

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Friday, September 26, 2014
Far Northern Regional Center, Redding
Redding, CA 96007

1. Call to Order: 9:10 a.m. by Chairperson, Ronda Dever
2. Roll Call:
 - a. Present: Michelle Sedillos, Suzette Serrano, Kathryn E. McCreary, Margaret Shipp, Roger Hatton, Colleen Ryberg, Jennifer Bowman, Melanie Combes, Ronda Dever, Susan Hess, Margot Madson, Leslie Corletto, Don Murphy
 - b. Absent: Chrissie Clapp
3. Public Input/Open: Introduction of guests: Judy Kruse, Melissa Gruhler, Mike Mintline (FNRC staff), Susan Crow, (DDS), Jane Davidson (Interpreter) Ted Hess, Ricky Sedillos and Baby Sedillos.
4. Approval of Agenda for June 27, 2014: Item 10a will be heard after the Chairperson's report. Motion to approve and second by Margot Madson and Colleen Ryberg. No further discussion, motion passed.
5. Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2014: Correction to page 40: Susan recently interviewed a doctor corrected to "dentist". Motion to approve and second by Melanie Combes and Suzette Serrano. No further discussion, motion passed.
6. Report from Chairperson, Ronda Dever:
 - a. It was noted by the Chairperson that Troy Rathburn has resigned from the Far Northern Coordinating Council's Board of Directors to serve on the Area Board 2, State Council on Developmental Disabilities Board of Directors
 - b. Action Item #1: 2015 Board Meeting Schedule: Motion was made and seconded by Suzette Serrano and Roger Hatton to

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accept the 2015 Board Meeting Schedule as presented. No discussion, motion passed.

- c. Other: The Board Chairperson introduced and welcomed new Board Member, Leslie Corletto.

7. Transition to Executive (Closed) Session – W & I 4663, (3), (4), (5):
Motion to move into Closed Session made and seconded by Margot Madson and Suzette Serrano. No discussion, motion passed.
Salary negotiations was presented by Lauren Leisz and current and on-going litigation was presented by Linda Carpenter.

Motion to return to open session made and seconded by Margot Madson and Suzette Serrano, no discussion, motion passed.

8. State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Regional Office Report, Sarah May, Executive Director:
- On September 18, 2014, the Governor signed AB 1595 (Chesbro) (Chapter 409, Statutes of 2014). This comprehensive legislation resolves long-standing statutory conflicts between the federal Developmental Disabilities and state Lanterman Acts, is a major step toward compliance in response to the November 2014 AIDD MTARS report, and provides the Council the statutory permissiveness to administer its federal grant consistent with the federal DD Act. The chaptered version of AB 1595 can be found here:
http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/13-14/bll/asm/ab_1551-1600/ab_1595_bill_20140918_chaptered.pdf
 - On September 18, 2014, the Governor signed SCDD co-sponsored SB 577 (Pavley). SB 577 creates a pilot program in up to five regional centers offering a regional center service intended to help prepare people for jobs in typical work-sites at regular wages. This statute continues the State's commitment in the Employment First Policy signed by Governor Brown in 2013, which states, *"It is the policy of the state that opportunities for integrated, competitive employment be given the highest priority for working age individuals with developmental disabilities, regardless of the severity of their*

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disability” The chaptered version of SB 577 can be found here: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/13-14/bill/sen/sb_0551-0600/sb_577_bill_20140918_chaptered.pdf.

- On September 15, 2014, the Governor’s Office informed Mark Polit that they are going in a different direction and thanked him for his service. Mark has served a key role for this organization as the Deputy Director of Policy and Planning. The Council is working closely with the Governor’s Office to appoint a new Deputy Director of Policy and Planning before January 1, 2015. With AB 1595 EFFECTIVE January 1, 2015, the Governor will no longer have appointing authority with SCDD staff positions. The Governor will have full authority in appointing all of the 20 non-agency members of the State Council. The recommendations for the regional representatives throughout the state will no longer come from local Area Boards.
- Effective January 1, 2015, the Area Boards will be called Regional offices of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. January 1, 2015 the existing boards will become Regional Advisory Committees. The existing members will be “grandfathered in” until their term expires. The Council is developing the roles and compositions of the Regional Advisory Committees.
- On July 16, 2014, the Council adopted a policy on sheltered workshops and subminimum wage. This was done after nearly a year of deliberation by the Council’s Employment First Committee, in consultation with the Council’s Self-Advocates Advisory Committee.

