

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 22, 2010

Presiding: Anne Struthers

Board Members

Present:	Patricia Albeño	Nyron Battles
	Shana Cohen	Kathy Hebert
	Mike Kuller	Hilda Mariscal
	Donald Morris	Sister Marygrace
	Carmen Quinones	Steve Whitgob

Board Members

Excused:	Ronald Clay	Ralph Griffin
	Chi Lee	Claudia Sladen

Staff Present:

Bill Barbaria	Carol Bohnsack
Jim Burton	Francine Davis
Susan Driggs	Terri Jones
Rhonda Kimble-Kelly	Lisa Kleinbub
Nancy Kubota	Ella Liggins
Pam Thomas	

Guests Present:

Lynnette Bard	Gina Jennings
Darin Lounds	Cleo Manspeaker
Sandi Soliday	Rocio Smith

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President, Anne Struthers, called to order the regularly scheduled business meeting of the Regional Center of the East Bay at 7:00 PM. Self-introductions were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S/C "The Board moves to approve the agenda for the March 22, 2010 meeting as presented. (Kuller/Battles) Unanimous.

M/SC "The Board moves to approve minutes of the February 22, 2010 meeting as presented." (Puchac/Hebert) Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cleo Manspeaker shared that she has reached an age that is requiring increased medical monitoring and she is concerned that providers may take advantage of people with disabilities who may not fully understanding the need for tests and medications. Mr. Burton acknowledged that he has reached a similar point in life and it is important to take the necessary steps to maintain good health as we age. Mr. Burton suggested Ms. Manspeaker talk to Lisa Kleinbub, RCEB Director of Health and Behavioral Services, who will work with her to help her understand and deal with the medical challenges she is facing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Anne Struthers

Ms. Struthers asked Pam Thomas, RCEB Director of Consumer Services to present the Summary Performance Report for RCEB for the spring of 2010. Ms. Thomas reviewed the report with Board members and highlighted our statistical performance ratings and comparisons to other regional centers.

M/S/C "The Board moves to accept the annual report on RCEB's Strategic Plan Performance Objectives as presented." (Kuller/Whitgob) Unanimous.

Mr. Burton reported that review of the by-laws was a part of the Board's annual work plan. Members of the Executive Committee had reviewed the by-laws of the corporation and suggested they continue without changes. Ms. Struthers asked members for questions or recommendations for necessary changes and none being presented, it was agreed to leave the by-laws as currently written.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: Mike Kuller

Mr. Kuller distributed and reviewed the Financial Status Report for February 2010. Mr. Kuller reported that the A-2 and A-3 proposed budget amendments were received at the end of February. RCEB received a proposed base deficiency allocation of approximately \$8.1 million. Mr. Kuller reminded members that in October RCEB's Sufficiency of Allocation Report (SOAR) confirmed a base deficiency of \$14.5 million and an additional \$12.9 million deficit in CPP continuation funding. The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) has advised regional centers there was not, at this point, adequate funding to cover

all regional center base deficiencies and statewide allocations were based on a pro-rated formula. RCEB anticipates receiving the CPP continuation funding of approximately \$12.9 million. With our A-3 allocation our overall POS expenditures range from an insufficiency of \$9.5 to \$11.6 million. Mr. Kuller noted that we continue to see our POS expenditures declining more than anticipated from the trailer bill language. Staff will continue to carefully monitor the POS budget. Mr. Kuller reported that RCEB currently projects a balanced Operations budget at year end. RCEB's A-2 amendment included approximately \$1 million for the Prevention Program and it is expected that this amount will be sufficient to administer the supports for this program.

Mr. Kuller informed the Board that RCEB is maintaining a stable cash flow at this time. Staff will keep the Board updated of any delay in receipt of state warrants that could require activation of the approved line of credit.

M/S/C "The Board moves to accept the Budget and Finance Committee Report as presented." (Battles/Whitgob) Unanimous.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Anne Struthers

No report

SUPPORTS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE: Anne Struthers

No report

PROVIDER/VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Sister Marygrace

Sister Marygrace reported that her group spent time looking at topics for future discussion that would be of value to all members and retirement plans and labor laws will be included on future agendas. The group also discussed quality assurance reviews and the format changes to this process that have resulted from recent budget reductions. Sister Marygrace shared that Barbara Maizie made a plea to everyone present at the PVAC meeting to take action to save The Respite Inn. Sister Marygrace also noted that this unique respite service has served families for 20 years and without action we may lose this critical resource for our community.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Nyron Battles

