



**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15, 2022 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
HARBOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES FOUNDATION**

**BOARD PRESENT:**

Mr. Ron Bergmann, *Secretary*  
Mr. Fu-Tien Chiou, *Treasurer*  
Mr. Joe Czarske, Board Member  
Dr. James Flores, Board Member  
Dr. Marco Garcia, Board Member  
Mr. David Gauthier, Board Member  
Mr. Jeffrey Herrera, Board Member  
Ms. Patricia Jordan, Board Member  
Ms. Ann Lee, Ph.D, *Vice-President*  
Mr. Christopher Patay, *President*  
Ms. Paul Quiroz, Board Member  
Ms. Kim Vuong, Board Member

**BOARD ABSENT:**

Mr. La Velle Gates, Board Member  
Ms. Jackie Solorio, Board Member

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Patrick Ruppe, Executive Director  
Ms. Nancy Spiegel, Director of Information & Development  
Ms. Thao Mailloux, Interim Director of Information & Development  
Ms. Judy Wada, Chief Financial Officer  
Ms. Heather Diaz, Director of Community Services  
Ms. LaWanna Blair, Director of Early Childhood Services  
Ms. Judy Samana Taimi, Director of Adult Services  
Ms. Mary Hernandez, Director of Case Management Support Services  
Mr. Mike Ikegami, Director of Information & Technology  
Mr. Richard Malin, Manager of IT  
Ms. Jennifer Lauro, Executive Assistant  
Mr. Jesus Jimenez, Department Assistant Executive Office

**STAFF ABSENT:**

Ms. Antoinette Perez, Director of Children's Services

**GUESTS:**

Mr. Victor Martinez, HRC Parent  
Ms. Maria Poblete, HRC Parent  
Mr. Russell Vakharia, HRC Parent  
Mr. Albert Feliciano, SCDD  
Ms. Jamie Van Dusen, DDS

**GUESTS continued:**

Aimee Fabila, HRC Staff  
Alejandra Palacios, HRC Staff  
Ana Mendoza, HRC Staff  
Ana Paz, HRC Staff  
Anayantzin Salgado, HRC Staff  
Amy Canal, HRC Staff  
Christina Montgomery, HRC Staff  
Cindy Garcia, HRC Staff  
Cinthia Lara, HRC Staff  
Claudia Morales-Aragon, HRC Staff  
Elizabeth Estrada, HRC Staff  
Emma Robins, HRC Staff  
Evelyn Carrilo, HRC Staff  
Felisa Cedillo, HRC Staff  
Frances Gomez, HRC Staff  
Iliana Crane, HRC Staff  
Jacqueline Alcala, HRC Staff  
Jasmin Maravilla, HRC Staff  
Jessica Ponce, HRC Staff  
Karen Ruiz, HRC Staff  
Kiara Martinez, HRC Staff  
Kristine Pabustan, HRC Staff  
Laura Suarez, HRC Staff  
Lela Hahn, HRC Staff  
Lizbeth Moreno, HRC Staff  
Lourdez Zambrano, HRC Staff  
Maricruz Acosta, HRC Staff  
Maria Benitez, HRC Staff  
Maria Mandujano, HRC Staff  
Mayra Hernandez, HRC Staff  
Michelle Rojas, HRC Staff  
Moises Sandoval, HRC Staff  
Monica Cruz-Hernand, HRC Staff  
Monica Sanchez, HRC Staff  
Nancy Limon, HRC Staff  
Nicole Perez, HRC Staff  
Rosa Reyes, HRC Staff  
Stephany Galarza, HRC Staff  
Teresa Alvarez, HRC Staff  
Vanessa Galvez, HRC Staff  
Yessica Toscano, HRC Staff

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Patay called the Board to order at 6:30 p.m.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Patay welcomed Board members, guest and staff; Mr. Patay took roll call of Board Members and HRC Staff and a quorum was established.

Mr. Patay reviewed with visitors the various zoom instructions and how to use the interpretation feature.

Mr. Patay encouraged all visitors who wish to address the Board at the end of our meeting during the time we have set aside for public comment to please make a request through the zoom chat feature.

Mr. Patay reminded the Board Members that our next meeting is a training on April 19, 2022 and not a regular business meeting. The next regular business meeting of the Board will be on May 17, 2022.

Mr. Patay advised that we will now proceed with our regular agenda.

