HARBOR
REGIONAL CENTER

MINUTES OF THE MAY 19, 2026 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARBOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES FOUNDATION

BOARD PRESENT: Mr. Joe Czarske, *Vice-President* Dr. James Flores, *Secretary* Mr. LaVelle Gates, *President* Mr. David Gauthier, Board Member Mr. Ramon Gonzalez, Board Member Ms. Ann Lee, Ph.D, Board Member Mr. Chris Patay, Board Member Ms. Angela Rodriguez, Board Member Ms. Laurie Zaleski, Board Member **BOARD ABSENT:** Mr. Ron Bergmann, Board Member Mr. Gordon Cardona, Board Member Mr. Fu-Tien Chiou, *Treasurer* Mr. Jeffrey Herrera, Board Member Ms. Patricia Jordan, Board Member **STAFF PRESENT:** Mr. Patrick Ruppe, Executive Director Ms. Judy Wada, Chief Financial Officer Ms. Elizabeth Garcia-Moya, Director of Community Services Ms. Antoinette Perez, Director of Children's Services Ms. Eun Kim, Director of Intake & Clinical Services Ms. LaWanna Blair, Director of Early Childhood Services Ms. Judy Samana Taimi, Director of Adult Services Ms. Thao Mailloux, Director of Strategic Communications & Engagement Ms. Jennifer Lauro, Executive Assistant Ms. Catalina Franco, Department Assistant	**STAFF ABSENT:** Mary Hernandez, Director of Case Management Support Services Mr. Jesus Jimenez, Executive Office Department Assistant **INTERPRETER:** Mr. Fernando Nunez, LRA Spanish Interpreter **GUESTS:** Ms. Monserrat Palacios, DDS Mr. Paul Quiroz, Service Provider Ms. Stephanie Valencia, HRC Staff Ms. Cecilia Brizuela, HRC Staff Mr. Elias Guzman, HRC Staff Mr. Jonathan Rodriguez, HRC Staff Ms. Maria Suarez, HRC Staff Mr. Brian Carrillo, HRC Staff Mr. Raphael Munoz, HRC Staff Mr. Jesse Tores, HRC Staff Ms. Sierra Moreno, HRC Staff Mr. John King, HRC Staff Mr. Dennis Cacares, HRC Staff Ms. Brenda Chavez, HRC Staff Ms. Ariana Castruita, HRC Staff Mr. Ernesto Solorio, HRC Staff Ms. Kinda Um, HRC Staff Ms. Diana Amador, HRC Staff Ms. Erika Castillo, HRC Staff Ms. Stacy Schafer, HRC Staff Ms. Rosy Flores, HRC Staff Ms. Josephina Cunningham, HRC Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Mr. Czarske conducted the Board meeting in lieu of President Mr. Gates and called the Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Czarske welcomed Board members, guests and staff, then led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Czarske took roll call of Board members and a quorum was established.

<u>CLOSED SESSION - OPEN 6:02 PM</u>
Mr. Czarske announced that we will have a Closed Session tonight to discuss: 1) Employee Salaries and Benefits. At this time Mr. Czarske made a motion to ask the Board to close the public Board meeting and go into closed session.

<u>Mr. Gauthier moved to close the public Board meeting and go into Closed Session and Ms. Lee seconded the motion. The full Board adjourned to the Executive Dining Room at 6:04 pm.</u>

<u>CLOSED SESSION - ADJOURN 6:10 PM</u>
Mr. Czarske made a motion to ask the Board to conclude the Closed Session on: 1) Employee Salaries and Benefits and return to the public Board meeting.

<u>Dr. Flores moved to close the Closed Session and return to the public Board meeting and Ms. Rodriguez seconded the motion. The full Board adjourned to the main Board room to continue the public Board meeting at 6:10 pm.</u>

<u>PRESIDENT'S REPORT *continued*</u>

<u>REMINDERS:</u>
Mr. Czarske reminded Board members that our next meeting will be a training, closed to the public, on June 16, 2026.

Mr. Czarske informed the Board that our next regular business meeting will be on July 21, 2026.

<u>MISSION/VISION STATEMENT:</u>
Mr. Czarske called upon Board Member Laurie Zaleski to read Harbor's Mission/Vision Statement. Ms. Zaleski read Harbor's Mission/Vision Statement out loud.

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS:</u>
- Mr. Czarske announced that tonight we have our annual Board meeting at which we elect new Board members and Officers. Tonight members received the ELECTION BALLOT and the SLATE OF OFFICERS BALLOT and voted. Results will be announced during the Board Development Committee reporting of the meeting.

- Mr. Czarske announced the date of Saturday, October 10, 2026 has been selected for our annual Board Retreat and Recognition Dinner. Details to follow.

