

**Far Northern Coordinating Council on Developmental
Disabilities dba Far Northern Regional Center
Minutes**

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Friday, March 28, 2014
Far Northern Regional Center, Redding
Anderson, CA 96007

1. Call to Order: 9:10 a.m. by Chairperson, Ronda Dever
2. Roll Call:
 - a. Present: Michelle Sedillos, Suzette Serrano, Stephen Bell, Kathryn E. McCreary, Margaret Shipp, Andreas Economopoulos, Roger Hatton, Colleen Ryberg, Jennifer Bowman, Melanie Combs, Chrissie Clapp, Ronda Dever, Susan Hess, Margot Madson, Don Murphy, Troy Rathburn
 - b. Absent: None
3. Public Input/Open: Introduction of guests: Mike Mintline, Judy Kruse, Lauren Leisz, (FNRC staff members), Sarah May (Area Board 2), Rob Griffith (Matson & Isom) and Ted Hess.
4. Approval of Agenda for March 28, 2014: Motion to approve and second by Margot Madson and Roger Hatton. Additions include the presentation of the voting slate (to become 5a), Andreas Economopoulos and Stephen Bell motioned to approve the amendments, no further discussion, motion passed.
5. Approval of Minutes from January 27, 2014: Motion to approve and second by Andreas Economopoulos and Margot Madson. No discussion, motion passed.
 - a. 2014-15 Voting Slate presented to Board of Directors. Voting will be held during June meeting.
6. Transition to Executive (Closed) Session – W & I 4663, (3), (4), (5): No closed session.

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7. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2012-13, Independent Audit, Robert Griffith, CPA, of Matson & Isom: Per the report from Matson & Isom, “We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.” There were no Findings or Recommendations as this was a clean audit. Mr. Griffith commended Mike Mintline for his preparation and readiness for the audit.

8. State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Area Board 2 Report, Sarah May, Executive Director:
 - The next meeting will be held April 18th at the FNRC Redding office.
 - SCDD Update:
 - At the March 20, 2014 State Council meeting, the council took action on official selection of a permanent Executive Director. At this time, negotiations are underway with the number one candidate.
 - Due to the current Federal constraints placed on the California SCDD, the organization is severely compromised in its organizational function. AIDD has only released funding to cover October of 2013 State Council expenses and continues to increase reporting requirements in alignment with the State Plan. The current status of our organization remains vulnerable to Federal AIDD requirements.
 - Legislative Update:
 - Proposed Legislative Concepts – Chesboro AB 1595 will be introduced to the legislature in April, 2014. This proposed legislation outlines the mandates required for alignment with the Federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act). The legislation identifies the changes to state law that are needed to ensure continued funding for the State Council and its regional offices (the Area Boards) by bringing state law into compliance with the federal laws that fund the council. This legislation will only focus on those parts of the state law that describe the responsibilities and

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functioning of the State Council and Area Boards: California Welfare in Institutions Code 9WIC), Division 4.5, Chapter 2. This will not affect people's rights and services under the Lanterman Act, for the IPP or the Regional Center system.

- Funding and RFP for PDG Grant Cycle 37
 - It is anticipated at the April, 2014 Executive Committee meeting, that the Council will support funding approval in the amount of \$20,000 per Regional Office (Area Board). The RFP will be distributed to the community following Council approval. In regards to Regional 2, our board selected three State Plan goals to offer potential grant funding for Federal year 201-415 related to the following areas of emphasis:
 - Self-Advocacy
 - Rights
 - Employment
- Systemic Advocacy:
 - AB2 has a new Statewide Self-Advocacy representative for Region 2. Charles Horne-Nutt will be serving a four-year term as our regional representative to the SSAN. Currently, Charles and facilitator are conducting surveys to identify training topics for the SSAN Network to develop.
 - AB2 continues to monitor the expansion of Medi-Cal managed Care.
 - AB2 is monitoring, carefully, the proposals related to serve impacts to IHSS.
 - AB2 participates in the Shasta County SELPA Program Advisory Committee (PAC).
 - AB2 actively participates in the Shasta County Transition Partnership. The Shasta County Transitional Partnership meets on the last Tuesday of each month. The next SCTP meeting will be held on January 28th.
 - AB2 is participating in the development of the Shasta County 0-5 Collaborative. This collaborative is comprised of multiple agencies that serve infants and children and is

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modeled after a successful 0-5 Collaborative in Solano County.

