

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Friday, June 26, 2015

9:15 a.m.

Far Northern Regional Center, Redding

1900 Churn Creek Road, Suite 319

Redding, CA 96007

1. Call to Order: 10:40 a.m. by Chairperson, Ronda Dever
2. Roll Call:
 - a. Present: Michelle Phillips, Suzette Serrano, Kathryn McCreary, Margaret Shipp, Margot Madson, Susan Hess, Roger Hatton, Colleen Ryberg, Jennifer Bowman, Melanie Combes, Chrissie Clapp, Ronda Dever, Leslie Corletto, Adam Beals, Ronda Crisp
 - b. Absent: None
3. Public Input/Open: Introduction of guests: FNRC staff: Judy Kruse, Linda Kilzer, Mike Mintline and Brandi Auble. Ted Hess, Shelley Anderson, Danette Schons, Kim Leeseman, Cindy Fresour, Ricky Sedillos, Joe Gulack.
 - a. Laura Larson was presented with approximately 90 Thank You cards from some of the people who attended the People First Conference.
4. Approval of Agenda for June 26, 2015: Motion to approve the agenda made and seconded by Margot Madson and Suzette Serrano. A news video of former board member, Ricky Sedillos, was added as "12C1. Motion to approve the amended agenda made and seconded by Colleen Ryberg and Jennifer Bowman. No further discussion, motion passed.
5. Approval of Minutes from May 21, 2015: Motion to approve and second with the following corrections by Margot Madson and Suzette Serrano:

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Page 9: Correct June to October

Page 9: #8 – the Quincy area

Page 10: correct posited to posted

Page 11: correct 3–7 to say 3-17.

Motion to approved amended minutes made and seconded by Margot Madson and Adam Beals, no further discussion, motion passed.

6. Report from Chairperson, Ronda Dever: Board Member, Don Murphy has resigned due to personal issues.

This is Mary Ann Weston’s last board meeting, as she is retiring in August. Ronda thanked her and shared a story about how she met Mary Ann while struggling with Special Education services for her son. Mary Ann helped her a great deal and she soon became a strong advocate for her son. She thanked Mary Ann for her service.

7. Transition to Executive (Closed) Session – W & I 4663, a (1), (2), (3), (4), (5),
No closed session held.

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

Michelle: Same As You (SAY) in Redding is hiring a new team in Siskiyou County

Margot: Margot is assisting an elderly neighbor with her shopping

Susan: Susan and her husband, Ted, went to the People First Conference in Fresno. They attended a “Safety Net” Break-out session during the conference. During this session, they met several people, made new friends, and Susan was able to help by using her knowledge of sign language.

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Leslie: Laura has been helping a consumer and family obtain an extension in their living arrangements that will allow them extra time to find a suitable place to live.

Roger: Roger also attended the People First Conference and wanted to thank Laura for that opportunity. He also had the privilege of holding the Olympic Torch that is making its way around the county towards the World Games in Los Angeles.

Jennifer: Jennifer is very proud to be a new aunt.

Chrissie: Chrissie is continuing with the Red Bluff Art Association. They are continuing to have people come work with them from North Valley Services and they enjoy that.

Adam: Siskiyou County is getting new Greyhound bus station. Hopefully, this will help alleviate some the transportation issues in Siskiyou County.

Ronda C: Thank you for making it possible to attend the People First Conference. She was a presenter for "Respect Yourself". She found the conference inspiring.

Suzette: Suzette also thanked Laura for being able to attend and present for Pathfinders at the People Conference. Also, thanked Mary Ann for all the help she has provided to the board members.

Colleen: Colleen attended a symposium in Eureka regarding elderly issues including depression and Alzheimer's.

Kathryn: Thank you to Mary Ann for her work with the board and the FOCUS Film Festival. She will be missed.

9. Report from Executive Director, Laura Larson:

- a. The Governor's Budget: The May Revise was released. There is nothing the budget for the Regional Center System. However, Special Sessions will be held which could alter the budget, possibility in the favor of the Regional Centers. All of

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the Developmental Centers will be closing, except for the secure grounds area of Porterville. She and Todd Clarkson will be meeting with each family that has someone in Sonoma Developmental Center to discuss the future of their family member.