<u>PUBLIC COMMENT:</u>
Mr. Czarske advised that public input was next on the agenda. Mr. Czarske stated that he will call upon each person who submitted a Public Comment Request form to address the Board and requested that he or she limit their comments to two minutes in order to accommodate everyone. Mr. Czarske indicated that we had received two (2) Public Comment Request forms.

<u>PRESENTATION OF MINUTES:</u>
Dr. Flores presented the draft minutes of the March 17, 2026 meeting of our Board which were included in the Board packet and posted for the general public on the

Harbor website. **<u>The MINUTES OF THE MARCH 17, 2026 BOARD MEETING were received and filed.</u>**

<u>PRESENTATION OF FINANCIALS</u>
In Mr. Chiou's absence, Ms. Wada reviewed the following financial statements, which were received and filed:

- Harbor Regional Center Monthly Financial Report Fiscal Year 2025-26, dated February and March, 2026
- Harbor Regional Center POS Contract Summary, dated February and March, 2026
- Harbor Regional Center Purchase of Service Line Item Report, dated February and March 2026
- Harbor Regional Center Operations Line Item Report, dated February and March 2026
- Harbor Developmental Disabilities Foundation Harbor Help Fund Statement of Activities Fiscal Year 2025-26

<u>BOARD PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT | ADOPTION OF HARBOR'S DRAFT 2026-2027 PERFORMANCE PLAN:</u>
Mr. Czarske called upon Thao Mailloux, Director of Strategic Communications and Engagement who presented Harbor's Draft 2026-2027 Performance Plan for FY 2024-25 Year End Data. Ms. Mailloux documented questions and suggestions from the Board and audience upon concluding her presentation. Ms. Mailloux called upon Chairperson David Gauthier to give the Board Planning Committee Report.

Mr. Gauthier called the Board's attention to the May 13, 2026 Board Planning Committee minutes and requested the Board make a motion to adopt Harbor's Draft 2026-2027 Performance Plan.

<u>Ms. Zaleski moved to adopt Harbor's Draft 2026-2027 Performance Plan and Ms. Rodriguez seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Board.</u>

<u>EXECUTIVE REPORT</u>

1. **<u>STATE BUDGET UPDATE:</u>**
   Mr. Ruppe provided the Board with a detailed update on the budget, specifically on the May Revision that was released on May 15, 2026 that included the following key developmental services: 1) Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Budget; 2) Regional Center System Funding; 3) Federal Reimbursements; and 4) Trailer Bill Language (TBL). Mr. Ruppe informed that significant cuts were anticipated across many state programs, but the Budget largely spared cuts to developmental services.

2. **<u>FOR BOARD APPROVAL | BORROWING RESOLUTION | LINE OF CREDIT WITH CITY NATIONAL BANK:</u>**
   Mr. Ruppe informed that it is necessary for Harbor to have a line of credit in place in the event we have insufficient cash to ensure that our service providers are paid timely and to meet other obligations. Harbor has renewed its line of credit with City National Bank. The original loan agreement was entered on February 9, 2024. The current agreement expires on June 30, 2026 with the revolving credit amount of $40,000,000. The agreement will be extended through June 30, 2027, with the revolving credit amount increased to $50,000,000.

BORROWING RESOLUTION: RESOLVED that the agreement will be extended through June 30, 2027, with the revolving credit amount increased to $50,000,000. Mr. Gates moved to adopt the borrowing resolution as noted above and Mr. Patay seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

3. **FOR BOARD APPROVAL | PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACT | CCP/CRDP START-UP FUNDING FOR A LEVEL 7 ADULT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY HRC2526-2:**
   Mr. Ruppe advised that the Lanterman Act requires any regional center contract which exceeds $250,000 be approved by the regional center Board. Mr. Ruppe indicated that this contract is for the development of an adult residential facility with a Level 7 service provider (California Enhanced Behavioral Services, LLC) for persons with behavioral support needs for the contract period of June 30, 2026 to March 31, 2027.

   Mr. Gauthier moved to approve the Purchase of Service Contract for CCP/CRDP Start-Up Funding for a Level 7 Adult Residential Facility HRC2526-2 and Dr. Flores seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

4. **FOR BOARD APPROVAL | PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACT | CCP/CRDP START-UP FUNDING FOR A LEVEL 7 ADULT RESIDENTIAL FACILITY HRC2526-3:**
   Mr. Ruppe advised that the Lanterman Act requires any regional center contract which exceeds $250,000 be approved by the regional center Board. Mr. Ruppe indicated that this contract is for the development of an adult residential facility with a Level 7 service provider (Person Centered Options, LLC) for persons with mental health needs for the contract period of June 30, 2026 to March 31, 2027.