## **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**

Mr. Bergmann presented the draft minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting of our Board which were included in the board packet provided to all Board members and posted for the general public on the HRC website.

**The MINUTES OF THE JANURARY 18, 2022 BOARD MEETING were received and filed.**

## **PRESENTATION OF FINANCIALS**

**Mr. Chiou reviewed the following financial statements, which were received and filed:**

- Harbor Regional Center Monthly Financial Report Fiscal Year 2021-22, dated November 2021
- Harbor Regional Center Functional Expense Summary, dated November 2021
- Harbor Regional Center POS Contract Summary, dated November 2021
- Harbor Regional Center Line Item Report, dated November 2021
- Harbor Regional Center Monthly Financial Report Fiscal Year 2021-22, dated December 2021
- Harbor Regional Center Functional Expense Summary, dated December 2021
- Harbor Regional Center POS Contract Summary, dated December 2021
- Harbor Regional Center Line Item Report, dated December 2021
- Harbor Developmental Disabilities Foundation Harbor Help Fund Statement of Activities Fiscal Year 2021-22

## **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

### **1. COVID 19 TRENDS:**

Mr. Ruppe updated the Board on the latest COVID 19 trends and vaccination statistics, specifically how Harbor Regional Center is currently in full compliance with local, state and federal COVID vaccination directives. Mr. Ruppe stated that due to a swing in the positivity rate, HRC will restart our return to the office plan and indicated that as of March 14<sup>th</sup>, staff have returned to the office on a hybrid schedule. The hybrid schedule takes into account staff work functions to determine the amount of time staff are in the office. Mr. Ruppe advised that HRC understands that even with this type of schedule, flexibility is needed and staff are encouraged to work with their managers to address any individual issues that may arise.

### **2. BUDGET UPDATES:**

Mr. Ruppe summarized the major issues and key highlights of the latest budget hearings of the Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees.

3. **CORRECTION TO APPROVED CONTRACT**

Mr. Ruppe called the Board's attention to a contract that the Board approved at the September 21, 2021 Board Meeting. The contract was for the development of a Crisis program known as START and the start-up funds were awarded to the University of New Hampshire designated as Purchase of Service, but the regional centers were advised after the contract was approved that to claim the funds we would need to claim as Operations instead. Mr. Ruppe advised that as the contract has been approved, a revote is not required; however the intention of bringing this to the Board tonight is to have the record reflect the correct designation of Operations and not Purchase of Service.

4. **HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER SERVICE POLICY – NEW PERSONAL ASSISTANCE/CARE SERVICES:**

Mr. Ruppe referred the Board to the new Personal Assistance/Care Service draft policy which outlines that generic resources, such as IHSS, still need to be accounted for and that this service is not designated to meet the respite needs of the parents or caregivers. Our Client Services Committee reviewed the draft Personal Assistance/Care service policy, needs assessment guidelines and tool in November and provided feedback and recommendations which were incorporated and presented again at the January Client Services Committee. Mr. Ruppe requested that the Board take action to approve the new policy.

**Dr. Lee moved to approve the new Personal Assistance/Care Services draft policy and Mr. Chiou seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.**

5. **HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER SERVICE POLICY – UPDATED INSURANCE, CO-PAYMENTS, CO-INSURANCE AND DEDUCTIBLES:**

Mr. Ruppe referred the Board to the updated Insurance, Co-Payments, Co-Insurance and Deductibles draft policy and advised that the policy had to be updated since being approved in 2017 due to new Early Start regulations now requiring regional centers to cover any co-payments, co-insurance and deductibles that families are being charged when accessing required Early Start services through their insurance. The modification to the policy is being made to reflect the current regulation. Mr. Ruppe requested that the Board take action to approve the updated policy.

**Ms. Vuong moved to approve the updated Insurance, Co-Payments, Coinsurance and Deductibles policy and Ms. Jordan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.**

6. **HARBOR REGIONAL CENTER SERVICE POLICY – UPDATED GENERAL STANDARDS:**

Mr. Ruppe informed that our General Standards policy documents our philosophy on how we approach all request for services. However, this policy did not incorporate language on exceptions to most individual services policies and is being brought to the Board tonight to show that additional language has been incorporated to further empower the IFSP/IPP to make any needed exceptions to address an individual's unique needs. Mr. Ruppe requested that the Board take action to approve the updated policy.

