



## **PASC Governing Board Meeting Minutes April 5, 2010**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Ms. Otero called the meeting to order. Mr. Castano called the roll:

Members present: Mr. Adler, Ms. Becker Kennedy, Ms. Belton, Mr. Castano, Dr. Davila-Castro, Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury, Ms. Otero, Ms. Varga, Mr. Vasquez

Members absent: Ms. Argenta, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Magady, Ms. Navarro, Ms. Park

### **II. READING OF MISSION STATEMENT AND MOMENT OF SILENCE**

The mission statement was read by Mr. Adler, and a moment of silence was observed. Ms. Otero asked that the moment of silence be observed for the IHSS Program.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Cinde Soto urged DPSS to provide PASC with names and addresses of IHSS providers, to educate providers about the June 30th deadline for background checks. Ms. Soto reported that her providers are unable to pay the cost of fingerprinting, and objected to the requirement that family members be fingerprinted.

Mr. Adler responded that PASC shares Ms. Soto's frustration over access to names and addresses, and suggested that PASC move more aggressively to obtain this information. Mr. Adler also emphasized that DPSS has agreed to forward PASC mailings to providers or consumers, and that PASC is continuing to pursue a better postage rate for such mailings.

Mr. Thompson responded that PASC is focused on working with DPSS to move as many providers as possible through the background check process. PASC has linked with the Independent Living Coalition and CAPA to provide education and advocacy, and is recruiting consumers for focus groups. Mr. Thompson travels to Sacramento each month to address these issues.

Mr. Adler reported on pending lawsuits and potential legal responses if the governor's proposals are implemented.

Ben Rockwell reported that he hired a new attendant on March 1st, and was unable to reach the provider clerk for approximately 10 days. Mr. Rockwell contacted the Board of Supervisors, his senator, his assemblyperson, and his ILC. His provider was able to obtain an orientation appointment no earlier than April 28th. Mr. Rockwell expressed his concerns that consumers will die because of this delay. Mr. Rockwell also stated his concerns that neither consumers nor providers are able to pay the cost of fingerprinting, and outlined the expenses he has given up because his SSI has been lowered.

Mr. Thompson responded that PASC is conducting up to 18 orientations per week for new providers, including a mobile Live Scan provider. PASC has added technology to speed up the processing of criminal background check results. PASC has asked DPSS to draft a memo outlining the impact of the June 30th deadline on consumers and emergency response personnel, and is working with CAPA on legislation.

Mr. Adler suggested that PASC work with Mr. Rockwell to contact the Los Angeles Times regarding these issues. Ms. Becker Kennedy agreed, and suggested that PASC hold a press conference.

Bertha Poole, Personal Assistance Services Coordinator for Southern California Rehabilitation Services, expressed her concern that current IHSS providers will not be cleared by the June 30th deadline. Ms. Poole reported that one of SCRS' providers has paid twice for her fingerprinting, but still has not cleared.

Beau Hennemann, Supervisor, Programs and Public Relations, clarified DOJ's procedures for addressing problems with reading fingerprints, requesting additional scans, and fees that may be charged.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF MARCH 1, 2010 MINUTES**

**Minutes of March 1, 2010 approved on motion of Mr. Castano, seconded by Ms. Belton, by consensus.**

#### **V. CHAIR'S REPORT**

##### **1. CHANGING FORMAT OF AGENDA**

Ms. Otero reported that Board members have asked that the facilitation of Board meetings be improved and the process be made more efficient, and have expressed discomfort with speaking during meetings and frustration with the disproportionate length of agenda item discussions.

Ms. Otero distributed examples of agendas from other county and city commissions, and noted the established time limits. Mr. Adler has suggested increasing the number of action items. Ms. Otero suggested optional two-minute reports from each Board member.

Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury stated her discomfort that not all Board members express their views during meetings. Ms. Varga emphasized the need for a code of civility and compliance with the Brown Act, and suggested that Board members be encouraged to submit ideas for agenda items 10 days in advance to the Board Chair. Mr. Adler voiced his frustration that there is no substantive content in the agenda. Ms. Becker Kennedy expressed her frustration that action is not taken on emergent issues, and the need to address crises quickly.

#### **VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Thompson reported that completion of new provider orientations and CBIs by June 30th is PASC's first priority. PASC plans to expand its Registry, in anticipation of increased calls after June 30th, and increase consumer outreach. PASC is also focused on collaborating with DPSS and with other county and state agencies to prevent proposed program reductions.

Mr. Thompson voiced his support for adding structure to the agenda through standing agenda items, and asked the Board to consider forming committees around specific issues.

Mr. Thompson presented New Provider Enrollment and CBI Call Center data; as of March 30th, approximately 30,000 of 140,000 providers have been cleared. In February, PASC received 4500 calls from new providers inquiring about the new process.

Ms. Becker Kennedy suggested that PASC hold a press conference, and that PASC work with attorneys to file an injunction.

Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury suggested that PASC conduct a campaign with a press strategy, in conjunction with DPSS.

Mr. Adler suggested that PASC pursue legislation to extend the June 30th deadline.

Ms. Belton reported that her provider has received five letters from DPSS and PASC; Ms. Belton voiced her opinion that this is misuse of postage. Ms. Belton also reported that providers receive less than 24 hours notice of their orientation appointment.

Ms. Varga reported that her provider received an orientation notice after the date of the orientation, and was told by a district office that she could not attend another session; Ms. Varga suggested that PASC work with DPSS to assist with training DPSS employees on these issues.

