Conflict of Interest**

**M/S/C** (Andrew Ramirez / Sharmila Brunjes) to approve the following vendorization contracts for a five-year term effective November 1, 2024, through October 31, 2029:

- **24 Hour Caregivers, Inc., at a total cost of \$1,491,450.75**
- **Like Family LLC, at a total cost of \$1,491,450.75**
- **Wood Quality Care, at a total cost of \$1,491,450.75**
- **Bella Vida Home Care LLC, for in-home respite services, at a total cost of \$1,491,450.75,**
- **Bella Vida Home Care LLC, for personal assistance services, at a total cost of \$1,491,450.75**

Rocia Sigala abstained due to a conflict of interest.

**M/S** (Andrew Ramirez / Sharmila Brunjes) to approve the contract provided by Maxim Healthcare Services for vendorization for a five-year term effective November 1, 2024, through October 31, 2029, at a total cost of \$24,437,957.53.

Brian Gatus and Leticia Garcia opposed the motion. Rocia Sigala abstained due to a conflict of interest.

**The motion did not carry.**

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will inform the Board of Trustees about the vendor contract that was not approved for hire.*

### **6.4 Contract Approval – New Vendorizations**

**M/S/C** (Andrew Ramirez / Sharmila Brunjes) to approve the following new vendorization contracts for a five-year term effective November 1, 2024, through October 31, 2029:

- **Yes I Can Unity Through Music & Education, Inc. at a total cost of \$2,782,080**
- **Sekhon, Sharn, Psy.D, at a total cost of \$1,242,000**
- **Dr. Beliz, at a total cost of \$3,312,000**
- **Build Rehabilitation Industries, at a total cost of \$5,777,032**
- **Road to Independence, Inc., at a total cost of \$910,725**
- **A’Villa Inc., at a total cost of \$956,155.20**
- **Achieve Speech Associates Inc., at a total cost of \$3,039,868.80**
- **Gersovich, Sandra Vivan, at a total cost of \$763,929**
- **Maxima Therapy and Speech Clinic, at a total cost of \$37,293,060**
- **Roya Darabit Parsa dba Dreamy Speech Therapy, at a total cost of \$298,464**
- **Sierra Kiley Rojas dba All Access Communication Speech Therapy, at a total cost of \$298,464**
- **Willow Tree Therapy, at a total cost of \$763,929**
- **Assurance Family Services, at a total cost of \$461,711.30**
- **Creative Minds, at a total cost of \$649,350**
- **Illuminate Minds, at a total cost of \$710,400**

- Pure Autism Counseling Centre, Inc., at a total cost of \$16,876,032
- Pure Autism Counseling Centre, Inc., at a total cost of \$19,344,000
- Pediatric Therapy Care: Speech Language Pathology Corporation, at a total cost of \$798,235.75
- SG Speech Therapy Inc., at a total cost of \$798,235.75
- Access One Homecare Services Inc., at a total cost of \$3,297,888
- Strategic Concepts ILS, Inc., at a total cost of \$999,360

## 6.5 Usual and Customary Rates

**M/S/C** (Sharmila Brunjes / Brian Gatus) to approve the usual and customary rates for the following:

- Dr. Lisa Sandler, Psy.D, at a total cost of \$9,504,000
- Gittelsohn Psychological Services Inc., at a total cost of \$3,330,000
- Keolis Transit Services, LLC, at a total cost of \$129,066,659.77

## 6.6 Approval of Delegated Conservatorship Policy

**M/S/C** (Andrew Ramirez / Leticia Garcia) to approve the delegated conservatorship policy, as presented.

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will submit the delegated conservatorship policy to the Board of Trustees for review and approval. Calendar Year 2025 Training Plan*

## 6.7 Approval of the CY 2025 Board Training Plan

**M/S/C** (Leticia Garcia / Brian Gatus) to approve the calendar year 2025 training plan, as amended.

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will revise the calendar year 2025 training plan by rescheduling the legislative advocacy training (GCRC meeting) to October, 2025, and will submit the updated plan to the Board of Trustees and Department of Developmental Services for approval.*

Once approved, the Executive Committee will upload the training calendar to the website by the December 15, 2024, deadline.

