

MINUTES OF JANUARY 10, 2021
Inland Counties Regional Center, Inc.
Board of Trustee Meeting

BOARD PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Jay Connor; Carmen Estrada; Eric Naranjo; Maureen O'Connell; Cameron Page; Rene Rojo; Gizelle Siojo; Teri Smith; Joshua Souder; April Stewart; Alva Stewart

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Kiana Buffington; Alicia Lara

DIRECTORS PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Steve Beckett; Felipe Garcia; Lavinia Johnson; Don Meza; Merissa Steuwer; Vince Toms; Treva Webster

STAFF PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL: Kurtis Franklin; Edyth Gallardo

RECORDING SECRETARY: Sandra Guzman

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Mr. Page at 4:02 pm.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2021 BOARD MEETING: 1. Motion made to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 Board Meeting as presented M/S/C Rojo/Connor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The following public comment was submitted:

Kristie Sepulveda Burchit, Family Member: I wanted to comment that saliva testing option should be available to staff that need covid testing. IRC can contract with saliva testing companies to provide this and the testing should be no cost as there is both state and federal dollars for covid testing. Saliva testing is much less invasive especially after having to have repeated weekly or bi weekly testing. Do right by the employees that serve our families and provide them with saliva testing.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Ms. Johnson reported the following: 1. As of 12/31/21, IRC serves 41,067 consumers. 2. IRC currently employs 787 employees, 528 of the 787 are service coordinators. 3. Total number of IRC consumers since the beginning of the pandemic who have tested positive for COVID-19 is 2,471. Total consumers who have passed away that tested positive is 100. 4. We continue to supply our staff and vendors with PPE. 5. We continue to work on safeguards to ensure that our staff are safe, therefore our current plan is to open our buildings to the public in March 2022. 6. We continue to provide testing twice a week for all unvaccinated staff and once a week for vaccinated staff. IRC is offering a \$200 incentive to any staff who have received the COVID Booster. 7. We continue to allow our staff to work remotely and to conduct their meetings virtually.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Directors submitted written reports. The Board had no questions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **ANOTHER WAY:** Ms. Gonzales submitted a written report. There were no questions from the Board.

2. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** The minutes from the Executive Committee Meetings were submitted in the board packet. No questions from the Board.
3. **MASTER TRUST COMMITTEE:** Ms. Miller submitted a written report. No questions from the Board.
4. **VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Ms. April Stewart submitted minutes from their November 2021 meeting. No questions from the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) **BOARD TRAINING SCHEDULE CHANGE:** Mr. Page stated he received a correspondence from DDS regarding the Board's scheduled training on Rules and Responsibilities. Due to DDS' concerns, the training is being moved to April 11 and will be done by Enright and Ocheltree. Ms. Steuwer's training on Regional Center Audits will be moved to August 8. **2. Motion made to accept the change as presented M/S/C Rojo/Souder.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **2021 PERFORMANCE CONTRACT REPORT:** Mr. Toms reviewed the 2021 Performance Contract with the Board. The Performance Contract consists of 23 public measures/goals each regional center needs to work on and meet throughout the year. **3. Motion made to accept the 2021 Performance Contract as presented M/S/C Souder/Rojo.**
- 2) **OVERVIEW ROLLOUT OF VENDOR RATE INCREASE:** Ms. Steuwer reported that in March 2019 Burns and Associates completed a rate study for the Department of Developmental Services addressing the sustainability, quality and transparency of community-based services for individuals with developmental disabilities in the State of California. Ms. Steuwer went over the vendor rate increase that will be implemented in 3 installments.
- 3) **PURCHASE OF SERVICE EXPENDITURE DATA:** Ms. Steuwer reviewed the Purchase of Service expenditure data and did a comparison of fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Services authorized and utilized were lower in 2021. It was difficult to measure if there was an improvement in narrowing the gap simply because the method services were implemented due to COVID.
- 4) **UPDATE ON COVID:** Mr. Beckett reported pursuant to the Department of Public Health and DDS directives staff going into licensed residential facilities are required to not only be vaccinated but must also have the vaccine booster to be considered "fully" vaccinated. As an incentive to help keep IRC employees safe, all IRC staff are now eligible for 1 COVID hour out of their regular workday to get vaccinated or take their child/immediate household member to get vaccinated.
- 5) **IRC BYLAWS:** Mr. Beckett explained due to the language in W&I Code §4625.6 if the governing board hires or retains an attorney for legal services, that attorney cannot be an employee of the regional center. Therefore, changes to Section 13 of the Bylaws were made to comply with the Department's request. The General Counsel will continue to provide advice and training to the

Board of Trustees to the extent allowed under the law. **4. Motion made to amend the by law as proposed Connor/Rojas.**

TRUSTEE INPUT: Mr. Rojo announced he will be celebrating his birthday on January 21.

Mr. Page adjourned the meeting at 5:02 pm. **5. Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 5:02 pm. M/S/C Rojo/Souder.**

Sincerely,

Carmen Estrada
Board Secretary


Sandra Guzman
Assistant Secretary

MOTIONS FOR THE JANUARY 10, 2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

- 1. Motion made to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2021 Board Meeting as presented M/S/C Rojo/Connor.**
- 2. Motion made to accept the change as presented M/S/C Rojo/Souder.**
- 3. Motion made to accept the 2021 Performance Contract as presented M/S/C Souder/Rojo.**
- 4. Motion made to amend the by law as proposed Connor/Rojas.**
- 5. Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 5:02 pm. M/S/C Rojo/Souder.**