   Ms. Zaleski moved to approve the Purchase of Service Contract for CCP/CRDP Start-Up Funding for a Level 7 Adult Residential Facility HRC2526-3 and Mr. Gauthier seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

5. **FOR BOARD APPROVAL | PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACT | PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | COLUMBUS MEDICAL SERVICES, LLC:**
   Mr. Ruppe called the Board's attention to the Purchase of Service Contract with Columbus Medical Services, LLC dba The Columbus Organization and informed this is a renewal contract with The Columbus Organization that provides the clinical staff for Harbor, which includes Harbor's nurses, psychologists, bi-lingual psychologist, forensic specialist, pharmacist, board certified behavior analyst and speech and language pathologist. Mr. Ruppe informed that the projected annual amount is not to exceed $2,507,221.00 for the contract period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

   Dr. Flores moved to approve the Purchase of Service Contract for Professional Services by The Columbus Organization with a projected renewal amount, not to exceed, $2,507,221.00 for the contract period of

July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 and Mr. Patay seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

6. **FOR BOARD APPROVAL | PURCHASE OF SERVICE | FOUR (4) TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS WITH COMFORT, IDEAL, RELIABLE & ROUND TRIP:**
   Mr. Ruppe advised that the Lanterman Act requires any regional center contract which exceeds $250,000 be approved by the regional center Board. Mr. Ruppe provided a description of each transportation service and indicated that the projected annual amount for all four (4) transportation providers contracts with Comfort, Ideal, Reliable and Round Trip will be approximately between $12,655,300 to $13,655,300 from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027; may be extended for two (2) additional one-year terms.

   Mr. Gauthier moved to approve the four (4) Purchase of Service Transportation Contracts with Comfort, Ideal, Reliable and Round Trip who will have a projected annual amount of approximately between $12,655,300 to $13,655,300 and Mr. Gonzalez seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

7. **FOR BOARD APPROVAL | HARBOR TO ADOPT DDS'S SOCIAL RECREATION POLICY:**
   Mr. Ruppe informed the Board that the Department of Development Services (DDS) drafted a streamlined social recreational policy for all regional centers to adopt to ensure and maintain consistency throughout the State with regards to providing social recreational services. Mr. Ruppe asked the Board whether they wished to keep Harbor's current social recreational policy or adopt DDS's and the Board moved to adopt DDS's policy.

   Dr. Flores moved to adopt DDS's Social Recreation Policy and Ms. Lee seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

8. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS:**
   Mr. Ruppe called on Ms. Mailloux, Director of Strategic Communications and Engagement who shared photos and information of Harbor's Book Buddies, Story & Play Time, Autism Awareness 5K events, Self-Determination Program Resource Fair, Spring Transition Fair, LAUSD Special Education Family Resource Fair and the Catalina Island Resource Fair.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. **BOARD DEVELOPMENT**
   Mr. Czarske reported that the Board Development Committee met on April 15, 2026 where the ELECTION BALLOT and the SLATE OF OFFICERS BALLOT were created. These ballots were handed out tonight to the Board members who voted.

   RESULTS OF VOTING:
   1. All Board members unanimously voted to ELECT the following SLATE OF OFFICERS for a term of one (1) additional year:

President – LaVelle Gates	Vice President – Joe Czarske
Treasurer – Dr. James Flores	Secretary – Fu-Tien Chiou

2. All Board members unanimously voted to ELECT the following candidate: Alexandra Stewart for a term of two (2) years of services beginning June 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028. Mr. Ruppe informed the Board that Ms. Stewart will be invited to the June 16, 2026 training.

B. <u>CLIENT ADVISORY</u>

In Chair Jordan's absence, Ms. Taimi informed the Board that the Client Advisory Committee met on February 11, 2026 and discussed the Lunar Celebration, Listening Sessions and Peer Hangout. The Committee agreed to have their next meeting on August 12, 2026 in person.

C. <u>CLIENT SERVICES</u>

Ms. Taimi reported in lieu of Chair Gauthier informing the Board that the Client Services Committee met on January 28, 2026 and participated in the training discussing the current Childcare Services and Service Policy. Ms. Taimi informed that the Board also met on March 24, 2026, but will report on that meeting at the July Board meeting.

D. <u>RETIREMENT</u>

In Chair Chiou's absence, Ms. Wada reported on the Retirement Plan Balances as of the quarter ending March 31, 2026.

E. <u>SELF-DETERMINATION ADVISORY</u>

Ms. Perez advised the Board that the Self-Determination Advisory Committee continues to meet monthly and provided an update on the March and April meetings.

F. <u>SERVICE PROVIDER ADVISORY</u>

Ms. Rodriguez, Chair of the Committee, informed that the Committee met on April 7, 2026 and received updates on SIR Reporting, HCBS and requirements for the upcoming annual independent audit, rate reform, standardized vendorization and the quality incentive program (QIP) for fiscal year 2026-27. Ms. Rodirguez advised of the committee's efforts to drum up more service provider participation to the SPAC meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2026.

<u>ADJOURNMENT 7:37 p.m.</u>

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

Submitted by: James H. Flores, Jr.

Dr. James Flores, Secretary
Board of Trustees
Harbor Developmental Disabilities Foundation