



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

04/01/2020 | 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - Pacific Time (US & Canada)

Attendees (11)

Committee Members Present: Margaret Heinz, Board President and Committee Chair, Mohamad Rashid, Vice President, Lynda Mendoza, Secretary, Linda Collins, Treasurer, Dena Pfeifer and Staff

Staff Present: Tony Anderson, Executive Director, Doug Bonnet, Special Assistant to the Executive Director, Bud Mullanix, HR Director, Christine Couch, Compliance Manager

Others Present: Alicia Schott, Board Member

Public Present: None

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Margaret Heinz.

A. Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda

Margaret Heinz asked for a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. Dena Pfeifer seconded the motion. The Meeting Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

B. Review and Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 03/05/20

Margaret Heinz asked for a motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 03/05/20. Linda Collins made a motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 03/05/20. Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. The Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 03/05/20 were approved by unanimous consent.

C. Public Comment - None.

D. Items for Approval - None.

E. Items for Discussion

1. Executive Director's Report - Tony Anderson

This week the state officials remain hard at work to provide guidance and directives to help work through the many changes we need to make to support our community and stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Here is a summary of the Directives and Guidance:

Temporary Denial of Admissions and Discharges to/from State Run Facilities.

DDS will not approve people moving into or out of the programs they run. These programs include the Porterville Developmental Center, the Canyon Springs Community Facility, and all STAR homes (Stabilization, Training, Assistance, and Reintegration).

Waivers for Some Requirements: (Intake Related, 1st Aid.CPR Requirements for Respite Workers, Rules Related to the Intake Process, Any Family Cost Participation Requirements).

Eligibility and Intake:

Reminder that VMRC may do intake meetings, evaluations and assessments remotely. If VMRC is reasonably certain the person is eligible but we can't make a definitive determination, we can presume eligibility. If we later find someone actually does not have a developmental disability as defined in the Lanterman Act, we can change the eligibility decision without using the standard of a "clearly erroneous" decision process.

Respite Workers:

Waives the requirement for In-Home Respite providers to have First Aid and CPR certification before working with a person without health concerns. This is being done to get services started as fast as possible to support people in their homes during this crisis.

Cost Participation and Annual Family Program Fees

Starting March 25th the Family Cost Participation Requirements are waived. *"Any requirements related to the Family Cost Participation Program (FCPP) pursuant to Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 4783, and the Annual Family Program Fee (AFPF) pursuant to W&I Code section 4785, are waived. Retroactive to March 12, 2020, regional centers shall not conduct assessments and families shall not be required to pay costs or fees associated with FCPP or AFPF.)"*

Elevating All COVID-19 Related Incidents as Reportable to DDS

The tool regional centers use to report Special Incidents has been changed so we can now report to DDS incidents related to COVID-19 so they can where problem areas are in the state and help us locally. Our tool is called "SANDIS" and it will now allow us to report the following:

- Anyone in our community system who had contact with someone else who tested positive for COVID-19;
- If they have COVID-19 symptoms and went to a hospital for this or tested for COVID-19;
- If they were recommended to be tested for COVID-19;
- If they tested positive for COVID-19; or
- If they have COVID-19 symptoms and were told to quarantine.

Strict Limitations for Visitors/Entry Into Licensed Homes.

VMRC has been directed to tell providers, consumers, families, etc. of consumers residing in any licensed home that visits shall be limited to health providers, regional center workers, and other officials who protect the health, safety, and welfare of consumers. VMRC staff are directed to do remote monitoring when possible and take additional precautions when in-person visits are required.

New Guidelines to Protect Consumers in Facilities with Healthcare Needs and Enhanced Health Screening.

VMRC and some licensed home administrators has been directed to ensure new safety practices that include taking the temperature of anyone coming into their homes and asking them questions related to high risk of exposure. These homes include:

- Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs (ARFPSHN)
- Intermediate Care Facilities/Developmentally Disabled-Continuous Nursing (ICF/DD-CN)

This directive also says consumers will receive vital signs checks every 8 hours and monitoring for respiratory symptoms and says all these consumer should be isolated in their rooms if possible.

Thank you for your continued support of one another especially during these difficult days ahead.

2. Personnel and Union Update - Bud Mullanix

Trying to make work at home easier. Extended work at home hours from 5am - 10pm to help those with children at home, used to be 7am - 7pm, allowing them to take computers, keyboards, monitors, chairs home so they can work effectively from home. We do have staff that are emotionally struggling. I'm working with 3 members of management that live alone and are very lonely. Taken some emotional toll as well.

Been very busy with the union. Tony has done an excellent job as well as our senior leaders. I update union leadership weekly to keep them informed. The union office is now getting involved. Tony has pushed us to stay above the bar.

Lots of time staying up on the law changes.

2 new hires, 12 in background.

F. President's Report - Margaret Heinz

* Participated in the ARCA Board Delegates Webinar on Monday 3/30

* Participated in Board Orientation Onboarding sessions with Doug and Tony for:

Gabriella Castillo

Dr Yan Li

Suzanne Devitt (tried to - could not access meeting)

Anthony Owens

They were all very enthusiastic and ready to work. Steve Russel's onboarding is scheduled for April 9th.

- * Participated (and listened) to Tony's very informative webinars the past two Fridays.
- * Will participate (and listen!!) in the Consumers Public Forum on 4/2 with Tony and Lisa
- * Highly recommend the VMRC Facebook page for updated information
- * Also highly recommend the VMRC website and the ARCA website
- * I can't praise the VMRC staff enough during this trying time. Their diligence, patience, and "never give up" attitude inspire me daily. Thank you for all you do!

G. Next Meeting - Wednesday, May 6, 6:30 PM via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.