



**EASTERN LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER**

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**ELARC Board of Directors Meeting  
April 12, 2016  
Approved May 10, 2016 (as edited)**

**Present:**

Robert Hazard  
Lida Chavez  
Tony Borrego  
Diane Lasell  
Anthony De La Rosa  
Terry Munoz  
Joe Utar  
Elias Fonseca  
Felicitas Navera  
Yue Li, VAC Representative  
Virgilio Orlina, CAC Representative

**Staff Present:**

Gloria Wong, Executive Director  
Felipe Hernandez, Chief of  
Consumer Services  
Rosalie Estrada,  
Executive Assistant

**Absent:**

Deborah Gallardo\*

**Guests:**

Refer to Sign-In Sheet

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**I. Welcome & Roll Call**

The ELARC Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M. by Anthony De La Rosa, Board President. A quorum was present to conduct necessary business.

**II. Introduction/Opening Round**

Introductions of the board members and of the audience were conducted.

**III. Community Input**

Chala Jitpatima, parent, reported students attending the LIFT program along with their parents will be meeting with program director. Felipe Hernandez will be attending the meeting as well. Chala thanked the Regional Center and the Board of Directors for all their support.

Ms. Jitpatima asked if camp was going to be funded this year. Mr. Hernandez stated the policy remains unchanged since the law has not changed.

Julie Eby-McKenzie, State Council reported the State Council is collaborating with North Los Regional Center facilitator training for Self-Determination on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Cal State Northridge. Julie indicated additional information is available by calling her office.

**IV. Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**A. Minutes of March 8, 2016**

***M/S/C (Terry Munoz/Diane Lasell) To approve the Minutes of March 8, 2016 as recorded. Unanimous..***

**B. Minutes of Executive Session of March 8, 2016**

***M/S/C (Bob Hazard/Felicitas Navera) To approve the Minutes of Executive Session of March 8, 2016. Unanimous.***

**V. Executive Director's Report**

**A. Budget Update**

**1. 2015-'16 Fiscal Year**

**(a) POS Update**

Gloria Wong reported a deficit ranging from \$113,409 to \$217,406 in Purchase of Services.

Ms. Wong indicated there are changes being made at the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). The cash flow distribution has improved significantly. Nancy Bargmann, the new director of DDS began in her new position in April 2016. She comes to DDS with a tremendous amount of experience, working at three regional centers before going to DDS to serve as deputy director. Ms. Bargmann's appointment comes at a crucial time as budget hearings for our system are currently being conducted.

**(b) Statewide POS Status**

DDS is projecting a low surplus of \$6,495,859 statewide and a projected deficit of \$29,089,156.

**(c) Cash Flow Update**

There is no cash flow problem projected.

**(d) Operations: Budget Performance Report**

There is a surplus of \$953,502, the budget accounts for the 12 service coordinators hired in February 2016.

## 2. 2016-'17 Fiscal Year

### (a) Budget Summary

Gloria Wong provided highlights of the FY 2016-17 Budget Summary. Details may be found in the DDS correspondence dated March 25, 2016.

Ms. Wong stated there were two approaches being taken on the Regional Center budget. As to the first approach actions have already been taken as connected to the Special Session. Approved actions includes a 7.5% increase exclusively for salaries and benefits for service providers and regional center staff; a 2.5% increase for regional center administrative costs; 2.5% for provider administrative costs; 5% increase for supported living and independent living; 5% increase for in and out of home respite; 5% increase for transportation; 11% restoration to supported employment rates.

Additionally, the legislature has allocated \$11 million in funding regional centers for the implementation of approved plans that address purchase of service disparities. Total DDS (general fund) allocation is \$287 million.

There was also 5% increase for ICF/DDs and an 11% increase for the Department of Rehabilitation towards supported employment for a total of \$15.5 million.

The second phase of the budget process is the 2016-17 Governor's Budget. Budget hearings are currently in process. Gloria reviewed the POS proposals and the OPS proposals.

### (b) DDS Correspondence: Special Session Bill Language ABX2-1

Correspondence from DDS, dated March 25, 2016 re: 2016 Special Session Bill Language Affecting Regional Centers was discussed. The correspondence highlights the results of the special session and its impact on regional centers. Some of the provisions will be effective July 1, 2016 and others will go into effect on August 1, 2016.

## **B. Grassroots Day Update**

Ms. Wong reported on the Grassroots Day held in Sacramento on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Six board members participated in the Grassroots Day activities. Photos from the Grassroots Day were posted in the boardroom and copies given to participants.

