



EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER

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**Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
June 12, 2012
Approved as Recorded on July 10, 2012**

Present:

Terry Munoz, President
Olga Sarabia
Marvin Brown

Absent:

Joe Utar (excused)
Jiang Guo (excused)
Elton Lui (excused)
Miguel Lugo (excused)
Theresa Chen (excused)
Deborah Gallardo (excused)
Felicitas Navera (excused)
Robert Hazard (excused)
Tammy Bachrach (excused)
Pat Gomez (excused)

Staff Present:

Gloria Wong, Executive Director
Felipe Hernandez, Chief of Consumer Svs.
Frances Jacobs, Manager
Community Services
Rosalie Estrada, Executive Assistant

Guests:

Refer to Sign-In Sheet

Terry Munoz, President, called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M.

I Welcome and Roll Call

Terry Munoz, President, welcomed all present. Roll call was taken, a quorum was not established in order to conduct business. Meeting was held for informational purposes only

**II Introductions &
III Opening Round**

Terry Munoz asked the Board of Directors to introduce themselves and share a positive experience.

Olga Sarabia announced Herman Fogata, former Executive Director (Gloria's predecessor) of the ELARC, has been nominated by the National Association of Social Workers for a lifetime award. He will be honored at the October meeting in Irvine.

Olga also reported Dr. Connie Lopez, a good friend and a professor at Cal Poly, will also be honored. Gloria shared Mr. Fogata was her predecessor and was the Executive Director of ELARC for approximately twenty years before retiring in 1993. Olga also shared she has been appointed to the Commission for Older Adults in Los Angeles County.

IV Community Input

Dr. Jonathan Chien, parent, reported SEEK has done a lot of work in Asia with applied behavior analysis, and they have been nominated for Honorable Achievement.

Chala Jitpatima, parent, reported she received a full sponsorship from the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Labor to attend a three day national conference at the University of Massachusetts. She indicated the conference was amazing, there was so much information provided and was very positive. She reported the federal government is seriously looking at issues regarding employment for individuals with disabilities and also improving the screening of individuals with disabilities applying for social security. Chala stated she would like to share the information she gathered at the conference with our families.

V Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

A. ELRC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2012

Deferred. Item to be placed on the July Board Meeting Agenda for approval.

VI Executive Director's Report

Gloria Wong added an item to the agenda which requires Board approval but will be deferred in light of the lack of a quorum.

Frances Jacobs, Manager of Community Services, distributed to the Board the Contracts for Review and Approval-Community Placement Plan (CPP) Funds, Fiscal Year 2011-12.

Gloria stated at the April Board Meeting there was information shared with the board regarding the two grants which would be awarded for the development of residential facilities as related to the Lanterman Developmental Center closure. The policy approved by the Board approximately 2 years ago stipulates that ELARC contracts exceeding \$250,000 must be presented to the Board for review and approval. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was posted in April and on Monday, June 11, 2012

(yesterday) ELARC convened a selection committee to score application packages from eight qualified applicants who responded to the RFP released on April 9, 2012. The contracts are for the current fiscal year, 2011-2012, and therefore the money must be committed no later than June 30, 2012.

The vendor has been notified of the selection, but the parties who were not selected have not yet been notified.

Gloria indicated she would like to schedule a special session of the Board next week via teleconference for discussion and approval.

Frances Jacobs provided some background information. Following the release of the RFP on 4/9/12 there was an orientation for interested parties to come in and hear detailed information and ask questions they may have. The first step in the RFP process was the submittal of a letter of intent, ELARC received eleven notices of intent and eight were qualified (attended the orientation, submitted notice of intent and then submitted their application package). A selection committee convened to score the applications. The selection committee was composed of three regional center staff, one ELARC/CPP contractor and two community representatives. The proposal is for two projects requiring the development of two specialized adult residential facilities as part of the Lanterman Regional Center Closure Plan and ELARC Community Placement Plan (CPP) for fiscal year 2011-2012.

The highest ranking applicant will be awarded the contract for the development of the two residential homes, contingent upon Board approval. The last paragraph of the contract states "Any regional center contract of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) or more requires ELARC Board of Director's review and approval before entering into the contract". Contract for Project 1 and 2 is for \$300,000 each. The money has been conditionally approved by the Department of Developmental Services through the ELARC Community Placement Plan (CPP).

The scheduling of teleconference with the Board will be attempted on Monday, June 18th at 10:00 A.M. or Tuesday, June 19th in AM or PM. Board members not present this evening will be contacted. A copy of the packet will be forwarded to all board members.

A. Budget Status 2011-12

1. Allocations: C-4 & C-5

Gloria Wong reported two amendments to the current year contract were received and have been signed by Terry Munoz. The C-6 is expected this week.