- b. Self-Determination Update: The Self-Determination Advisory Committee held their inaugural meeting in June. The next meeting will be in October.
 - c. Other:
 - i. In August, Laura will be speaking in Los Angeles at a conference regarding the National Core Indicators and FNRC's Wellness Initiative.
 - ii. Laura is on the committee concerning new Home and Community Based Standards created by the Federal Government
 - iii. Staff training will be held in August that will include Diversity Training with Tray Roberts, Service Animals and "Artful Negotiation" with Kimberlee Candela.
 - iv. Laura recognized and thanked Mary Ann Weston on her retirement and her work with the board, the FOCUS Film Festival, Self-Advocacy and Adventures in Business which also includes the art shows that have been held in the Redding and Chico offices and difference outside venues.
10. ARCA Report, Ronda Dever:
- a. The ARCA meeting was held in Oakland at the East Bay Regional Center office. The evening before the meeting, ARCA held its Annual Dinner. The speaker was Senator Jim Beall from San Jose. Senator Beall was the Regional Center System's champion throughout the budget process this year. He wrote the letter calling for a 10% increase for Purchase of Services and Operations. He told the gathering that the fight was not over. The he intended to introduce a bill in the special session to increase our funding. He felt that ours was a just

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cause and the state needed to take our services seriously. We all left feeling more hopeful than when we started the evening.

The Friday meeting began with a presentation from Santi Rodgers, the Department of Developmental Services Director. He feels the special session will move quickly and that the issues would be:

- Addressing increased funding for MediCal rates
- A 7% increase in IHSS funding
- Rate increases for regional center providers
- The idea that these funds must come from a source other than the general fund.
- Statewide infrastructure and transportation

The legislature had proposed \$750 million in new spending, but 92% of that increase was removed and only 8% was achieved.

There was a discussion about the rallies that were held in urban areas of the state after the budget deal was announced. It was felt that the rallies and the press they received were very good for our message. The rallies were protesting the lack of additional funding in the Governor's budget.

ARCA's budget was approved for the new fiscal year. A proposed meeting schedule for the new year was also approved.

ARCA hold a strategic planning retreat in October. ARCA would like the regional centers to provide ideas on what should be included in the plan. (A brief survey was distributed to the FNCC board for their input regarding future plans and ideas)

11. Management Reports

- a. Financial report, Mike Mintline, Associate Director, Administration:
 - i. Purchase of Service, FY 2014-2015: Expenses are expected to be \$112.2 million, a \$6.7 million increase

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from the prior fiscal year. Due to the restoration of the Early Start programs and outreach efforts, the number of Early Start consumers has increased over 20% from the prior year. Most of the increase in expenses to date has occurred in Out-of –Home, Supported Living, Crisis Services and Personal Assistance expenses.

- ii. Operations, FY 2014-2015: The Regional Center is projecting \$26 thousand in remaining operations spending authority at this time. Projected Personal Services expenses decreased by \$1 thousand due to savings from hiring Service Coordinators later than expected. One Service Coordinator position was vacant as of June 10, 2015.
- iii. Action Item No. 1: Electronic Communications Policy: It is requested that the Board of Director adopt the External Email Communication Policy dated June 1, 2015. Motion made and seconded by Margaret Shipp and Margot Madson. No discussion, motion passed.

- b. Case Management Report: Judy Kruse, Associate Director, Case Management, North:
 - i. Report by Linda Kilzer, Nurse/HPA: Nursing Consultations for Consumers: Linda Kilzer presented regarding nursing consultations for clients. She has been in nursing for 43 years with 26 of those years with Far Northern.

- c. Community Services Directions: Diana Anderson, Associate Director, Community Services:
 - i. Report by Brandi Auble: Update on Special Olympics World Games Torch Run: Brandi presented to the board the date the Olympic Torch will be coming through Redding. Far Northern will have a full contingent of supporters and three teams running.

- 12. FNCC Board Committee Reports and Action Items:
 - a. Consumer Committee, Suzette Serrano, Chairperson: The meeting was called to order by Suzette Serrano.