## 7. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

### 7.1 Review of Whistleblower Policy

**M/S/C** (Leticia Garcia / Andrew Ramirez) to approve the whistleblower policy, as amended.

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will revise Item 5.6 of the whistleblower policy to include that the Regional Center will provide monthly whistleblower report logs to the Department of Developmental Services and the Executive Committee.*

### 7.2 Review of Purchase of Service Annual Report 2023/2024

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

### **7.3 Annual Board Dinner and Retreat 2024/2025**

**M/S/C** (Leticia Garcia / Andrew Ramirez) to host the Board dinner at a hotel on a Friday in May, 2025, and the Board retreat at the Santa Clarita office on the following Saturday of May, 2025, final expense pending.

*ACTION – The Executive Committee will schedule working groups for the Board dinner and Board retreat events, and compile venue quotes to present at next Board of Trustees meeting.*

The Board proposed changing the name of the Board dinner event to better reflect the purpose of the gathering.

### **7.4 Review of Special Contract Language (SCL) Deliverables Matrix**

*ACTION – Betsy Monahan and Angela Pao-Johnson will confirm the executive director governing authority policies are already outlined in the employment contract and evaluation policy.*

Angela Pao-Johnson presented the SCL deliverables matrix.

The matrix deadlines include the nominating committee's submission of a recruitment plan by November 13, 2024. Additionally, the Executive Committee must submit policies and procedures regarding board/executive director relationships. The Executive Committee reported that the policy governing this relationship should be outlined in Angela Pao-Johnson's employment contract, and that an evaluation policy is already in place.

### **7.5 Recording of Meetings**

*ACTION – Angela Pao-Johnson, Megan Mitchell, and Aaron Abramowitz will begin researching and drafting a policy on the recording of meetings.*

### **7.6 Spanish Translation Expectations and Confirmation**

It was reported that for virtual Board of Trustee meetings, there are four interpreters: two attending virtually and two in person. The in-person interpreters are responsible for translating from English to Spanish for attendees. However, they have not been able to interpret from Spanish to English when an attendee wishes to provide input. The Executive Committee is working with the interpreter vendor to address this concern and prevent issues in future meetings.

The Executive Committee agreed to introduce the interpreter at the beginning of all future Board of Trustee meetings.

## **8. CENTER OPERATIONS REPORT**

Angela Pao-Johnson presented the center operations report.

## **9. BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

The actions items from this meeting are as follows:

- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will submit the revised the Board priorities document to the Board of Trustees for review and approval.*
- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will add the legislative advocacy training completed in October, 2024, to the FY 2024/2025 Board critical calendar.*

- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will create a FY 2025/2025 Board critical calendar and include legislative advocacy training in October, 2025, for review and approval.*
- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will inform the Board of Trustees about the vendor contract that was not approved for hire.*
- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will submit the delegated conservatorship policy to the Board of Trustees for review and approval.*
- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will revise the calendar year 2025 training plan by rescheduling the legislative advocacy training (GCRC meeting) to October, 2025 and will submit the updated plan to the Board of Trustees and Department of Developmental Services for approval.*
- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will revise Item 5.6 of the whistleblower policy to include that the Regional Center will provide monthly whistleblower report logs to the Department of Developmental Services and the Executive Committee.*
- *ACTION – The Executive Committee will schedule working groups for the Board dinner and Board retreat events, and compile venue quotes to present at next Board of Trustees meeting.*
- *ACTION – Betsy Monahan and Angela Pao-Johnson will confirm the executive director governing authority policies are already outlined in the employment contract and evaluation policy.*
- *ACTION – Angela Pao-Johnson, Megan Mitchell, and Aaron Abramowitz will begin researching and drafting a policy on the recording of meetings. NEXT MEETING*

The date of the next Board meeting is scheduled on November 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.**

**DISCLAIMER**

The above document should be used as a summary of the motions passed and issues discussed at the meeting. This document shall not be considered a verbatim copy of every word spoken at the meeting.

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Director

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Director

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Date

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Date