2. POS Monthly SOAR Report

A copy of the SOAR Report was distributed and reviewed. The SOAR reflects the C-6 allocation. At the board meeting held in May, a deficit ranging from \$17 to \$18 million was reported. Based on the C-6, the current deficit has decreased to a low of \$6,072,246 to a high of \$6,355,377. Gloria reported the expenditure trends over the last quarter have decreased.

3. Cash Flow Update

As reported previously, since January 2012, ELARC has been dealing with a shortage of allocation to claims submitted to DDS. DDS is assessing all regional centers to determine the largest deficits and are allocating accordingly.

Gloria reported ELARC has sufficient money for payments through June (payments in May services). It is hoped that the C-7 will be allocated in the early part of July 2012 in order to meet June payment obligations in the July payment run.

To date ELARC has not drawn from the line of credit approved by the Board.

4. Budget Performance Report

A copy of the Budget Performance Report was distributed and reviewed. There is a current surplus of \$145,787. In the operations portion of the budget it has been a very difficult year with the 4 ¼% reduction and the Prevention reduction of nearly \$400,000 in operations. There may be a 3% restoration to operations in the new fiscal year. The current surplus takes into account the surplus for the clinical team of approximately \$58,530 which must remain in this category and cannot be moved to another area. Therefore, the actual available general surplus is \$87,257.

B. Fiscal Year 2012-13 Update

Gloria reported it is anticipated the Governor will sign the new budget on time. Revenues have not materialized as projected in the January Preliminary budget released by the Governor. The release of the May Revise projects a statewide deficit of \$16 billion. There were no major adjustments to the proposed regional center budgets. The only exceptions thus far is the added trigger language which would result in a \$50 million reduction in January 2013 if revenues fall below projections, Additionally the suggestion to restore the 4 ¼% reduction to vendors and regional center operations was modified by the legislature to a 3% restoration and retaining a 1 ¼% reduction for fiscal year 2012-13.

1. ARCA Position Statement re: Proposed May Revision for Fiscal Year 2012-13

ARCA's Position Statement re: Governor's Proposed May Revision is there should be no further reductions. Gloria indicated it has been a difficult task to deal with all the changes in the system resulting from Trailer Bill Language. The workload impact has been significant for staff as they continue to work a reduced work schedule due to substantial reductions in the operations budget.

2. POS Disparity: Trailer Bill Language

A copy of the POS Disparity, Trailer Bill Language was shared with the Board. The Los Angeles Times ran an article on autism services and that there was a disparity in the funding of services dependent ethnicity. As such the Legislature did conduct hearings and from that an arrangement was reached between the legislature and ARCA. Regional Center will need to gather data and post it publicly no later than December 31 of each year with the exception of 2013. In 2013 the information shall be posted no later than March 31, 2013. Within three months of the data becoming available and annually thereafter, each regional center shall meet with stakeholders regarding the data compiled and report to the Legislature.

3. Grass Roots Day/Week Update

Gloria reported the Grass Roots activities were successful. Meetings were held with at the local offices of legislators with a delegation of families and consumers.

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C. Senate Bill (SB) 946: Health Care Coverage

Senate Bill 946 takes effect on July 1, 2012 which will affect consumers with PDD or Autism and are receiving behavioral services. The bill requires health insurance policies to provide coverage for behavioral health treatment for individuals with pervasive developmental disorder (PDD) or autism. Families will be required to disclose their insurance information. If families do not have insurance coverage, regional center will pay as payer of last resort. There are still issues such as co-pay and deductibles which have not been worked out. Regional Centers have been working closely for the last quarter with the California Association of Health Plans to develop a smooth transition.

To date, regional centers are still trying to identify all the various health plans our families are enrolled in. The insurance companies are willing to work with existing regional center vendors even if they are not currently included in the insurance list of providers. On the issue of co-pay, can the regional centers pay the co-pay or the deductibles, regional centers are still trying to get clarification from the legislature on

these issues and separately to secure a legal opinion on the authority for regional centers to pay.

SB 946 estimated savings is \$80 million for the Purchase of Service (POS) budget. This savings did not account for regional center paying co-pays and deductibles for consumers.

The California Association of Health Plans has indicated that most of the providers are willing to waive the co-pay for a limited period of time until the details are worked out by each regional center.

A mailing will be done to all ELARC families with children with PDD/autism asking them for insurance information.

Board will be updated at the July meeting.

D. Performance Contract Community Meetings: August 1, 2012

A performance contract meeting has been scheduled for 8/1/12. The purpose of the meeting is twofold: review and update the community on the current year plan (2012) and to see community input for the 2013 draft performance contract. A session will be held in Alhambra in the Board Room from 10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. and the Whittier Conference Room. A session is also scheduled at 6:30 P.M. at Palm Park in Whittier.

