

**REDWOOD COAST DEVELOPMENTAL
SERVICES CORPORATION
Regular Meeting
Board of Directors**

**MINUTES
FY 2011-2012 #4
Saturday, March 17, 2012
Crescent City, CA**

DIRECTORS PRESENT	Brian Ward	Tara Hawkins	
Silas M. Morrison	Kelly Livingston	Ernie Cocco	Tamera Leighton
Beverly Fontaine	Denise Rusk	David Matson	Jason McCuan
Tyler Livingston	Mary Wheatley	Pamela Jensen	

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Claudia Boudreau Ana Mahoney

FACILITATORS PRESENT

Jen Baumann	Derixa Landry	Patrick Cross	Wanda Henderson
Brandon Boelter			

STAFF PRESENT

Clay Jones	Donna Landry-Rehling	Patrick Okey	Kim Nash	Karen Satern
------------	----------------------	--------------	----------	--------------

OTHERS PRESENT

Nina Burgess	Brian Nash	Eureka guest	Deborah Kindley
--------------	------------	--------------	-----------------

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Introductions** - The regular meeting of the RCDSC Board of Directors was called to order by President B. Fontaine at 1:06 p.m. A quorum was present. All persons in attendance introduced themselves. K. Livingston agreed to be today's timekeeper.
- 2. Reading of Vision** – E. Cocco and K. Livingston read aloud the Vision of the Redwood Coast Regional Center.
- 3. Community Input**
- Eureka guest thanked the board for having the meeting in the early afternoon this time. She commented that her son has enjoyed success in several sports activities. This has allowed him to participate with his peers. She encouraged everyone to consider volunteering to become involved in supporting kids' participation in sports and to encourage parents to get their children involved in these activities as well.
- 4. *Approval of Agenda**
M/S/C – T. Leighton (D. Rusk) moves to approve the agenda for today.
- 5. *Approval of January 21, 2012, Minutes**
M/S/C – T. Leighton (S. Morrison) moves to approve the minutes of Jan. 21, 2012, with the following amendment: Page 3, Item 9a., line 6 - add "employment" between the words "provide" and "services" .
- 6. Executive Director's Report** – C. Jones referenced his report and offered the

following comments:

- **ARCA** The statewide DDS stakeholder meetings have just concluded. This series of meetings was held around the State to receive suggestions from persons using services, family members, advocacy organizations, service providers, regional centers and others regarding how best to achieve the \$200 million reduction to the California service system next fiscal year (2012-2013). One difficult question that has come up at the meetings all around the State is whether or not to continue the 4.25% across-the-board reductions to both regional centers and service providers. If no action is taken, the legislation that established the reduction will expire on June 30, 2012. If the legislation is allowed to lapse, the State will have to find other ways to save that money (currently the reduction saves the State about \$110 million per year). The ARCA, representing the 21 regional centers, does not support the continuing of the 4.25% reduction. Final decisions will be made in May.

RCRC continues to pay close attention to the requirements of new mandates and laws, and staff are working on consolidating the status of RCRC's compliance with these new laws. RCDSC board members will be receiving those legislative guides as soon as they are completed by staff.

- **Town Hall Meeting** – Every year the ARCA sponsors Grassroots Day in Sacramento and encourages participation at either the capitol or on a local level. This year, Area 1 Board and Area 4 Board have coordinated a town hall day on April 5th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Santa Rosa. Participants attending the Town Hall Meeting can speak with legislative representatives or their staff about the services that are important to them. An informational flyer was distributed, and C. Jones commented that RCRC consumers who are interested in attending are to contact their service coordinators to work out the details. Board member S. Morrison expressed interest in attending the Santa Rosa meeting.

- T. Leighton commented that the RCDSC board members need to be aware that RCRC's 990 document is coming due very soon. Throughout the State, this document is being scrutinized and needs to be accurate. As the board's treasurer, T. Leighton will be reviewing the 990 prior to its approval by the entire board.

7. **Administrator's Report** – P. Okey reviewed the financial report included in the board packet. He explained the various components of the report and commented that while the number of clients year-to-date is the same as it was one year ago, the trend is slightly increasing. Other bar charts indicate that RCRC's POS and OPS costs are going down, as would be expected pursuant to implementing the provisions of legislation passed over the course of the last two years. POS expenses are 3.9% less than at this point last year, while OPS

expenses are 6.6% less than at this point last year. Even with the upward trend in the number of clients, there is a downward trend in POS expense per client.

8. Treasurer's Report – T. Leighton had no further report.

9. Executive Committee Report – B. Fontaine referenced the Audit Committee's meeting minutes of Feb. 24, 2012, that were included in the board packet. She noted that the board's January decision to discontinue purchasing services from a specific service provider will not change.

