



Minutes for Executive Committee Meeting

08/11/2021 | 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM - (GMT-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

Via Zoom Video

Committee Members in Attendance: Margaret Heinz (President), Lynda Mendoza (Vice-President), Suzanne Devitt

Committee Members not in Attendance: Alicia Schott (Treasurer), Informed Absence, Linda Collins

Staff Present: Tony Anderson, Doug Bonnet, Christine Couch, Claire Lazaro

Public Present: Irene Hernandez, Interpreter

Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 PM by Margaret Heinz (President).

A. Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda

Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. Suzanne Devitt seconded the motion. The Meeting Agenda was approved unanimously.

B. Review and Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 07/14/21

Suzanne Devitt made a motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 07/14/21. Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. The Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 07/14/21 were approved unanimously.

C. Public Comment

None.

D. Items for Approval

1. Senior Human Resources Generalist – Tony Anderson and Bud Mullanix reviewed the job description and answered any questions that the committee members had. Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the Senior Human Resources Generalist position. Suzanne Devitt seconded the motion. The Senior Human Resources Generalist was approved unanimously.
2. Emergency Response Officer – Tony Anderson reviewed the job description and answered any questions that the committee members had. Suzanne Devitt made a motion to approve the Emergency Response Officer position. Lynda Mendoza seconded the motion. The Emergency Response Officer position was approved unanimously.
3. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Coordinator – Tony Anderson reviewed the job description and answered any questions that the committee members had. Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Coordinator position. Suzanne Devitt seconded the motion. The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community Coordinator position was approved unanimously.

E. Items for Discussion

1. Executive Director's Report, Tony Anderson

Programs and Job Descriptions for

- Emergency Services Coordinator
- Deaf and Hard and Hearing Community Service Liaison
- Low to No POS
- Reworking our self-determination positions

We are only at 57% vaccinated at VMRC

Currently experiencing a few homes with COVID outbreaks and we've had 10 staff exposed to COVID during their face to face meetings. 2 tested positive

Caseload ratios process time again

Legal Update

Matthew appeared via zoom in the Sacramento Dependency court on the motion to join VMRC due to an allegation that VMRC failed to fulfill a legal obligation (that is a false accusation, we did our duty). Matt objected to "personal jurisdiction" because we were not personally served. In the end the judge ordered the joinder motion dismissed - so for now we are out but they may refile. We are working with the minor and foster mother to get the services requested lined up.

2. Notable Consumer Information, Tony Anderson

Today Christine Couch and I attended the memorial spreading of the ashes for one of our consumers. It became apparent to us today that often times when one of our consumers pass away no one is around to honor their final "resting". The California memorial project honors those who lived in developmental centers in the past and who were not provided a memorial burial or respectful remembrance. Today we honored Michelle and discussed how we might honor those in the future when no one else is around.

3. Vendor Information, Tony Anderson

Providers are working hard to reopen but the staffing shortages for DSPs, shortages for drivers for the transportation companies, and now recent exposures and positive test for COVID-19 are causing further delays.

The department is working on a directive that will generate information from providers and regional center staff about alternative services.

This is a major workload issue set to a tight timeline. ARCA is working with DDS to better understand the intention of this directive so the activities are sure to achieve what DDS is looking for and to confirm this is the best method.

4. Self-Determination Update, Tony Anderson

Participant choice specialists at regional centers who will be subject matter experts and provide assistance to individuals with timely transition to SDP participation, and to regional center staff and service coordinators.

We are a little ahead of the game with this because we already hired specialists. This will give us the opportunity to hire even more specialists to help with the transition.

5. Other Matters

None.

6. Personnel and Union Update, Tony Anderson and Bud Mullanix

We have 215 vaccinated staff

We have had several informational sessions to answer any questions staff have about COVID-19 and the vaccinations.

We were one of the first regional centers in the state to get the vaccinations to our staff

We held 16 vaccination clinics on our campuses for the public and advertised to our staff that they could get vaccinated at these clinics

We currently have an incentive program that gives the staff \$50 when they show their vaccination cards, and puts them in a drawing for 3 paid days off. The drawing is once a month from August through October.

Testing will be required for all unvaccinated staff by September 1st.

Work at home policy extends to up to 4 days a week

Our contract reopens this year and our management will begin our sessions to come to agreement and SEIU is meeting to gather their priorities. SEIU has recent submitted their names for the negotiating team.

Between May and July 2021 we have had 9 staff terminated voluntarily or involuntarily. This is a big number for us. We did hire 12 new staff during that period. We are seeing more resignations than we have seen in a long time. Most have to do with the pandemic.

We currently have 4 openings that are backfill positions.

We also have 10 new positions that were approved for this year to fill.

We are definitely seeing less applications than we used to see by a lot.

We are going to contact our resumes on hand that we still have.

We have implemented a vaccination incentive card program to motivate everyone to get their vaccination shot. Anyone who turns their vaccination card gets a \$50 Visa gift card. There will also be 3 drawings over the next 3 months where the winners will get 3 paid days off.

We are working with the union. We have to have a new contract put into place by November 1.

F. President's Report, Margaret Heinz

Special thanks to everyone at VMRC for the Health Advisories. They are very important and have a ton of information. I share them all the time.

I spoke with a parent and she said how appreciative she was that VMRC offered the vaccine right away.

I saw what VMRC shared on Facebook about Google working with people with Autism.

I agree with all of the changes and pauses that VMRC has implemented given the recent rise of the Delta Variant.

Be kind to teachers and educators. Most schools are back in.

Schools are now requiring vaccinations for all school employees, or they will need to get tested weekly.

ARCA delegates meeting is this week on Monday that I will report back on.

I encourage anyone to attend the ARCA academies.

Thank you to Doug and Lynda for all of the help with the dinner.

G. Next Meeting - Wednesday, September 8, 2021, 6:30 PM, Location TBD

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.