

## Board of Directors' Meeting

April 27, 2009

Presiding: Ralph Griffin

### Board Members

Present:	Patricia Albeño	Nyron Battles
	Ronald Clay	Shana Cohen
	Kathy Hebert	Mike Kuller
	Chi Lee	Donald Morris
	Carmen Quinones	Will Sanford
	Claudia Sladen	

### Board Members

Excused: Hilda Mariscal

### Board Members

Absent: Lauri Parks Anne Struthers

### Staff Present:

Bill Barbaria	Carol Bohnsack
Jim Burton	Susan Driggs
Terri Jones	Rhonda Kimble-Kelly
Lisa Kleinbub	Nancy Kubota
Marc Sugars	Pam Thomas

### Guests Present:

Gina Jennings	Cleo Manspeaker
Sandi Soliday	

### CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled business meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay was called to order at 7:0 pm by President, Ralph Griffin. Self-introductions were made.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Cleo Manspeaker announced that the annual CAHR fashion show would be held this Friday and she would again be participating in the event. Ms. Manspeaker also noted that she has been a client of the Regional Center of the East Bay for almost 27 years and she is proud to work as an advocate for other consumers.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Ralph Griffin

Mr. Griffin informed members that the regularly scheduled May meeting of the Board would conflict with the Memorial Day holiday. The Executive Committee recommends holding the next meeting of the Board of Directors on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

M/S/C            "The Board moves to reschedule the May meeting to Monday, May 18, 2009." (Kuller/Sanford) Unanimous.

### BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: Mike Kuller

Mr. Kuller distributed and reviewed the Financial Status Report for March 2009. RCEB is now projecting an insufficiency in the Purchase of Service (POS) budget between \$4.5 and \$6.8 million. This insufficiency remains consistent with the projections of the Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR) submitted to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) last fall. Mr. Kuller reported that we anticipate a balanced Operations (OPS) budget at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Kuller noted that the 2009-2010 state budget has already been approved so it may not be necessary to secure a line of credit from our bank this year. The line of credit is typically used at the beginning of the fiscal year when passage of the state budget has been delayed. Staff will continue to carefully monitor the state's and RCEB's cash flow status and keep Board members informed as the year progresses.

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Ralph Griffin

Mr. Griffin distributed and reviewed the Board Composition Summary Report for April 2009. Members were asked to be mindful of the need to increase representation from Alameda County as we continue our recruitment efforts. Mr. Griffin requested that members review the report carefully and contact him with any questions or recruitment suggestions.

Mr. Griffin reminded the group that Dr. Whitgob has reported a potential conflict of interest on his application and we have sought a waiver of the conflict prior to his re-election to the Board. We have received the waiver approval from Area Board 5 and are now waiting to hear from the State Council on Developmental

Disabilities and DDS. As soon as the waiver approvals have been received we will proceed with the election.

**SUPPORTS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE: Claudia Sladen**

Mrs. Sladen reported that her group has prepared a list of qualities considered important for successful adult day program services. The list is being reviewed and when the list has been finalized, committee members will begin visits to day programs.

**PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Will Sanford**

Mr. Sanford said the last meeting for his group had included a presentation on emergency preparedness that had been arranged by the DDS Consumer Advisory Committee. This group provided an abbreviated presentation to PVAC members and are willing to meet with individual programs to review their information. Mr. Sanford reported that the DDS presentation had been followed by an extensive budget discussion.

Mr. Sanford reminded the group that the East Bay Legislative Coalition had hosted its annual legislative breakfast last Friday. This year's event was well attended and provided another important opportunity to share information with local legislators and their staff.

**CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Ronald Clay**

Mr. Clay reported that much of his group's meeting was devoted to discussion of the state budget situation and its impact on consumers and families. Mr. Clay reported that the CAC has completed their selection of participants for the People First Conference. The conference will be held in June in Sacramento and participants were chosen by lottery.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton**

Mr. Burton reported that the state budget continues to be in deficit with the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) projecting another \$8 billion deficit. This will be increased by \$6 billion if the propositions on the May 19<sup>th</sup> ballot aren't approved. It is clear that economic activity is not at a good level. Members were cautioned that it will be important to watch what the Governor presents in the May/June revision to balance the budget. Details will be posted on our website as information becomes available.