9. Report from Executive Director, Laura Larson:

Action Item #2: Volunteerism: The possibility of exploitation of consumers was discussed. This Action Item will be revised and revisited in November.

Update on the Focus Film Festival: Mary Ann Western updated the board on the progress of the Festival to be held October 23

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– 25. The opening will be held at the Sierra Nevada Brewery on October 23rd with a showing of “The Way Bobby Sees It.”. There will be over 30 films shown Friday and Saturday, with several films being hosted with speakers.

Laura welcomed new board member Leslie Corletto and translator, Jane Davidson.

The Family Portal addition to the FNRC website is almost complete. Families will be able to apply for services via this portal.

The State of California has recently advised health providers that Managed Care must provide ABA services for people with autism.

The “Realms of Possibilities” has been mailed. This publication also includes Far Northern’s Year End Report.

An advertisement has been placed in this month free “Parent’s Magazine” regarding autism and services Far Northern Regional Center could provide.

A hearing will be held October 9th in Pasadena regarding the future of the Regional Center Service System and the need for increasing rates.

Laura is presenting at the Supported Life Conference, highlighting work opportunities created in the North State with Terry Kozloff and Sarah May.

10. Management Reports

- a. Finance Report – Michael Mintline, Associate Director, Administration:
 - i. Purchase of Service Report, FY 13-14: The Regional Center is projecting a deficit of \$3.9-\$4.0 million in spending authority. The deficit estimate was reduced

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- slightly because consumer growth and expenses were less than expected. Expenses have been higher than the growth. Therefore, expenses for this fiscal year are expected to be \$105.7 million. Far Northern will be doing more outreach to try to eliminate the slow-growth issue.
- ii. Operations Report, FY 14-15: Projected spending authority is slightly under \$15.0 million. Operating expenses are project to increase from the prior fiscal year by \$51 thousand (2.2%). Some of these increases are due to an increase in rent and health insurance costs. Decreases in operating expenses are due in part to a \$19 thousand reduction in spending for postage due primarily to the timing of postage payments; and and \$8 thousand reduction in amounts paid to auditors due to the timing of their work.
 - iii. .Other: None
- b. Case Management Directions: Judy Kruse, Associate Director, Case Management, North:
- i. Report: Kerry Vincelli, Case Management Supervisor has been with FNRC for 22 years and is retiring in December. Kerry's unit handles, among other caseloads, the Modoc region which consists of over 10,000 square miles. Denis Villeanueva has been promoted to lead this unit after Kerry's departure.
- c. Community Services Directions: Diana Anderson, Associate Director, Community Services:
- i. Report: Three homes and a day program are in the start-up process in the Community Placement Program (CPP) for RY 14-15. Four people are expected to be placed before January 2015.

There is a new focus on day programs moving into work programs.

A food pantry is being developed in Tehama County.

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The Call Center is experiencing a lot of activity. A focus on Quality Assurance is working well as consumer teams are visiting homes. The emphasis is on quality of life, not just quality of living.

Wellness is being incorporated into everything that is being developed. "Wellness is a Journey – A Passport Journey" will begin in January. "Killer Moves" is being held this fall. "Killer Karaoke" is being held in conjunction with the daytime event. This competition is for teams and must include someone dancing and/or moving.

- ii. Action Item No. 3: Performance Contract: It is requested that the Board of Directors approve the attached Performance Contract for calendar year 2015. Motion made and seconded by Roger Hatton and Margot Madson, no discussion, motion passed.
- d. Human Resources: Lauren Leisz, Human Resources, Director:
 - i. Action Item #4: Tonya Guthrie: It is requested that the Board of Directors appointing Tonya Guthrie to be re-employed by FNRC effective the pay period beginning November 16, 2014, for a period of no more than 12 months, pursuant to the Government Code requirements. Moved and seconded by Colleen Ryberg and Roger Hatton, no discussion, motion passed.

11. Association of Regional Centers Agencies Report, Ronda Dever, Delegate: The ARCA meeting was held in August in Torrance at Harbor Regional Center.

- ARCA has been looking at Equity of Service provided by Regional Centers. A committee has been looking at elements of the underserved. Centers for Medicaid Service (CMS) has developed new rules which will impact family care, and what is called "Legacy Waiver Services. New services must increase choice, personal freedom and services in integrated community settings.