Mr. Battles reported that Mr. Burton provided an update on California's budget status. Members continue to be concerned about the impact of more cuts on the lives of persons with developmental disabilities. CAC members also received contact information for local legislators and will be writing letters to explain how budget cuts have impacted their lives. Mr. Battles also reported his group

watched an instructional video and received information packets outlining steps to ensure safety and survival in the event of a disaster.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jim Burton

Mr. Burton reported the Alameda County office opened for business this morning in San Leandro. The construction and move were well-coordinated and the project came in on time and under budget. Members were reminded the new facility will be extremely cost effective but more importantly, we are now fully accessible to consumers and families. The San Leandro office is located on major bus routes and across the street from the BART station. The building also has a conference space that will seat over 300 people that will also be available for use by our community.

Mr. Burton reported that the state budget situation has not changed significantly. In special session the Legislature agreed to continue the 3% cut to service providers and regional centers for one more year and, as expected, the Governor has signed this into law. A total of about \$4 billion in cuts were approved by the Legislature but some of these were vetoed by the Governor. The actual amount of the deficit is unclear and it is being re-estimated regularly. Hearings are being scheduled but we don't expect much to happen before the May revision to the budget is released.

RCEB received over \$1 million for our prevention program. This allocation is not as large as we were initially promised but we are serving a smaller than expected number of babies. We believe this amount should be sufficient to fully implement the prevention program for infants and toddlers. Members were reminded that our community is extremely fortunate to have received over \$100,000 in additional support from First 5 Alameda County to allow us to enhance services in our prevention program.

Mr. Burton reported that RCEB also received a promise of \$8.1 million in additional POS funding for the current fiscal year. This allocation reduces our POS deficit but is not enough to balance the budget. We continue to see our rate of expenditures decline due to the impact of the trailer bill language implementation. It was noted that this is having a more significant impact in reducing our expenditures than we estimated. System wide, most other regional centers are experiencing the same shift. Mr. Burton shared that with three months remaining in the fiscal year, system wide we may have a balanced budget by fiscal year end. Members were cautioned that while the budget may balance at year end, the reduction in services has had a significant impact on families and consumers. The entitlement to services has been seriously at risk this last year and continues to be in jeopardy.

Mr. Burton reminded the group that many programs have been seriously impacted by the reductions imposed through implementation of the trailer bill

language with respite, social recreation, camps and infant programs being the most significantly affected programs. Mr. Burton noted that the Respite inn is a local program where the totality of service they provide is now restricted in law. This program has been struggling with declining enrollment. Mr. Burton reported that RCEB has been working with representatives from the Respite Inn to expand the population they serve and to expand the type of service provided to allow them to make more use of the facility and generate additional revenue. RCEB will continue to do those things we can under the law to preserve this service. They are also seeking legislative assistance but political solutions will be difficult given the law and the State's severe financial situation. Camps and social recreation programs have a more challenging problem since their services were not restricted but suspended. Local camps have been actively trying to raise funds to make up for the loss of state funding. Members were cautioned that we can expect many families to be upset at the loss of this valuable respite option.

Mr. Burton shared that he had recently toured SB 962 homes with Assemblyman Chesbro. These homes were established to address the needs of consumers with very significant physical and medical needs as they moved from Agnews Developmental Center into the community. Consumers continue to thrive in their new homes and the tour was very positive for all involved.

Mr. Burton reported that the Senate Select Committee on Autism has been very active throughout the state. The local group is chaired by Senator Mark DeSaulnier and co-chaired by Rocio Smith and Mr. Burton. Mr. Burton noted that some very impressive work has been done locally. Senator Steinberg will be chairing a hearing in April to review committee work and to begin looking at what legislative remedies may be necessary to better support persons with Autism.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cleo Manspeaker announced that CARH will hold their annual fashion show on May 1st in Castro Valley. Tickets are on sale in advance for \$30 each. Ms. Manspeaker also thanked Darin Lounds for helping so many people get apartments and for working so hard for consumers.

Sandi Soliday announced that the annual joint DD Council dinner will be on May 4th at Scott's in Oakland. The Alameda County Transition Faire will be March 27th and a great turnout is anticipated for the event.

Rocio Smith announced that Area Board 5 will be hosting a "Celebration of Self Advocacy" reception on June 2nd. The group was reminded to submit their nominations for the leadership awards as soon as possible.

ARCA REPORT: Anne Struthers

Ms. Struthers reported that ARCA will be meeting in southern California at the end of this week.

ADJOURNMENT

Following a closed session to discuss real estate, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nyron Battles
Secretary
RCEB Board of Directors