



Minutes for VMRC Executive Committee Meeting

9/11/2024 | 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Valley Mountain Regional Center, Stockton Office, Cohen Board Room and via
Zoom Video Conference

Committee Members Present: Alicia Schott, Erria Kaalund, Dr. Steve Russell, Lisa Utsey, Jessica Quesada, Jeff Turner, Jose Lara, Jody Buriss

Committee Members Not Present: Gabriela Castillo

VMRC Staff Present: Leinani Walter, Christine Couch, Tara Sisemore Hester, Brian Bennett Gabriela Lopez, Aaron McDonald, Brenda Crisler, Bud Mullanix, Sean Keyes, Donna Saison, Lizzie Valerio, Midori Perez,

Public Present: Rachelle Munoz, Irene Hernandez (Interpreter), Isela Bingham (Interpreter),

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

Alicia Schott called the meeting to order at 6:46pm. A quorum was established. The agenda was reviewed with no changes.

B. Review and Approval of the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of 06/12/24

Alicia Schott asked for a motion to approve the Executive Committee Meeting of July 12, 2024. Erria made a motion, Lisa seconded the motion. The Executive Committee minutes were approved unanimously.

C. Public Comment N/A

D. Items for Discussion Menu

1. **Executive Director's Report** -Leinani Walter thanked the team for supporting the VMRC All Staff Gathering. Appreciated Brenda for her leadership coming into the Fiscal Department. Thankful to Lisa Utsey for presenting at the ARCA Academy. Noted VMRC begins contracts negotiations with SEIU negotiations and thanked Bud and Tara for their leadership with this process. Leinani noted she will be a speaker at the 3rd annual Native American Intellectual and Developmental Disability Symposium October 9-10, 2024, at Pala Reservation.

Leinani invited everyone to attend the upcoming VMRC Cultural & Disability Resources Fair on October 12, 2024, in Stockton. Appreciated Brian Bennet for attending the Master Plan on September 18 in Fresno.

2. **Notable Consumer Information** -Tara Sisemore-Hester reported her team is working with Emergency Services Coordinator and DDS. There is a baby on a ventilator living in a remote area where power goes on and off and working to establish a backup system to ensure the baby still can utilize device.
3. **Vendor Information** - Brian Bennett shared a presentation of an overview of what Community Services roles and responsibilities are presently.
4. **Self-Determination** - Christine Couch shared about Annual Remembrance Day on September 16, 2024. Shared SDP shared updated, consistent number of consumers. She reported the advisory committee needs representatives in Calaveras and Amador Counties. Next Meeting: Thursday, 9/12/24 at 3:30pm. People interested in participating on the advisory committee may email their application.
5. **Service Coordinator Communication** -Tara Sisemore-Hester does not have a report. Leinani noted this topic is about consistent communication with consumers. Chris and Tara are working to ensure staff communicate in a timely manner with clients/families. VMRC does not have uncovered caseloads. VMRC has one manager covering multiple caseloads.
6. **Personnel and Union Update** - Bud Mullanix shared there are 560 employees and adding 10-12 employees in September. The VMRC Benefits Fair starts in the first week of October, at each office. The first union meeting went well, there are 5 scheduled meetings. Recruitment and retention are top priorities, excited about Tracy opening, most positions have been filled. Leinani shared the VMRC Tracy Office Open House.

F. President's Report Alicia Schott - Alicia reported she attended ARCA Academy Training. She will be working on Board members getting to know each other. Reported Lisa did an amazing job presenting at the Academy. Lisa may give a presentation at the next board meeting. Alicia appreciated all the new board committee chairs for stepping up to volunteer.

G. Next Meeting - Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 6:30 PM (In Person and Zoom)
Alicia Schott

H. Adjournment at 7:32