E. "Way Forward" Survey Update

A meeting with 17 regional center directors and board presidents was scheduled on Monday, June 11, but was cancelled. A survey has been developed and was emailed to family members and vendors. The cut off date to respond to the survey is June 12th.

Gloria reported she received feedback from one of the Family Advisory Committee participants indicating that it was complicated and difficult to follow, the overall impression was that it was not user friendly.

Awaiting the outcome of the survey and hope to have additional information at the July meeting.

F. ARCA "New Day" Conference

The "New Day" Conference is scheduled for September 18th & 19th in Pasadena. The conference will provide a forum for sharing knowledge and expertise on the promising practices and innovations that make employment and housing a reality for individuals

with developmental disabilities. If interested Board members should contact Rosalie Estrada.

VII Consumer Services Report

Felipe Hernandez, Chief of Consumer Services, reported the following:

- (1) “New Day” Conference” – ELARC continues to work with the Department of Rehabilitation to better understand their process in terms of enrollment of individuals who are referred to them for employment, criteria used and services are funded. Meetings are held quarterly and at the last meeting it was decided to have cross-training between ELARC and their staff to better understand how each operates.
- (2) Risk Mitigation: ELARC continues to receive technical assistance from a contractor with the State, Accumen, as ELARC has had a high number of involuntary psychiatric admissions. ELARC has had a large number of people with mental illness diagnosed with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder. It is unknown why there is such a cluster in the ELARC area. A number of these persons are in residential homes and are being admitted into psychiatric hospitals involuntarily. The technical support from Accumen is more statistical and compare with the other 20 regional centers. Information regarding trends and patterns is share with the regional centers. Currently ELARC is focusing on residential homes and the training of staff, reviewing their program designs and behavior programs.
- (3) SELPA: A meeting was held with SELPA Directors and other Chief Counselors. It was agreed to provide cross-training with Los Angeles County SELPA directors on two issues: 1) the sunset of AB 3632, the mental health bill which was helping children get mental health services in the public schools; (2) sharing information to the school districts regarding Trailer Bill Language which requires regional centers to push more heavily on the school district to provide transition services for those persons ages 18 years of age to 21 years and are exiting the school with or without a certificate. Under TBL these individuals must be encouraged to seek services such as independent living services or work services which they could receive through transition services through the school.
- (4) Felipe reported he will be doing a presentation at the West San Gabriel SELPA next week and will focus on TBL and how the regional center and SELPA can work closely together.

(5) Felipe acknowledged Cristina Beylia, a consumer who passed away last month. She frequently attended the board meetings. She had several health issues. She was very involved with the Special Olympics.

VIII Committee Reports

A. Vendor Advisory Committee

Tammy Bachrach, VAC Chairperson, was unable to attend the meeting this evening, therefore no report was provided.

B. Consumer Advisory Committee

Miguel Lugo, CAC Chairperson, was unable to attend the meeting this evening, therefore no report was provided.

C. Family Advisory Committee

Felicitas Navera, ELARC Board Representative to the FAC was unable to attend the meeting this evening. A copy of the FAC Meeting Notes of May 2, 2012 were distributed in the board meeting packets.

D. Finance Committee

A Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13th to review the agency pension plan.

IX Misc. Announcements

None.

X Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Felicitas Navera, Secretary
ELARC Board of Directors

Recorded by: Rosalie M. Estrada, Executive Assistant

**Special Teleconference Board Session
Minutes of June 19, 2012
10:30 A.M.**

Approved as Recorded July 10, 2012

Present:

Joe Utar
Felicitas Navera
Tammy Bachrach
Terry Munoz
Marvin Brown
Jiang Guo
Theresa Chen

Staff Present:

Gloria Wong
Frances Jacobs

Absent:

Elton Lui
Olga Sarabia
Pat Gomez
Robert Hazard
Deborah Gallardo
Miguel Lugo

A quorum was established to consider the approval of two contracts exceeding the \$250,000 threshold. This matter was deferred at the June 12, 2012 Board Meeting as a quorum was not established. It was agreed at said meeting that a special board session be held to consider the approval of the contracts.

The contracts for review and approval by the Board are in reference to the development of two specialized home for individuals currently residing at Lanterman Developmental Center. The funds being used for these projects are part of the 2011-12 Community Placement Plan (CPP) and must be committed prior to June 30, 2012.

The details of the projects are included as an attachment to these notes and it includes an overview of the process and the actual two contracts requiring approval.

M/S/C To approve Contract #RD142-2011/2012 and #RD143-2011/2012 (attached) for the development of two specialized residential homes. Unanimous.

There being no further business the call ended at 10:55 A.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Felicitas Navera, Secretary/ELARC Board of Directors

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ELARC Board of Directors