- AB2 participates in both the Butte College and the Shasta College DSPS (Disabled Student Programs and Services).
- AB2 is currently developing a Transition Partnership for Butte County in collaboration with the Butte County SELPA and Butte College.
- AB2 Project Development
 - In collaboration with FNRC, OCRA, and AB2, a community training on Executive Functioning targeting consumers, families and providers is being developed. The training will be led by Patty Schetter and Kandis Lighthall. The goals of this training include:
 - Help the audience understand what Executive Functioning (EF) deficits are and how they may manifest for adults with disabilities.
 - Discuss certain behavioral differences and skill deficits including hoarding, hygiene and habitability issues that are common among people with EF challenges.
 - Share strategies to address underlying EF skill deficits so that these issues can have interventions/accommodations.
 - In collaboration with the nine (9) Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPA) in Region 2, AB2 is developing a regional summit that will offer information and training on Federal and State changes to Special Education. The summit will cover topics ranging from Educational Related Mental Services (ERMS), Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP), Common Core Standards and the Smarter Balance Assessment.

9. Report from Executive Director, Laura Larson:

- a. Purchase of Service Variance Meetings/Findings: A public meeting was held at/during the Area Board 2 meeting. There has also been two meetings held with Hispanic families and a meeting with the Asian and Hispanic FNRC staff. Laura is

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looking into what extra services and time that can and will be set aside, in the beginning, with families. It is hoped that the additional time and effort will increase the Purchase of Service use by families.

- b. IHSS issues in Governor's Budget: This was discussed, in depth, by Eileen Richey, Executive Director of ARCA during the Board Training Presentation prior to the meeting. The main issue is overtime pay for the IHSS workers and how this will affect consumers and their families.
- c. "The Way Forward" Event, April 3rd and 4th, Manhattan Beach, CA: Laura, Ronda Dever, and Diana Anderson will be attending. Commissioners from Washington DC will be among the speakers. The purpose of the event is to identify ways to keep the service system sustainable.
- d. Grass Roots Day, March 12: Mary Ann Weston, Andreas Economopoulos and Margaret Shipp attended. They spoke with several legislators and/or members of their staff regarding what the Regional Center is and who the Regional Center serves. It was a very positive experience for all involved.
- e. Early Start restoration – There is movement across the state to bring attention to the legislators in an effort to bring Early Start services back to pre-2009 levels.
- f. Other: In April, in Redding and Chico there will be trainings held called "Attack of the Killer Foods". These trainings will be for direct care staff and will demonstrate healthy cooking and eating. "Discovering our Best Work", trainings with Beth Gallagher were held in March one for FNRC Service Coordinators and one for the service providers. Reviews were positive.
- g. Laura asked for and was granted permission by the Board of Directors to proceed with the third film in the "That's Me" series. This film will be entitled "A Home of My Own".

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10. Management Reports

a. Finance Report – Michael Mintline, Associate Director, Administration:

- i. Purchase of Service: A deficit in spending authority of \$5.5-5.7 million (5.1 – 5.3% of total expenses) is projected.

As of this date, the Department of Developmental Services has allocated \$98.0 million and the Regional Center expects to collect \$2.9 million in reimbursements from Intermediate Care facilities. Allocations plus reimbursements amount to \$100.9 million.

The Regional Center projects an increase in the number of consumers served of 2.0% versus as much as a 5.8% increase in expenses. The 5.8% increase in expenses includes restoration of a 1.25% rate cut for most providers.

A large part of the increases have to do with an increase in Community Integrated Training expenses. These programs are sometimes referred to as “like” day programs and are the fastest growing expense category. These programs are replacing traditional day programs, catering to consumers with specialized needs or emphasizing work in a variety of creative settings.

Out of Home expenses are also on the rise. These expenses could rise by \$1.9 million to \$2.8 million (7.5%) As Regional Center eligibility has become more complicated so has serving those who are eligible.

- ii. Operations Report: The Regional Center is currently projecting \$58 thousand in remaining Operations spending authority. This is a \$6 thousand increase over the \$52 thousand reported in January 2014.

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Expenses decreased \$42 thousand due to greater than expected delays in hiring, temporary labor and new hires at lower salary steps.