The focus at the rally was an expression of gratitude to legislators who supported ABX2-1. Five key legislators addressed rally participants with an inspirational appeal on the importance of continuing to lobby as a united coalition until full restoration to the system is achieved.

Ms. Wong thanked all those who participated in the event. She also reported local visits are currently being scheduled by Roxy Ortiz, Community Services Specialist, with an extended delegation for these visits..

Anthony De La Rosa, Board President, noted that Daniel Savino with ARCA did a great job in organizing Grassroots Day events.

Anthony also indicated that Assemblyman Calderon was very receptive and well informed on regional centers and their mission.

Informational material from Grassroots Day was shared with the Board. Additionally the updated publication of “On the Brink of Collapse 2.0” was also made available to the legislators.

**C. 2016 Caseload Ratio Survey Results**

Reference was made to Attachment 11, Caseload Ratio Survey Results.

***March 2016 Results***

	<b>Medicaid Waiver</b>	<b>Age 36 Mo. and Under</b>	<b>Moved from DC since 4/14/93</b>	<b>Moved from DC Within Last 12 months</b>	<b>All Others</b>
<b>Actual Ratio</b>	<b>67.1</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Required Ratio</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>66</b>

***March 15, 2015 Results***

	<b>Medicaid Waiver</b>	<b>Age 36 Mo. and Under</b>	<b>Moved from DC since 4/14/93</b>	<b>Moved from DC Within Last 12 months</b>	<b>All Others</b>
<b>Actual Ratio</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Required Ratio</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>66</b>

The above provides a comparison from last year to current Fiscal Year.

As of March 1, 2016 ELARC did not meet the required average caseload ratio in three categories: “Medicaid Waiver”, “Ages 36 months” and “All Others”. There are a total five categories requiring varying caseload ratios. ELARC met two of the five categories as mandated by Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 4640.6 (c).

ELARC hired twelve service coordinators (SCs) by the end of February which will serve to continue caseload reduction.

The law requires regional centers, not meeting the caseload ratio requirements, to conduct a public hearing and present a plan of correction before submitting it to DDS. The Public Meeting will take place at the Board Meeting scheduled for May 10, 2016.

Meeting notices will be posted and distributed.

#### **D. 2014-'15 POS Annual Expenditure Report**

##### **1. Community Meetings Update**

Public Meetings to discuss the 2014-'15 Purchase of Services Annual Expenditure Report have been completed. The first meeting was held on March 12<sup>th</sup> with the Chinese Parent Association; the second meeting was held on March 14<sup>th</sup> with Fiesta Educativa at the East Los Angeles Library. There were also two additional sessions, one in Alhambra on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and the other in Whittier on the same date at 6:00 pm.

ELARC is currently coordinating debriefing meetings with Chinese Parent Association and Fiesta Educativa representatives to develop collaborative activities which can continue to address disparity issues with both ethnic groups.

#### **E. Self-Determination**

DDS continues working on the resubmittal of the application to the federal government. The original intent was to submit the application by the end of March but the deadline was not met.

The State Council is conducted a joint meeting for the Chairs of the local advisory committees. Virgilio will report on the meeting held at Westside Regional Center at March 3, 2016.

The local Self-Determination Advisory Committee met on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The meeting opened with a presentation on "Budget: Part 2". There was some confusion expressed regarding the fiscal management agencies role and this will be addressed at the June meeting. Fiscal Management providers will be invited to the session.

### **VI. Committee Reports**

#### **A. Consumer Advisory Committee (Virgilio Orlina)**

Virgilio Orlina reported on his experience at the Grassroots Day event in Sacramento on March 30 2016. He reported he met with Annabel Snyder, Legislative Director for Assembly Member Jimmy Gomez, Virgilio's group included Carmen Vasquez, ELARC Early Start Manager, Felicitas Navera, board member and Armando Villegas, vendor. He also met with Jennifer Toria, Consultant for Senator Keven De Leon. The delegation extended their thanks to the representatives for funding the needed resources and assistance to consumers like him who rely on the services and supports of the regional center. He indicated it was an amazing experience to visit the California Capitol for the first time and it was his first time flying.

He reported he had a superb dinner on the eve of the Grassroots Day.

Virgilio offered congratulations to Gloria Wong, Rosalie Estrada, and Roxy Ortiz and to Hernandez for the shuttles, the flight arrangements and the Hotel and for also paying for his PA to support him at this event.