**Mr. Bergmann moved to approve the updated General Standards policy and Dr. Flores seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.**

7. **BOARD GOVERNANCE presentation:**

Mr. Ruppe made a presentation to the Board on Board Governance.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. ARCA**

Mr. Czarske summarized the main topics of the last ARCA meeting and noted that the conversation focused primarily on the state budget.

### **B. AUDIT**

In Mr. Gate's absence, Mr. Patay advised that the audit committee has not met since our last board meeting and there is no report.

### **C. BOARD DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Czarske, informed that the Committee met in February and March to discuss board recruitment. Mr. Czarske advised that at the February meeting, the Committee reviewed several board applications and recommended the interview of Client Gordon Cardona at the March Committee meeting. Mr. Czarske informed that the Committee conducted an interview of Mr. Cardona, who has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from CSULA and who has served as Vice Chair for ACCESS Community Advisory Committee, who was Communications Director for "The Recables", a Ski Club for individuals with disabilities and who was Vice President of Communications for LA Council on Ski Clubs. The Board Development Committee recommends that Mr. Cardona be elected to serve on the Board of Trustees and asked that the Board vote to elect Mr. Cardona. The Board took a vote and unanimously voted that Mr. Cardona serve on the Board for a two year term of service beginning July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.

### **D. BOARD PLANNING & COMMUNITY RELATIONS (JOINT)**

Ms. Mailloux reported that the Board Planning and Community Relations Committee will be combined until further notice and that there was no meeting of these joint committees since the last Board meeting; however Ms. Mailloux reminded the Board that the Lanterman Act requires the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and all Regional Centers to compile and distribute information regarding the purchase of regional center services by age, diagnosis, ethnicity, language and living arrangement. Harbor Regional Center posted the data on our website for public view and it is now being analyzed and summarized so that we will have current data to report to our community. The dates for the Purchase of Service Expenditure public meetings are as follows:

- March 23, 2022 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm via zoom webinar. Register in advance for this webinar: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_AoMk1BatRqGHNsCmPvxHeQ](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_AoMk1BatRqGHNsCmPvxHeQ)
- March 30, 2022 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm via zoom webinar. Register in advance for this webinar: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_ui7saWLVsv-du8tzK6pAkA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ui7saWLVsv-du8tzK6pAkA)

### **E. CLIENT ADVISORY**

In Mr. Gauthier's absence, Ms. Taimi informed that the Client Advisory Committee met on February 17, 2022 and mainly discussed issues and updates regarding Special Incident Reporting, the Self-Determination program, diversity and inclusion and forensic supports.

### **F. CLIENT SERVICES**

Mr. Chiou summarized the January and February meetings which mainly focused on funding for personal care services and the new HRC policy on Personal Assistance/Care Services.

### **G. RETIREMENT**

Mr. Chiou reported on the Retirement Plan balances as of December 31, 2021.

### **H. SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY**

In Ms. Perez's absence, Ms. Taimi advised the Board that the Self-Determination Advisory continues to meet monthly via zoom and provided an update on the January and February meetings.

**I. SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY**

Mr. Quiroz reported that the Committee met on February 2, 2022 and summarized the highlights of the meeting, which was a review of the National Core Indicators, upcoming DDS Statewide Survey, budget updates, FY 2022-23 Governor’s Budget Highlights update and rate study. Additionally, the Committee were updated on DCS reorganization, outreach, covid and HRC vaccine clinics status. Lastly, Mr. Ruppe, who attended, honored Harry Van Loon, Executive Director at ARC Long Beach for his 38 years of dedication and contribution to services he provided to clients and regional centers. Mr. Ruppe also recognized Ms. Nancy Spiegel, former HRC Director of Information and Development, who is retiring after 41 years of dedication and service to HRC.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Patay advised that public input was next on the agenda. Mr. Patay stated that he will call upon each person who has asked to address the Board and requested that he or she limit their comments to five minutes in order to accommodate everyone.

Mr. Patay indicated that we had two (2) attendee request to address the Board through the Zoom Chat this evening.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Patay advised that the Board will not go into a closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT 8:13 p.m.**

Mr. Patay thanked all those who participated in our Board meeting tonight.



Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Ron Bergmann, Secretary  
Board of Trustees  
Harbor Developmental Disabilities Foundation