Operating expense estimates are projected to increase by \$30 thousand. This increase include a one-time cost associated with set and conversion to a new Automated Data Processing System, Information Technology equipment. Other unexpected expenses consist of an increase in insurance costs due to unexpected claims and additional costs associated with the modification of the Redding office.

- iii. .Other: None.

- b. Human Resource Report – Lauren Leisz, HR Director:
 - i. Action Item #1: FNRC Welfare Benefits and Cafeteria Plans. It is requested that the Board of Directors (1) resolve to approve adoption of the “Far Northern Regional Center Cafeteria Plan” effective January 1, 2014, and (2) authorize the Board’s Secretary to sign the “Certificate of Resolution”. Motion and second by Margot Madson and Stephen Bell. No discussion. Motion passed
 - ii. Other: None
- c. Case Management Directions: Judy Kruse, Associate Director, Case Management, North:
 - i. Report: Wayne Doerning, Case Management Supervisor, OHP unit. Wayne provided a report on the activities of the unit he supervises. This unit supports people primarily in residential care.
- d. Community Services Directions: Diana Anderson, Associate Director, Community Services:
 - i. Community Placement, Status of New Projects.
 - ii. Action Item #2 – Caballo Home: It was requested the Board approve contract PST-1747 with Mains’l California, LLC – Caballo House (PF4347) Specialized Residential Services effective March 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016 for a total maximum contract amount of \$702,741.24.

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- Moved and seconded by Stephen Bell and Suzette Serrano. No discussion, motion passed.
- iii. Action Item #3 – Work Training Center Transportation: It was requested the Board approved contract PST-1740 with Work Training Center (H01403) for Transportation Services effective April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016 for a total maximum contract amount of \$3,348,259.20. Moved and seconded by Margot Madson and Andreas Economopoulos. No discussion, motion passed.
 - iv. Action Item #4 – Southern Oregon Goodwill Transportation: It was requested the Board approve contract PST-1738 with Southern Oregon Goodwill Industries (HF0445) for Transportation Services effective April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016 for a total maximum contract amount of \$453,600.00. Moved and seconded by Stephen Bell and Suzette Serrano. No discussion, motion passed.
 - v. Action Item #5 – Siskiyou Opportunity Center Transportation: It was requested the Board approved contract PST-1737 with Siskiyou Opportunity Center (H11598) for Transportation Services effective April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016 for a total maximum contract amount of \$309,600.00. Moved and seconded by Stephen Bell and Melanie Combs. No discussion, motion passed.
 - vi. Action Item #6 – Shascade Community Svcs Transportation: It was requested the Board approve contract PST-1736 with Shascade Community Services, (Shasta) (HF0214) for Transportation Services effective April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016 for a total maximum contract amount of \$345,600.00. Moved and seconded by Stephen Bell and Margot Madson. No discussion, motion passed.
 - vii. Action Item #7 – Tehama Co Opportunity Ctr Transportation: It was requested the Board approve contract PST-1731 with Tehama County Opportunity Center (North Valley Services) (H10025) for Transportation Services effective April 1, 2014 through

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March 31, 2016 for a total maximum contract amount of \$1,513,000.00. Moved and seconded by Margot Madson and Suzette Serrano. No discussion, motion passed.

11. Association of Regional Centers Agencies Report, Andreas Economopoulos, Delegate: The ARCA meeting was held in Sacramento at Alta Regional Center. It was a good meeting full of lots of information. Santi Rogers, the new Director of Developmental Services, was there. He brought three of his staff and they all shared information with us. Some of the highlights of the meeting were:
 - ✦ ARCA is working with board members and housing experts to develop legislation to establish a source of funding for permanent housing for people with developmental disabilities in California. It is badly needed. Because housing is so expensive, it is hard for people to live in he community.
 - ✦ ARCA has written a response to Secretary Diana Dooley, of the Health and Human Service Agency. The letter was about the *Plan for the Future of Developmental Centers in California*. (A copy of the letter was made available). ARCA believes the community needs good services to close the developmental centers and that the state must provide for new rates for service providers and affordable housing for people.
 - ✦ Eileen Richey gave a report on Grass Roots Day. She felt it was a great success.
 - ✦ There was a rally called “Early Start Advocacy Day” in Los Angeles on March 14th in an effort to restore the Early Start program to its pre-2009 level. Many agencies came together to work to bring back the programs that help so many children. it is good to see people working together. Also, ARCA has a website on Early Start up and running.
 - ✦ We spent time looking at legislation and taking positions.
 - ✦ There was a presentation of the Slate of Officers for next year. Voting will take place at the next meeting.
 - ✦ A report was given on the Legislative Hearing.
 - ✦ There was much discussion about employments with most of the discussion centering on the need for minimum wages for consumers.