9a. Vendor Advisory Committee Report – P. Jensen noted that the committee met on March 12th. Highlights of the meeting included:

- People Services, Inc., had their CARF survey and they feel it went well; the Special Olympics Polar Plunge fund raiser earned \$15,000; the Chicken Q is set for June this year; their supported employment services are 'in the red' due to losing customers.
- HCAR's employment services are struggling to continue due to the difficulty in finding community based employment.
- Families United is developing a website in order to have less reliance on the postal system. They continue to work on streamlining their services.
- UVAH has passed their CARF for a 3 year accreditation. This make the 11th time that they have been awarded a 3-year accreditation. UVAH participated in the CDSA legislative advocacy day and helped sponsor two consumers to attend the event. A new committee of vendor representatives from different regional centers has been developed. The reps participate in a monthly telephone conference call to talk about what's going on at their respective regional centers.
- SB 1244, a bill addressing the Self Determination program was discussed and concerns about some of the stipulations of that bill were noted.
- Recent reports of incidents of abuse and death at the State's developmental centers that are felt to have been improperly investigated or have been improperly resolved were discussed.
- Some unintended consequences of the Employment First legislation on the integrity of the I.P.P. process were mentioned.

9b. ARCA Report

T. Leighton distributed a copy of A Proposal for the Way Forward for Regional Centers, a document produced by a group of executive directors from Southern California regional centers. Background information about the initial purpose of the group was offered, as well as some concerns about ways in which the group has recently shifted some of its focus, particularly with regard to policy issues. T. Leighton requested that the RCDS board members review the document, have a discussion

and possibly take action in an executive committee meeting or in a full board meeting.

ACTION: An Executive Committee phone meeting will be scheduled in the near future in order to review the proposed survey and proposal, draft a written response and, once finalized, submit the written response.

As part of the ARCA report, T. Leighton also noted that the ARCA organization is opposed to continued reductions to the regional center system, reminding all that regional centers have already done their part to realize the cost savings while some other State supported organizations sued the State instead and were not required to comply.

The review of all regional center executive directors' salaries is under way across the State through the 990 filings. T. Leighton expressed concerns about the accuracy of a study that was recently released and commented that she would like to see total compensation reflected, rather than just the salary. To receive a copy of the study, contact T. Leighton.

- 9c. ARCA CAC Report** – B. Ward handed out a written report of the March 9th ARCA CAC meeting he attended in Sacramento. He reported that he had been selected as the new self advocacy representative, but had to withdraw his name because his term on the RCRC board is ending in a couple of months. He commented that there will be a lot of new people on the ARCA CAC board because of terms ending. Other topics covered were the series of articles produced by Cal Watch with regard to the abuse and deaths at the State developmental Centers, the importance of employment for people receiving regional center services, and the April 18th Grass Roots Day which is scheduled to take place in Sacramento.

- M. Wheatley reported that she is in the process of creating a 'Google calendar' that will be a place to share different meeting and event information. Various suggestions were discussed.

ACTION: C. Jones will bring this topic to the RCRC website administrator to explore possibilities. M. Wheatley requested feedback about whether the Google calendar might still be considered feasible or whether RCRC can facilitate something on its existing website.

10. Tabled/Unfinished Business –

- Status of Board/facilitator training – K. Livingston reported that she has contacted facilitators for their input and will be providing suggestions for further clarifying topics in the facilitator packet (especially in the billing area). She thanked K. Nash, C. Jones, and D. Landry-Rehling for their work in revising the facilitator packet.

ACTION: A telephone conference call will need to be set up to begin work on the annual executive director's evaluation.

- Regarding the status of a question posed to C. Jones at a recent board meeting about paying mileage of respite workers to and from home, it was noted that there has been no response from DDS yet. C. Jones did note that RCRC will honor the mileage claims.

11. New Business - None

12. County by County Liaison -

- K. Livingston reported that her son, Tyler, recently participated in a Special Olympics basketball tournament held in Santa Rosa and that his team came in second place. A fund raiser secured enough money to support all the sports through the year.
- T. Leighton reported that she and several others participated in a meeting with the Del Norte County Director of Health & Human Services. They discussed the difficulties that some local families are having as they attempt to access services from California Children's Services in their area. She felt that is was acknowledged that the CCS system is 'broken' and that people are working on it.
- D. Matson reported that many Mayacama employees participated in a Polar Plunge fundraiser at Lake Mendocino. In addition, he also played basketball at the Special Olympics tournament in Santa Rosa.

13. Community Input

- S. Morrison reported that he recently attended a local Food Bank dinner and that he won one of the door prizes.
- Eureka guest reported that April is Autism awareness month and that the Home Depot stores are selling blue light bulbs with the logo from 'Autism Speaks' on it. In addition, April 2 is Autism World Awareness Day and that people who obtain the blue light bulbs are to light up their blue light bulb on that day to express Autism awareness.

14. Adjournment

M/S/C - S. Morrison (D. Rusk) moves to adjourn the meeting at 4:02 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 12, 2012, in Fort Bragg, CA.

Kelly Livingston, Vice-President
RCDSB Board of Directors

DL-R