



Minutes Executive Committee Meeting

07/12/2023 | 06:30 PM - 07:30 PM

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

Committee Members Present: Dr. Suzanne Devitt, Alicia Schott, Lisa Utsey

Committee Members Not Present: Jose Lara (informed absence), Brandy De Alba (informed absence), Margaret Heinz (informed absence)

VMRC Staff Present: Tony Anderson, Doug Bonnet, Gaby Lopez

Public Present: Irene Hernandez (interpreter), Isela Bingham (interpreter), Cassie Schott, Ruby Saldana

Dr. Suzanne Devitt called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Review of Meeting Agenda

A quorum was established. The agenda was reviewed with no changes.

B. Review and Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 06/14/23

Alicia Schott made a motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 06/14/23. Lisa Utsey seconded the motion. The Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 06/14/23 were approved unanimously.

C. Items for Approval

None.

D. Public Comment

None.

E. Items for Discussion – Tony Anderson

1. Executive Director's Report

1. Longevity Events will be individualized to only include the employee and their supervisor. We used to have these in an all staff forum.
2. ARCA and DDS to are working on intake standardization, process improvements, and data collection with distinct conversations about Early Start.
3. We'll be getting a list of the policy issues and allocation decisions. The E-1 should be available for allocation in mid-to-late August.
4. Social Recreation Participant Directed Model Implementation
 - a. The policy will be implemented as soon as the Governor signs the TBL.
 - b. DDS is exploring options for the 1915(c) waiver related to how to streamline PDS for services where the individual/family is not the direct employer or supervisor.
5. Team going to st louis for National PCT training

Policy Items from the Budget

6. The Limited Examination and Appointment Program (LEAP), related to state hiring of people with disabilities, is now permanent.
7. The option for remote Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meetings has been extended to June 30, 2024.
8. ABA or intensive behavioral intervention services for an infant or toddler cannot be contingent upon parent participation – though the benefits of participation can be highlighted.
9. Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to give the Legislature annual reports on their work related to special incidents.
10. Provisional eligibility expanded from just 3- and 4-year-olds to all children under 5 years of age. If an infant is eligible for Early Start, provisional eligibility must also be assessed.
11. Purchase of service data reports to be uniform and include some aggregate info. RC clients to get their own POS data yearly, with (eventual) online access, too.
12. Rate models to be updated regularly to account for minimum wage beginning July 2, 2024. A fix to the 90/10 issue (provider rates and quality incentive payments) is created.
13. The option for remote Individual Program Plan (IPP) meetings has been extended to June 30, 2024.
14. Medical services that are not available via health insurance within 60 days will be authorized for purchase/funding by regional centers. Medical/dental services shall be authorized during delays.
15. DDS can make rules related to federal person-centered planning rules.
16. For social recreation, camp, and nonmedical therapies, centers are forbidden from making people first use up IHSS, exchange respite (or other service) hours, or have copays. DDS can issue directives for these services, including providing them as participant-directed services.
17. Family home agency rates now tied to an existing residential facility rate model.
18. The Family Cost Participation Program fees remain on hold through June 30, 2024.
19. The Annual Family Program Fee remains on hold through June 30, 2024.
20. When those fees come back online, DDS can implement recommendations to reform those fees (that will come from an existing public stakeholder process).

21. The State Council on Developmental Disabilities has an Employment First Committee. It goes away July 1, 2024 (to be replaced by an Office of Employment First, below.)
22. An "Office of Employment First" is being created in the Health and Human Services Agency, to focus on major policies and goals related to employment. It will have an Employment First Committee (identical in membership to the one at State Council).
23. Admissions to the Desert STAR portion of Canyon Springs will eventually stop, but only after some safety net homes are built, or June 30, 2024, whichever comes first.
24. Some changes to court commitment rules to match that Canyon Springs deadline.
25. The Coordinated Family Supports Service Pilot is getting \$10,800,000 to allow it to continue through the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year.

2. Notable Consumer Information – see next section.

3. Vendor Information

We have two abuse cases we're working on right now. One case we moved the consumer to another house and the other cases several people had to be moved to other homes. The first consumer had severe bedsores and the second involved a provider brandishing a firearm in the home and the police came and arrested him.

4. Self-Determination Update

One of the largest FMSs has started charging an employer burden fee which is reducing consumers available budgets. DDS is engaging with them to resolve the issues. Not sure if the employer burden is due to increases in sick leave costs that apply that all employees or to overtime that apply only to specific individuals' service providers.

5. Other Matters

None.

6. Personnel and Union Update

The contract expires by the end of October.

F. President's Report – Dr. Suzanne Devitt

This will be a short report. I'm very excited to be chosen to be President. I look forward to it. Some of my plans will be delayed as I'm injured. I did enjoy all of the pictures for the Longevity lunches from today. It was good to see all of the different employees being honored. I hope to get up to San Andreas soon. I have a few more weeks until that can happen. I look forward to visiting San Andreas and the Modesto Office. Brandy De Alba, our new Vice-President, will be chairing these meetings moving forward.

**G. Next Meeting - Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 6:30 PM, VMRC
Stockton Office Cohen Board Room and Via Zoom Video
Conference (Hybrid)**

This is a change from the original agenda which said Wednesday, April 9, but is corrected to Wednesday, August 9.