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12. FNCC Board Committee Reports and Action Items:
- a. Consumer Committee, Michelle Sedillos, Chairperson:
Committee members present were: Michelle Phillips, Margot Madson, Susan Hess, Andreas Economopoulos, Troy Rathburn, Roger Hatton, Suzette Serrano. The meeting was called to order by Michelle. The Action Items were discussed with Diana Anderson providing clarification regarding the contracts to be approved. The up-coming People First conferences were also discussed. Adjourned at 4:15.
 - b. Service Provider Advisory Committee, Jennifer Bowman, Chairperson: The SPAC meeting was held March 26th at the Tehama Visitors Center in Red Bluff. Presenters and topics were:
 - i. Far Northern Regional Center presented by Laura Larson:
 - Lanterman Coalition Proposal on California Budget: Michael McGinnis walked the group through each point on the proposal. 16 of the 17 groups are in support of the proposal.
 - IHSS Issues: There are new Fair Labor Standards Act regulations which restrict employees, beginning January 1, 2015, to a 40 hour workweek without paying overtime. The state is proposing a provider back-up system.
 - Minimum Wage Increase Update: There will be increases provided to cover employees who receive minimum wages. New dollars will be limited to that scope and paperwork will be available soon.
 - Attack of the Killer Foods Conference: A very successful conference with Rave reviews. This was part of the Regional Wellness Institute.
 - Legislative Budget Hearings: Senate Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services was a very positive hearing. Support was expressed for the

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restoration of Early Start, which is an outcome all wish for.

- Other: Instructions for reporting of restraints: The letter sent by FNRC was confusing and new instructions will be sent soon.
- ii. Area Board 2 Report presented by Betty Carlton
 - Area Board 2 report was presented – see above report by Sarah May, Executive Director, Area Board 2.
- iii. Health and Wellness Initiative presented by Diana Anderson and Betty Carlton: Updates were reported on the mini grants, the website, upcoming conferences, branding and the newsletter.
- iv. Provider Announcements: Nick Herndon is a new father. The Labor Board is assessing agencies fines from \$320 - \$4,000.00, Confidentiality in electronics was discussed and the Color Run will be held in May.
- v. The next meeting will be May 14th at 1:30 p.m. at the Tehama Visitors Center

13. Announcements, Reports, Questions and Answers, Summary Comments, All Board Members:

Margot: The end of April she will be going to Omaha for a Lutheran Services of America conference.

Suzette: The Arc Thrift store opened in Paradise. People First met with Tony Anderson regarding raising funds and increasing visibility. All of the chapters in Region 2 are looking forward to the conference in Anderson, which will be held in May.

Margaret: Margaret attended Grass Roots Days March 12th. The group met with several legislators and/or their staff, including Assemblyman Wesley Chesbro who met personally with the group. Margaret attended the UCSF conference on Developmental Disabilities within the medical community.

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Troy: In the next few weeks he will begin coaching people on how to ride the B-Line bus system in Paradise.

Susan: Susan interviewed two people, Sue Bordelon and Karen Duncanwood. Ms. Bordelon manages the youth program and oversees the program services, resource development, fund raising and grants. Ms. Duncanwood is a parent who lives in Butte County with many hobbies, including reading, sewing and raising her pets. She is a strong advocate.

Andreas: Re-elected to ASTAK in Siskiyou County to address transportation needs. He is applying for a position on the Statewide Self-advocacy network (SSAN), along with applying for a position on the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC).

Don: He is happy to be able to participate again in the meeting via Polycom.

Ronda: Ronda attended a Benefits and Employment training, regarding SSI and work, for adults and youth.

14. Next meeting: The next meeting will be May 14 and 15, in Redding

15. Motion to adjourn by Margot Madson and Suzette Serrano. No discussion, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted



Cynthia R. Presidio
Executive Assistant/Board Secretary