



Minutes for Executive Committee Meeting

04/13/2022 | 06:30 PM

Hybrid - VMRC Stockton Office Cohen Board Room and via Zoom Video Conference

Committee Members Present: Linda Collins, Lynda Mendoza, Jose Lara, Alicia Schott

Committee Members Not Present: Suzanne Devitt, informed absence

Staff Present: Doug Bonnet, Tony Anderson, Bud Mullanix, Christine Couch, Tara Sisemore Hester

Public Present: None

A. Review and Approval of Meeting Agenda

Margaret Heinz reviewed the agenda. Linda Collins made a motion to approve the agenda. Alicia Schott seconded the motion. The motion passes with unanimous consent.

B. Review and Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 03/09/22

Margaret Heinz reviewed the minutes. Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the minutes of 03-09-2022. Alicia Schott seconded the motion. The motion passes with unanimous consent.

C. Public Comment – n/a

D. Items for Approval

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Approval of IT Rate Specialist Job Description | Action Item |
| Bud Mullanix, HR Director | |

IT Rate Specialist Job Description presented by Bud Mullanix. Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the IT Rate Specialist Job Description. Alicia Schott seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

2. Approval of Rate Specialist Resource Development Job Description Action Item

Bud Mullanix, HR Director

Rate Specialist Resource Development presented by Bud Mullanix. Lynda Mendoza made a motion to approve the Rate Specialist Resource Development Job Description. Alicia Schott seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

E. Items for Discussion

1. Performance Contract Forums
2. Caseload Ratio Public Forums
3. Office buildings are fully opened
4. Disparity hearings done. We set records with the most attendance this year at our meetings.
5. Language Access & Cultural Competence: The Department is requiring regional centers to annually submit a Language Access and Cultural Competency Plan:
 - a. Identify written communication to translate.
 - b. Orientations to groups
 - c. Regular language needs assessments
 - d. Coordination of interpretation and translation services.
 - e. Implement compliance for the availability, accuracy, readability, and cultural appropriateness of translations.
6. \$50 mil Oral Health in the budget this year for Health Financing - grants to build 10 or more clinics. I gave an interview to CalMatters reporter on Tuesday April 12th.
7. Grassroots Advocacy: We met with 8 legislators offices. Thank you to Lynda Mendoza for attending.

Budget:

- a. "Core Staffing Formula." Tie the cost-of-service coordination to a similar state position.
- b. Repeal of fees on families – The Annual Family Program Fee and Family Cost Participation Program are two fees charged to families receiving regional center services.
- c. Provider rate reform acceleration – We are asking policymakers to give the providers more of the promised rate increase now because of the exceedingly competitive job market and high cost of living.

Asking Legislators to please Support 3 Bills

- a. 1. SB 882 (Eggman) – Senator Eggman's bill creates an advisory council to look at ways to improve interactions between law enforcement and people with developmental disabilities.
- b. 2. AB 2378 (Jacqui Irwin) – It creates a tax credit for hiring a qualified individual with a developmental disability as a meaningful incentive to hire a person with a developmental disability. It increases options for people served by the regional centers who want jobs.
- c. Senate Concurrent Resolution 91 (Melissa Hurtado) – Making May "Individuals with Developmental Disabilities Inclusion Month."

8. Transition fairs – Stanislaus April 29, San Joaquin April 27 and Calaveras County May 12.

Notable Consumer Incidents/Complaints

We have a consumer in the hospital and Claire and have been reviewing the consumer's option very carefully. The physician is recommending no code because the consumer has been intubated twice before and he feels the consumer would not be a good candidate for compressions and she has a poor quality of life. The provider has expressed concerns about this and reports that the consumer has persevered through more severe health moments in her recent past. We were trying to get a sense of the consumer's wishes but due to very limited communication we are not about to get her feelings expressed. We did not agree with the physician's recommendation based on her history of successful recovery from more serious health concerns.

Vendor Issues

1. After public transportation lifted distancing requirements (masking still required), R&D shared the new information that was received from Cal-OSHA regarding emergency temporary standards. Transportation service providers will be expected to revise their plans based on their agency's risk assessment with attention to this new information. - this will make a big impact on the transportation problem.
2. CLASP has agreed to the proposals I presented last month to pursue a potential initiative to focus on the developmental services system provider network to promote their meaningful work employment opportunities and the regional centers and our employment opportunities. Alta regional center is checking in with their broader provider community to see if there is widespread interest there.

Union and Other Staff Issues

We are preparing for an all staff meeting that will occur in late July. Currently some staff are very worried about attending in-person. We are deliberating on how to make this a hybrid meeting.

Self-Determination Updates

The Local Advisory Committee is now impacted by the reversion of Bagley Keene to pre-pandemic rules. While many have been advocating to continue with virtual meetings or the option of hybrid meetings, the VMRC Self Determination Advisory Committee meetings cannot be held as we have been during the state of emergency.

One of the rules requires that at least 50% of the members must be in person for the meeting to move forward. The public location info must be posted 10 days before a meeting which would be tomorrow by 5pm. If a member attends via conference call or zoom their address must be posted for the public. We are likely going to cancel the upcoming meeting.

Other Matters

Partners in Policymaking:

On Friday April 22, 2022 we will be hosting an information session promoting a new project of Valley Mountain Regional Center, called Partners in Policymaking. I wanted to let you know before the information session in case you get phone calls asking for more information. We did not direct the public to contact you but sometimes people just want to double check with a trusted person at the regional center.

This project is funded by DDS under their disparities initiative and the purpose is to provide advocacy training for a small cohort of about 50 advocates. It's a very comprehensive advocacy program that has been around since 1986, it was founded by the Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, it has been delivered all over our country and in several other countries as well, and it last served our region in 2008 (to learn more [check out the website](#)).

The project is designed for consumers and parents but there will be some opportunity for staff who would like to volunteer to support the program throughout the year. Partners will be free to the participants and volunteers but will require a major commitment from them as well. The program provides them with 128 hours of instruction and will be delivered in English and Spanish with interpretation for both languages, it occurs over eight monthly sessions, one weekend a month. There will be an application and interview process to select a diverse group. Participants may end up needing to amend their IPPs or their child's IFSP/IPP, to participate in the program so they may need to reach out to their regional center representative to assistance with this.

6. Personnel and Union Update

390 employees with 8% turnover rate. We are actively recruiting.

7. President's Report: thank you for helping with the grassroots day! Margaret had the opportunity to attend the 2 disparity POS meetings. The Health Advisory continues to be a great source of information. Thank you Doug for supporting Margaret! Margaret appreciates everyone!

F. Next Meeting - Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 6:30 PM, VMRC Stockton Office Cohen Board Room and Via Zoom Video Conference (Hybrid)