Mr. Burton reported that on April 3, 2009, DDS released the budget proposals put together by DDS and a stakeholder group to provide a for \$100 million state general fund reduction. This reduction was originally a \$334 million proposal by the Administration and was reduced to \$100 million by the legislature. If the

\$100 million reduction is not met, an additional 7.1% rate reduction for service providers will take place in September. Mr. Burton acknowledged that the stakeholder group, under the direction of Terri Delgadillo, worked very hard to come up with proposals that minimize the impact on people with developmental disabilities but no easy cuts remain. Mr. Burton thanked Will Sanford for his participation on the stakeholder group and asked Mr. Sanford to review the fifteen proposals with the Board. Mr. Sanford reviewed each of the proposals and explained that the group had tried to ensure that the IPP continues to direct the provision of necessary services. The Assembly held a hearing to review the budget proposals on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Senate has scheduled their hearing for May 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Burton reminded everyone it is important to carefully watch the trailer bill language that accompanies these proposals for the details of implementation. Mr. Burton noted that our community wants to see cuts as far from consumers as possible. We have also recommended securing additional federal funds and having the state developmental centers (SDC) share in the reductions. It will be important that we press to bring in more federal funds and advocate to keep those funds in our system. Mr. Burton reported that DDS has indicated that SDCs have been cut but noted it would be helpful if we were able to know how they shared in the cuts. Mr. Burton told members that we must thank DDS for the tremendous effort they have put into this process and the result of their efforts is much better than the proposed 7.1% rate reduction. We must recognize these proposals are difficult cuts and they come on top of years of other difficult cuts but we must have an alternative to the 7.1% reduction.

Mr. Burton reported that the current year budget has all regional centers still showing a deficit. DDS is working to find alternatives to going to the legislature with a deficiency announcement. Additional federal funds generated by regional centers are helping resolve these deficits. Our regional center has worked very hard to bring in additional federal funds and our efforts will continue.

Mr. Burton shared that a recognition event for Agnews staff and families was held on Friday. This was a very remarkable and positive event with families expressing their pleasure and relief with their family members' community placements and services.

Mr. Burton announced he was pleased to report that the Capitol People First settlement agreement was approved by the court on Friday.

Mr. Burton told the group that Sister Marygrace has had hip replacement surgery and is doing very well.

Mr. Burton informed everyone that Roz Wofsy had passed away last Thursday at the age of 89. Gina Jennings read Diana Jorgenson's note on the death of the first director of the Contra Costa Developmental Disabilities Council. Mr. Griffin asked the group to observe a moment of silence to recognize the magnificent work Roz did for all of us in this community.

Mr. Burton said the attendance at the rally prior to the Assembly budget hearing from this community was again outstanding. The afternoon saw a steady flow of good, solid testimony. Mr. Burton also said there was a great turnout at the legislative breakfast. The remarkable sense of community at these events demonstrates the strength of this community and it is that strength that will help us succeed in these difficult times.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Gina Jeninings thanked RCEB for their participation in the West Contra Costa County Transition Fair. This was another great event and very successful collaboration.

### ARCA REPORT: Ralph Griffin

Mr. Griffin reported that ARCA members participated in a conference call to review the new budget proposals. Regional centers throughout the state are focusing on this budget crisis. Mr. Burton assured the Board that, under Jim's leadership, RCEB will face this crisis with decency, honor and credibility.

The next ARCA meeting will be held in June in Sacramento. Mr. Griffin reminded everyone that many legislators are chairing committees without the necessary expertise to understand critical issues coming before their committees so the ARCA staff is working diligently to provide information to allow them to understand the human impact of this budget crisis.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nyron Battles  
Secretary  
RCEB Board of Directors