

KERN REGIONAL CENTER

3200 N. Sillect Avenue • Bakersfield, CA 93308 • (661) 327-8531

Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

KRC Malibu Conference Room

3300 N. Sillect Avenue

Bakersfield, CA 93308

MINUTES

April 7, 2015

PRESENT: Susan Lara, President
Lorie Stewart, Secretary
Matthew LaGrand
Jeremy Shumaker
Tracy Brown
Rosita Barron
Carol Sackey

Steve Esselman, Vice President
Ismael Romero, Treasurer
Laurie Hughey, VAC Representative
Quanah Mason
Richard Rodriguez
Nickole Mensch

ABSENT: Veronica Quezada, Frank Meyer

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. **Approval of Agenda and regular Board Meeting Minutes dated March 3, 2015.**
Attachment 1. Motion to approve (Lara) with corrections as follows; second Brown. Board approved with one opposed (Stewart). Corrections:
1. **Item IV. Action and Discussion Items – Board Activities, A. KRC Draft Response to DDS Assessment Findings-** “One Opposed” to be changed to “Two Opposed.” The two opposed: Sackey & Stewart.
 2. **Item IV. Action and Discussion Items – Board Activities, D. Review of Contracts – Audit/finance Committee – 1. BARC Access Now Community Integration Training PK5126 –** “Two Abstentions” to be changed to “One Abstention.” The one abstention: Hughey
 3. **Item IV. Action and Discussion Items – Board Activities, D. Review of Contracts – Audit/finance Committee – 6. Routing Logistics Transportation PK3597 –** The names of the two opposed to be added. The two opposed: Esselman and Mensch.
 4. **Item IX. Adjournment –** Time to reflect 8:49 PM as actual adjournment time.
- B. **Approval of regular Board Meeting Minutes dated February 3, 2015.**
Attachment 2 – Motion to accept corrections (Nickole); second Barron. Board approved with two abstentions (Sackey & Esselman). Corrections:
1. **Item I. Call to Order, C. Approval of Minutes of December 2, 2014 as Attachment I –** “Lori” misspelled; to be corrected as “Lorie.”

2. **Item I. Call to Order, D. Public Comment** – “Area Board” to indicate “Area Board 8 and 12.”
3. **Item II. Action and Discussion Items – Board Activities, D. Review of Contracts – Audit/finance Committee – BARC Access Now Community Integration PK5126** – To include Mike Grover’s comment:

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. **Yadira Camorlinga.** Parent and regional center employee. Camorlinga expressed concern regarding public social activities outside of the business activities of KRC involving the Board President and her family and the KRC CEO and his family. Camorlinga distributed two pictures from Facebook showing the KRC CEO and his family out in the community with the Board President. Camorlinga requests that the board be honest and transparent.

Board President Lara responded that one picture was taken when CEO Law and his family were welcomed upon their arrival in Bakersfield, and the second picture is from a birthday party that Board President Lara was invited to attend.

- B. **Maria Salinas.** Salinas Requested confirmation from the board that the results of the surveys were going to be confidential and that the only ones able to see the surveys would be the board members. Maria Salinas has drafted a rebuttal to the letter that was sent to DDS for the board.
- C. **Pam Woodruff.** Woodruff stated she felt she was shut down and not allowed to speak, although other members of the audience/community were allowed to speak. Woodruff reiterated her comment from the board meeting of March 3, 2015, and provided information regarding administrative expenditures for attorney fees for fiscal year 2012-13 and 2013-14. Ms. Woodruff believes the expenditures on attorneys’ fees is excessive.
- D. **Dale Davis.** Davis stated he heard about the survey for the first time when he read the board minutes. He stated that he did not received the survey and spoke to other parents who also did not receive the survey. Davis stated he spoke to Mr. Law who told Mr. Davis he would Mike Butler. When Mr. Davis spoke to Mr. Butler, Mr. Butler stated Mr. Law had not yet contacted him. Mr. Davis stated a vendor has told parents there is a limit on services and participation with C.A.R.D. ABA Home Base Program. If services are being limited, Davis urged the board to reverse this.
- E. **Matthew La Grand.** Matthew prepared a letter, which he read to the board and the public. The letter states that he will be showing up to all of ARCA CAC meetings and that he would be dedicating his time to people with special needs. He requests that the board accept his nomination to ARCA CAC.
- F. **David Marcus.** Marcus reported that opening day for League of Dreams was a success, and 265 clients participated. They had a BBQ on the first day, a big group picture, the first pitch, the first catch. May 30th will be bowling day. Marcus will provide more information at the next board meeting.