Ms. Varga suggested that the Chair's Report, Executive Director's Report, and DPSS Report be placed before Public Comment on the agenda.

Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury recommended that PASC participate in CDSS stakeholder calls, and that DPSS designate an ombudsman. Mr. Thompson responded that PASC meets regularly with DPSS, and integrates Board feedback. Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury suggested that the volunteer corps be mobilized to address these issues.

Mr. Adler questioned the ratios of existing to depending provider enrollment in LA County as compared with other counties.

**VII. FEBRUARY 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT  
FEBRUARY 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT – NEW PROVIDER ENROLLMENT  
REQUIREMENTS**

**February 2010 Financial Report approved on motion of Mr. Castano, seconded by Ms. Becker Kennedy, by consensus.**

**February 2010 Financial Report – New Provider Enrollment Requirements approved on motion Mr. Castano, seconded by Mr. Adler.**

Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury reported that she and Simon Golledge, Assistant Director, Finance/CFO, have discussed forming an ad hoc finance committee; Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury has asked Mr. Castano and Ms. Varga to serve on this committee.

**VIII. AUDIT YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009**

Report presented by Mr. Golledge. **Approved on motion of Mr. Adler, seconded by Mr. Castano, by consensus.**

In accordance with California Government Code Section 53646(b)(1), Mr. Golledge reported on interest income for February.

**IX. DPSS REPORT**

Sonia Perez reported that, as of March 28th, 145,382 appointment letters have been sent to current IHSS providers. 65,832 have completed the enrollment process at an appointment, 3887 at a homecall, and 3615 in a district office. DPSS is unable to provide CBIs at orientations, due to sole sourcing regulations, but provides CBI packets with a list of Live Scan vendors.

In response to a question from Mr. Adler, Ms. Perez reported that appointment letters to current providers are now mailed 10 days prior to the appointment. **Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury suggested that DPSS send reminders to providers who have not yet been fingerprinted, and that PASC have input into these letters; Ms. Perez agreed to look into this.**

In response to a question from Mr. Adler, Mr. Hennemann clarified that public authorities can perform their own fingerprinting; however, PASC decided this was not feasible due to equipment expense and insufficient funding.

Mr. Rockwell reported that providers are not told that they can complete the enrollment process at the homecall, that providers are receiving only two days' notice of appointments, and that no phone number is provided. Ms. Belton and Ms. Becker Kennedy reported that phones are not answered during business hours at some of the district offices. Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury offered the services of the volunteer corps to assist with answering phones.

Hortensia Diaz reported that second letters to providers are currently being mailed; letters are also being mailed to consumers whose providers have not attended an orientation. Ms. Diaz also reported that the state has now prepopulated the enrollment screen, which will help to speed up the process and make state and county data more consistent.

## **X. PASC ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES**

Mr. Hennemann reported that PASC has to date conducted approximately 120 orientations for 4200 new providers; approximately 2000 providers are currently pending.

### **1. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mr. Hennemann reported that SB 891 has been recently amended; he will provide more detailed information on this at next month's meeting.

In response to a question from Ms. Varga, Mr. Thompson reported that he will serve on a panel at the upcoming Abilities Expo. **Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury requested that information on this panel be emailed to all Board members; Mr. Thompson agreed.**

## **XI. UNION ISSUES**

Kiya Stokes from ULTCW reported that monthly Regional Provider Meetings are held throughout the state for providers; information is also posted on ULTCW's website, and neighborhood Community Coffees are also held. Mr. Stokes reported that the union is currently focused on preventing cuts to the IHSS Program.

**Ms. Becker Kennedy suggested that the union set up calls to all providers informing them of the new provider requirements, and that the union also provide an ombudsman; Mr. Stokes agreed to take these ideas to union leadership.**

**Mr. Adler and Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury requested information on the number of providers who have internet access; Mr. Stokes agreed.**

Ms. Varga and Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury asked the union to consider assisting providers with the cost of CBIs, based on new information from CDSS.

Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury requested information on the union's current mechanisms for addressing provider questions, and offered to provide volunteers to assist the union with this.

## **XII. MISSION MOMENTS**

## **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Ms. Becker Kennedy urged the Board to hold a press conference. Mr. Adler asked staff members to research the possibility of coordinating this; Mr. Thompson agreed,** and suggested that it be held locally. Ms. Varga suggested that PASC coordinate with CAPA, CICA, and the union. Ms. Becker Kennedy volunteered to serve on a press conference committee.

Ms. Becker Kennedy urged PASC to work with DRC on an injunction, to work with legislators to introduce emergency legislation, and to form a committee to address these issues.

## **XIV. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

## **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

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Yungsohn Park, PASC Board Secretary

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Date minutes approved

## **ACTION POINTS**

- Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury suggested that DPSS send reminders to providers who have not yet been fingerprinted, and that PASC have input into these letters; Ms. Perez agreed to look into this.
- Mr. Thompson reported that he will serve on a panel at the upcoming Abilities Expo. Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury requested that information on this panel be emailed to all Board members; Mr. Thompson agreed.
- Ms. Becker Kennedy suggested that the union set up calls to all providers informing them of the new provider requirements, and that the union also provide an ombudsman; Mr. Stokes agreed to take these ideas to union leadership.
- Mr. Adler and Ms. Heinritz-Canterbury requested information on the number of providers who have internet access; Mr. Stokes agreed.
- Ms. Becker Kennedy urged the Board to hold a press conference. Mr. Adler asked staff members to research the possibility of coordinating this; Mr. Thompson agreed.