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- There is a special group that is working on the new Self-Determination Waiver proposal. It is hoped that CMS will approve the plan.
- Lanterman Developmental Center will be closed by January. There are still 32 residing at Lanterman. Sonoma Developmental Center has over 400 persons and has been decertified and will no longer receive federal funds.
- Patrick McClanahan presented on the Special Olympics. “Reach Up” is the new theme for the World Wide Special Olympics and will be held July 2015 in Los Angeles.
- Michael Kaziky of the Consumer Action Committee is developing a new Facebook page.
- ARCA had received 40,000 emergency preparedness bags and will be distributing these. The finance committee spoke regarding the Regional Center receiving a lump sum of money.

12. FNCC Board Committee Reports and Action Items:

- a. Consumer Committee, Suzette Serrano, Chairperson: The meeting was called to order by Michelle Phillips. The first item of business was the election of the new Chairperson, Suzette Serrano. The committee then discussed the Board Packet and Action Items. Suzette adjourned the meeting at 4:00.
- b. Service Provider Advisory Committee, Jennifer Bowman, Chairperson:
 - i. Far Northern Regional Center presented by Laura Larson
 - Providers did not voice any concerns of the Draft Policy on Volunteerism.
 - Laura provided an update on the Focus Film Festival set to begin October 23rd.
 - Providers were content with the draft Performance Contract presented by Laura

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- There are continuing Senate hearings on Regional Center Community Systems.
 - Providers agreed that the larger organizations should continue fighting for a 10% increase for Purchase of Service Providers and Operations that are currently being requested by the Lanterman Coalition.
 - A letter dated September 15, 2015 has mandated ABA services for children with autism.
 - Laura announced that in addition to the Holidays are for Caring gift giving, funds can also be given to provide camping to families in the summer.
 - Effective January 1, 2015, the Area Boards will cease to exist. They will be State Council field offices and all employees will have to re-apply for their jobs. Advocacy will no longer be available for our community. Office of Client's Rights Advocate, Kimberlee Candela was present and expressed that they have seen an increase in individual that they are helping with advocacy.
- ii. FNRC Health and Wellness Initiative: presented by Diana Anderson
- Killer Moves Training will be held October 7th (Chico) and October 14th (Redding)
 - There are, currently, no teams signed up from Chico and only four teams signed up from Redding for the Killer Karaoke set for October 14th in Redding
 - The Health Wellness team will be focusing on events around the Special Olympics in 2015, as the World Games will be in Los Angeles.
- iii. Provider Announcements:
- Chico is having a Recognition Celebration October 16th at the Arc of Butte County. They will be giving out 20 awards and one Lanterman award.
 - Lynn Defreese from North Valley Services will be gathering a group of providers to start

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meeting with local law enforcement in Tehama County to discuss what kind of training we are providing staff as well as what kind of training they are providing to their staff.

- Steve Rogers gave an update on the fires in Weed and how the community is recovering.

iv. The next meeting will be held November 19th at 1:30 p.m. at the Tehama Visitors Center in Red Bluff.

c. Membership Committee, Melanie Combes, Chairperson: The meeting was called to order by Susan Hess. There was a discussion regarding the duties of the Membership Committee which include training of the Board Members and approval of Board Members-at-Large and members for the Service Provider Advisory Committee. Trainings regarding Special Olympics, Socialization Programs, Clients' Rights and Wellness efforts were requested. The learning Module "History of the Regional Center" used by FNRC staff may possibly be utilized by the board members as part of the board's orientation process. Susan adjourned the meeting at 2:55.

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

Margot: Margot is adding to her home business by the addition of knitted doll clothes.

Michelle: The Circle of Champions luncheon was held in Red Bluff

Suzette: People First of Chico has been having presentations and they will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army. Ricky Sedillos presented at the Corning chapter and they are working to give a scholarship to a high school student in Corning. Paradise will be having a bowl-a-thon and had a nutritionist speak. The Red Bluff chapter gave funds to the Salvation Army for the homeless. All chapters are working on recruiting new members.

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Don: The Consumer Advisory Committee is very active in Modoc. Frankie is attending the meetings and is doing very well. Don has been invited to attend the Modoc Activity Center to catch up on what is happening there.

Colleen: The Harvest Day festival is being held this Saturday in Weaverville.

Leslie: A new support group has started with Rowell Family Empowerment Center and new members are encouraged to attend.

Susan: Susan is now working at Little Red Hen.

Roger: Roger is working as a soccer coach at Shasta College

14. Next meeting: The next meeting will be November 20 and 21, in Redding
15. Motion to adjourn by Margot Madson and Melanie Combes. No discussion, motion passed. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted



Cynthia R. Presidio
Executive Assistant/Board Secretary