- G. **Dolores Huerta.** Grandmother of two special needs children and the president of the Board of the Dolores Huerta Foundation. Huerta stated that she believes the Board is not complying with its mission statement, and she believes there is a disparity in terms of the services being provided to consumers of color, compared to the services provided to Anglo consumers. Huerta stated that the organization has lost many employees with great experience.
- H. **Kelly Reyes.** Parent of a client. Reyes read a statement to the Board and the public. Reyes informed the board of a letter of no confidence in the leadership of KRC, and requested that the board review. Reyes believes that the public has routinely been met with resistance. Reyes stated to the KRC Board that they have no confidence that the CEO and Board President are providing KRC with the leadership and oversight that is essential to the agency's health, effectiveness and functioning. Reyes provides the public and the board with examples.
- I. **Diane Schneider.** H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection will be holding a Lanterman Act Training on Saturday, April 18th for \$5.00. On Saturday, April 25th, they will be holding their last IEP training for the school year. The 10th Annual Tournament will be Saturday, May 16th, \$25.00 sign-up fee. Night at the Ball Park will be held on Saturday, May 9th.

IV. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS – BOARD ACTIVITIES

A. **Executive Summary of Preliminary Survey Results presented by Geoff King of BHK (*Information*)**

Informed that they received responses, interpreted and provided to the board. 328 surveys were sent out through survey money, 9,312 were sent via mail. 253 via mail with response were received; 282 via mail were received. A total of 535 survey responses were received. 32 surveys were translated. 217 were returned with bad addresses. 34 invalid email addresses were received. A total of 241 returned with bad address/invalid email addresses. 15 responses were received after March 18th.

- Iman Killbrew stated concern that over 1,000 surveys were sent out, and only 535 responses were received. She stated parents and consumers came to her and had issues understanding/reading the survey.
- A member of the public stated many families in the outlying areas received the survey past the due date.
- Susan Lara stated the board will continue to accept surveys past the due date. The public can submit comments to the board of directors at any time through an email on the KRC website.
- Dale Davis states he has lived at the same address and has been served by KRC for over 18 years and still did not receive the survey.
- The KRC CEO was accidentally copied on the survey results. Board President Lara explained that the first report received from the CPA did not have identifying information. It was assumed that the full data set had been prepared the same way without identifying information and she had therefore copied the KRC CEO and the consultants for the Executive Committee.

