

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR
Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 5:30pm
VMRC Stockton Office – Video Conference Room #124**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tom Bowe, President, Claire Lazaro, Vice President (Nominating Committee), Margaret Heinz, Secretary

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Elizabeth Victor-Martinez, Treasurer (Finance Committee), Lynda Mendoza (Bylaws Committee), Candice Bright (Legislative Committee), Chris Varella (Consumer Services Committee)

VMRC STAFF:

Tony Anderson, Executive Director, Jan Maloney, Executive Assistant.

President, Tom Bowe, brought the meeting to order at 5:35pm

1. Review & Approval of Agenda

Action could not be taken as there was no quorum.

2. Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2019 Meeting

Action could not be taken as there was no quorum.

3. Issues for Discussion

Executive Director's Report

On March 6th a group of advocates reported to the state assembly in a public hearing that they were parents in the VMRC area but that we did not give them any services. They said this was illustrative of the disparities in the state. While this was a lie it did provide us with the opportunity to meet with the legislature, clear the record, describe the areas of services where no disparities existed, and then engaged in a conversation about what services in our region we are seeing disparities. All meetings so far have been very positive and productive. This has consumed many hours in March and will continue in April. Future meetings in the Senate will follow.

Working with SAC6 to move them to the upstairs office close to my office to give them better visibility in our organization and access to the director's office. SAC6 is a contractor meeting our obligation to employ an advocate with a developmental disability.

We continue making progress in the development of a comprehensive employee training and development plan and I hope to have a completed plan for implementation by the end of the summer.

The Public Policy committee completed its annual budget report and presentation and they did another great job describing the general budget items and the developmental services budget proposals.

The rate study continues to consume a great deal of time and attention. We facilitated several sessions with our community providers and staff studying the full impact of the proposal. Brian Bennett is leading the VMRC effort to submit a report to DDS based on our discussions and the feedback from the providers.

We held several (5) transition fairs for our high school student to learn about adult services and six different public meetings on disparities.

In March I interviewed four internal staff for the position of Special Assistant to the Director thanks to the help of Tom Bowe, Bud, Mullanix, and Cindy Mix. This position will manage board operation as well as internal and external communications. Doug Bonnet has agreed to take the position and began on April 1st.

Notable Consumer Incidents/Complaints

As a follow-up to some of the testimony we received recently one family is now receiving 45 hours per month of respite services and we still continue to offer Independent Living Services which is more appropriate for the need of the consumer. We have also repeatedly sent information for Person Centered Thinking training at the parent's request but they still will not enroll in the class.

Another family requested a new IPP from the one developed in January but then just cancelled it last week. Even though our consumer was receiving ILS services the consumer's mother requested a fair hearing for ILS services and while awaiting the fair hearing she cancelled the current ILS. She has now asked for another IPP which we will schedule with her.

Another family told the service coordinator that VMRC will fund an attorney if IHSS denies the service. The POS exception committee denied the request last week.

We just completed a State Level hearing for respite services two weeks ago and the outcome is still pending. We have submitted a referral for OT, a clinic appointment is pending, and Medic alert services continue to be in place.

Vendor Issues

The Acknowledgement Works one-day conference was a great training offering from the CLASP group for the provider community. We ended up with about 70 people, though our ultimate goal was 120. The purpose for the event was to provide a high quality professional training for the provider community, inspire provider managers in support of their workers, create momentum for the next training event scheduled for October, and make money to help fund the cost of the October conference. While it did not make very much money the effort was successful in our other regards.

The Rate Study is a huge vendor concern as well as excitement. The new rates present a significant increase in payment for some providers but some providers will not be able to maintain services for our consumers. This will be a multi-year process to work through.

Union and Other Staff Issues

We authorized a couple of our employees who are in our union to attend the grassroots day events in Sacramento sponsored by SEIU. This provides them the opportunity to network with colleagues and to learn more about the regional center system. Currently there is a full time headcount of 337 employees and 344 including temporary employees.

Self-Determination Updates

Some advocates have been concerned that VMRC and other regional centers have been slow to start the SDP. We are also eager to begin but have been told by DDS to wait for orientation training to be fully developed. We'd like to start the Person Centered Planning development next but DDS will be giving us direction on how much we can pay for this service.

Other Matters

The Lobby Construction has begun as of March 29th and should be complete by the end of the month. This project is being pursued for the safety of our consumers and families visiting the regional center and waiting to meet with our staff.

The Committee reviewed the nomination letter for the 2019 Communitàs Award.

4. April Board Meeting

Tom will propose some amendments to the agenda at Monday's board meeting, to hold the committee reports before the presentations, and to add the E-2 and D-4 Contract Amendments for approval.

5. Approval to Waive the One-Month Information Period.

There is nothing pending that needs the waiver.

6. Adjourn Until Next Meeting – Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at 6:00pm, VMRC Stockton

The meeting adjourned at 6:26