Virgilio Orlina reported on the last Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting (CAC). The meeting was held on March 15, 2016. It was well attended and included consumers and support groups. There was an increase in new attendees at the Whittier location.

The main topic was on "Grief and Loss". The presenter was Margarita Duran, Supervisor for the ELARC Health Care Facility Medically Fragile Unit. Ms. Duran provided a power point presentation and gave a comforting and encouraging discussion on understanding grief and loss. She explained the different kinds of losses (positive and negative changes) and stages of grieving. Some of the consumers shared their emotional experiences on the loss of a loved one. Ms. Duran in response gave inspirational tips and advice on how to deal and cope with loss.

Jesse Padilla, ELARC Consumer Advocate, provided an update on the Access Services meeting he attended. Access Services will continue to resolve the issues of no shows and Access signs in several locations.

The last CAC debriefing and planning meeting held with Jesse Padilla and Virgilio was held on April 4, 2016. Discussed plan to continue to outreach and ways to help consumers learn more about self-advocacy. Will be passing out flyers for the remainder of local CAC meetings for 2016 to encourage more consumers to get involved. The schedule is also posted on ELARC's website.

The next CAC meeting will be on May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. The topic is Employment and Education.

Virgilio reported on the First Statewide Local Advisory Committee held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Westside Regional Center. In attendance were all the chairs from the statewide regional center Self-Determination Local Advisory Committees. Parents, consumers and support groups were in attendance. Additionally, present were five members from the pilot projects.

## **B. Vendor Advisory Committee (Yue Li)**

Yue Li, VAC Representative reported there was discussion regarding upcoming trainings to plan for the CMS changes to take place in March 2019. Upcoming sessions will include person centered approach and self-determination. The VAC is looking to schedule the trainings in May or June of this year.

The networking group has elected a new chair for the Networking Task Force.

The Resource Fair originally scheduled for April 28<sup>th</sup> will be postponed until next year.

The Nomination Committee will meet in November to present new nominations for the upcoming year.

The next VAC is on April 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

### **C. Finance/Personnel Committee (Bob Hazard/Terry Munoz)**

Bob Hazard reported the Finance/Personnel Committee is scheduled to meet with representatives from the Principal Financial Group for the annual review of the pension plan portfolio. The meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2016.

### **VII. Consumer Services Report (Felipe Hernandez)**

Felipe Hernandez, Chief of Consumer Services reported consumer services staff had a presentation from OCRA on April 11, 2016. The presentation was on IHSS and how to apply for services as well as motor voter training.

An SLS forum was held on April 11<sup>th</sup> and was a very productive meeting. There was discussion regarding quality assurance, use of overtime, and clustering patterns in the Whittier area.

### **VIII. Miscellaneous Announcements**

✓ Gloria Wong reported on the meeting held with the Board Task Force regarding the request from the housing corporation “Brilliant Corners”, non-profit housing corporation, to change the current payment methodology from “reimbursement” to “milestones”.

The Board Task Force Members met with regional center staff (Gloria Wong, Executive Director, Frances Jacobs, Manager, Community Services and Don Daniels, Community Placement Plan (CPP) Housing Consultant) on April 4, 2016. The group reviewed the contracts and projects in question. Mr. Pickel, Brilliant Corners (BC) Director, was asked to respond to a set of questions developed by the Board Task Force, responses were reviewed. Discussion regarding the two payment options ensued taking into consideration feedback from other regional centers using BC services. After an in-depth discussion and in consideration of current contract terms which allows for either payment option to be used the Task Force authorized the change in payment methodology from “reimbursement” to “milestones” as requested by BC.

✓ Anthony De La Rosa announced April is “Autism Awareness Month”. The “Walk for Autism” was held and both he and Pat Gomez were able to attend. He noted there were a couple of regional centers, ELARC was not represented, with their own booths and they were very busy with individuals requesting information.

### **IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss the general board meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

**M/S/C (Lida Chavez/Felicitas Navera) To adjourn the general board meeting.  
Unanimous.**

**X Executive Session**

The Executive Session was called to order at 7:05 to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further business to discuss the Executive Session was adjourned at 7:55pm.

**M/S/C (Tony Borrego/Terry Munoz) To adjourn the Executive Session.  
Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Original Signed:

*Felicitas Navera*

Felicitas Navera, Secretary

ELARC Board of Directors

Recorded by: Rosalie Estrada, Executive Assistant