I. Call to Order & Introductions

Jessica Gould, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. and introductions were made.

II. Public Input – There was no public input.

III. Consent Items

A. Approval of Agenda

Item IV.C. was moved to the Government & Community Relations Committee’s agenda.

M/S/C (S. Jackson/M. Alfaro) To approve the agenda as modified.

B. Approval of Minutes of the August 16th Meeting

M/S/C (S. Jackson/M. Miller) To approve the minutes as presented.

IV. Committee Business

A. Board-Approved Committee Priorities for FY 2017-18

The board approved the committee’s 4 proposed priorities for this fiscal year:

1. Oversee the implementation of the self-determination program consistent with statute, Medicaid waiver, and regulations.
2. Monitor purchase of service disparity within the provision of services.
3. Ensure that the center provides services that are in compliance with Medicaid waiver, statute, and regulations.
4. Monitor the center’s caseload ratios.

B. Trailer Bill Language

New trailer bill language (AB 959) was just passed that will include language in the Welfare and Institutions Code that will require:

1. Regional centers to provide information in a manner that is culturally and linguistically appropriate for the consumer or, when appropriate, the consumer’s parents, legal guardian, conservator, or authorized representative.
2. DDS to establish and maintain a page on its website that includes both a list of services purchased by regional centers or provided directly to consumers by regional centers and a brief description of those services.

Jesse added that the June 2017 trailer bill language included the elimination of the cap on respite services. NLACRC has changed its service standards to reflect this change and the announcement has been posted on our website. Staff are also in the process of revising the respite assessment tool so families can have their respite needs re-assessed by the time the cap lifts on January 1st.

C. Presentation of Draft Family Service & FAQ Booklet

This agenda item was moved to the Government & Community Relations Committee’s agenda.

D. Self-Determination Program Update (Jesse)

DDS is in the process of providing train-the-trainer meetings at various regional centers. Jesse and Ruth Janka attended the one at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center and Maria Bosch and some of her staff attended the one at South Central L.A. Regional Center. They were trained on how to bring service coordinators up to speed on the self-determination program. In the meantime, Evelyn Chamorro, our self-determination specialist, continues to conduct outreach and our self-determination advisory committee continues to meet every other month.

E. Monthly Community Placement Plan (CPP) Report (Maria)
The monthly report was provided. The center’s goal for this fiscal year is to place our last 6 consumers out of Fairview Developmental Center (DC) (which is the next DC scheduled to close), 2 consumers out of Porterville DC, and 2 consumers out of Canyon Springs. The scheduled moves are as follows: 2 consumers in October, 1 in November, 6 in February, and 1 in June. We are working with Tri-Counties Regional Center to build a home for consumers with specialized medical needs to accommodate our 2 consumers from Porterville. Also, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) approved our CPP for this fiscal year, but has not provided us with the specific dollar amount as yet. Maria ended her report by announcing that Jamie DeWitt, the center’s new CPP manager, will be giving the CPP report at future committee meetings, although she will continue to attend these meetings.

F. 1st Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report (Jesse)

The exceptions report lists requests from consumers and families for services that are outside of the center’s service standards and whether those services were approved or denied. During the past quarter, the center approved 163 requests and denied 0. Jesse explained that exception staffings are held by staff to review requests from consumers and families that fall outside of our service standards. Jesse then gave examples of the types of services that are considered exceptions, including personal assistants, adaptive equipment, day care share of cost, van conversions, rental assistance, and 1:1 and 2:1 staff to consumer ratios.

The exemptions report lists requests made for services that have been suspended or reduced as a result of the trailer bill language. The report showed that during the past quarter, 3 exemptions were approved and none were denied.

G. 1st Quarter Appeals/Hearings Report - Deferred

H. 1st Quarter Consumer Diagnosis Report – Deferred

These 2 reports were deferred until next month’s committee meeting.

I. Board Audit: Ensure the service standards are consistent with the center’s mission, vision, and values statement

Michele reported that the simple answer to this question is yes, but then explained why. She briefly reviewed the center’s mission, vision, and values statement with the committee. Also, the service standards are always modified to reflect any new changes in trailer bill language or law.
V. Board Meeting Agenda Items

The following items were identified for the committee’s section of the November 8th board meeting agenda:

A. Minutes of the October 18th Meeting  
B. 1st Quarter Exceptions/Exemptions Report  
C. Self-Determination Program Update

VI. Announcements / Information Items / Public Input

A. DDS Employment Blueprint: Jessica explained that DDS is working with the Departments of Education and Rehabilitation to develop a “blueprint” to improve competitive integrated employment outcomes for people with disabilities in California. DDS has asked that the DDS Consumer Advisory Committee and the ARCA Consumer Advisory Committee help develop consumer groups at each regional center to help spread the word about the blueprint and to provide input on how the blueprint is working. Jessica is looking for about 10 adult consumers to serve on NLACRC’s employment blueprint group. Please contact her if you know of anyone who would be interested! A suggestion was made that Jessica present her PowerPoint presentation on the employment blueprint to the center’s Self-Advocacy Group. It was also suggested that Jessica develop a flier to help people understand what the blueprint is and why volunteers are needed for the group.

*Action:* At Michele Marra’s suggestion, Jessica will contact Sara Iwahashi to help her develop a flier and to arrange for her to give a presentation at the next Self-Advocacy meeting.

B. Complete Meeting Evaluations

Jessica asked the committee members to please complete the evaluation forms after the meeting and submit them to her with any comments.

A. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 15th, at 6:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Jessica adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.
Submitted by:

Jennifer Kaiser
Jennifer Kaiser
Executive Assistant

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