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- The first discussion was regarding the Fresno People First Conference. Everyone enjoyed the conference; many people attended. Michelle and Suzette spoke at one of the sessions. There were about 50 people that went together on a tour bus.
 - The board packet and Actions Items were reviewed.
 - Laura wanted to speak with the committee about an Employment First Policy. This policy has to do with employment after high school. Far Northern has not adopted a policy regarding this issue. Would the committee like Far Northern to adopt a policy about Employment First? Laura will provide the board with some options to review in September for a possible approval in November.
- b. Membership Committee, Melanie Combes:
- A Motion was made to reappoint Margot Madson and Ronda Dever as Members-at-Large to the Board of Directors. This was moved and seconded by Susan Hess and Roger Hatton. No discussion, motion passed.
 - Ideas for recruiting members from mountain communities: Laura will be distributing information regarding Far Northern and board of directors during the Self-Determination meetings being held in the mountain communities
- c. Service Provider Advisory Committee, Jennifer Bowman, Chairperson: The meeting was held June 24th at the Tehama Visitors Center in Red Bluff with 13 individuals present
- i. Laura Larson presented for Far Northern Regional Center
 - The Special Sessions could take a month or more before it is known if any changes will occur to the May Revise of the Governor's Budget
 - The Self-Determination Committee has met and is waiting on videos and materials from DDS before the community information meetings can take place.

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- Three teams will be carrying the Special Olympics World Games Torch through Redding on July 7th with one team participating in Susanville on July 8th (The Susanville run was cancelled after the Board of Directors meeting)
 - DDS is working on releasing a set of self-assessment tools for providers to use in determining whether or not their services will meet the standards of inclusion and integration in community life. However, it is believed that most providers and programs will be in compliance.
 - There are currently 40 children served by FNRC who will need to be transitioned into the Medi-Cal Managed Healthcare Plan for Behavior services. This is likely to happen in September and October with Cyndy Madison leading the effort.
- ii. Health and Wellness Initiative
- The Provider Summit has been moved to October. Individual Program Plan and Service Plan objections have been developed and nursing wellness plans are starting to be implemented through a project that COMPASS, CLO and COVE are testing.
- iii. Provider Announcements
- On July 18th there will be a free concert at Made in Paradise. Kimberlee Candela would like to provide training to consumers. Her trainings include “Client’s rights”, “Emergency Preparedness” and “Keep Your Hands Off My Money”.
- iv. The next meeting will be September 23rd at 1:30 p.m. at the Tehama Visitors Center.
- d. Nomination Committee: by Melanie Combes, Chairperson:
The Committee reviewed the Slate of officers presented at the March meeting:
- i. Elections: The Slate was presented to the Board and a motion to close the nominations and accept the slate as presented was made and seconded by Margaret Shipp

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and Chrissie Clapp. No discussion, motion passed. The officers for 2015-2016 are as follows:

Chairperson	Margaret Shipp
Vice Chair	Ronda Dever
Secretary	Susan Hess
Treasurer	Colleen Ryberg
Parliamentarian	Kathryn McCreary
ARCA Representative	Ronda Dever
ARCA Alternate	Adam Beals

13. Report from State Council on Developmental Disabilities, North State Office, Sarah May, Manager: The SCDD is a federally funded agency – all 50 states have a State Council on Developmental Disabilities. However, due to the Lanterman Act in California, the federal money was given to the SCDD, but was distributed to the Area Boards. California was told by the Federal Government to stop this. The Federal Government came to California in 2013, and froze the money that the SCDD was waiting to distribute. AB1595 changed the Lanterman Act to remove the Area Boards from the Lanterman Act. The legislation is saying they will be keeping the Regional Offices (previously the Area Boards). The board is no longer appointed by the governor – they are totally volunteer council members. The council members cannot be on the Regional Advisory Committee, however, they are required to attend the local meetings.

The last two years the Regional Advisory Committee gave grant money to AMJaMB for the new project “The Call Connection: They are now employing 26 people.

The state council is interested in advocating for services for those we support. They gather information and submit to the Federal Government for approval. Their primary job is to see that the State plan is implemented. A survey was distributed asking for input about what is important. This will be used to implement the new five-year state plan.

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A permanent executive director for the State Council will be announced in July.

14. Next Meeting: September 24th and 25th, 2015, in Redding.
15. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made and seconded by Suzette Serrano and Margot Madson. No discussion, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Cynthia R. Presidio
Executive Assistant/Board Secretary