- A number of members of the community and vendors spoke out, expressed much concern and fear of retaliation.
 - Board President Lara offered to revisit putting the survey back up for the public. She assured the public that there should never be any retaliation for any survey response, whether from a consumer, a staff member or a service provider.
- B. **ARCA Report** (*Information*) Steve Esselman – Two bills are currently in debate. SB 639 by Senator Stone who is recommending that funding increases for Regional Center operation and vendor rates in 2.5% installments to make up for the 10% loss that occurred recently. AB 1405 from assembly woman Grove who is advocating the closure of Fairview and Sonoma developmental centers.
- C. **Review of the Contracts** (*Action*)
1. **Kern Supportive Services, SLS HK0682** – SLS vendor. Contract delayed as CSD waited for their cost statement; services continued during this period. A 36 month contract, through June 30, 2017. This vendor supports 34 individuals with SLS who reside in various living arrangements. a vendor since 2000, with a negotiated rate made prior to 2008. They have met 15% administrative CAP in their independent Audit Report. CSD reports that consumers are well served and happy with their SLS vendor. The committee recommends this contract for Board approval.
 - Motion to approve (Mensch); Second Rodriguez. The Board votes to approve the contract with one abstention (Hughey).
 2. **New Opportunities, SLS PK4564** – The contract was delayed as CSD waited for cost statement; services continued during this period. This is a 36 month contract through June 30, 2017. This vendor supports 12 individuals in SLS. A vendor since May, 2008, right before the rate freeze. The vendor has met their 15% administrative CAP statement and has submitted its engagement letter from their CPA firm for its independent audit report. The committee recommends the contract for Board approval. CSD reports that the consumers are being well served.
 - Motion to approve (Stewart); Second Brown. The Board votes to approve the contract with one abstention (Hughey).
 3. **Crandell Enterprise, Inc., PK5720** – Specialized Adult Residential Facility, service code 113. A home to 4 Adults. The vendor is in good standing with Community Care Licensing. CSD reports that the consumers are being well served and are happy with their provider. The committee recommends this contract for Board approval.
 - Motion to approve (Stewart); Second Barron; The Board votes to approve the contract with one abstention (Hughey).

V. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS – KRC ACTIVITIES

- A. **Budget Update and Financial Report** – Report on the KRC budget and the State as it pertains to the delivery of developmental services. Audit/Finance Committee. **Attachment 4 (Information)** – The committee was unable to meet with the CFO this past month. A financial report was submitted.

VI. REPORTS:

A. **Board President Report**

1. The Board will begin to review the responses of the survey to be able to hear the concerns and to be able to address them in the coming year. The Executive Committee received the responses yesterday and has requested that the CPA break them down into categories in order to work with the consultants to address them. An education session is scheduled with the ERISA attorney on Saturday, April 11th.

B. **Executive Committee Report**

1. The Executive Committee met with DDS on April 7th to go over the 90 day review of the corrective action plan and the steps that they will be taking. Board President Lara clarified that CEO Law is not on the Executive Committee, and that he only attends Executive Committee meeting upon request and in his Administrative capacity.
2. The Committee met on March 23rd and was provided a preliminary look at the responses that were received by the CPA firm. They received a total of 535 responses by both survey monkey and by mail. The CPA firm provided a brief breakdown and a spreadsheet of the responses. At this time, it is still being converted to include the mail responses. One email was received through the Board email.
3. The next meeting will be on April 27th.

C. **KRC CEO Report (No Report)**

D. **Vendor Advisory Committee Report**

1. The Vendor Advisory Committee discussed the Uniform Holiday Schedule. An updated Holiday Schedule was requested. Day Programs; to be submitted no later than April 15, 2015 with current holidays.
2. The date for the Vendor Luncheon will be November 6th at Hodels. The information will be going out in the Vendor Voice.
3. April 10th, Kern Autism Society will hold their annual conference at the Canyon Hills Assembly of God.
4. April 11th, BARC will be holding a yard sell at the Union location at 8:00 am.
5. Grass Roots Day is April 15th. Two Board members and one consumer will be attending.
6. May 26th at 10:00 am will be the next VAC meeting.

E. **Board Policy Review Task Force Committee Report** (No Report)

F. **Legislative Report** (No Report)

G. **People First Report** (No Report)

H. **State Council on Developmental Disabilities Reports**

1. Stated that reviewing how the survey went out was a valid issue and that there was a big concern with 54% of people that responded rated KRC as a "D" or as an "F." Advised the Board to listen to the community and reflect.

I. **Affordable Housing Committee (ASPIRE)** (No Report)

J. **Client Services Report** (No Report)

K. **KRC Staff Report** (No Report)

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.