



## DHHSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 8, 2012

- I. Call to Order – 6:31 pm Rosemary W. Diaz presiding.
- II. Board Members Present: Rosemary W. Diaz, President (RWD), Jonathan Silva, vice-president (JS), Sue Stone, Secretary (SS), Laura Casuga (LC);
- III. Board Members Absent: Beatrice Bejar (BB), David Denton (DD), both excused; Ronald Reagan (RR) unexcused ;  
RWD announced that there is not a quorum present.  
DHHSC Staff Members Present: Michelle Bronson (MB), Executive Director, Lisa Huffman, Susan Coulter, Razonda Munyaradzi  
Visitors: James McGuire, Jill Nolen, Shane Frazel, Amanda Sortwell, Bud Breslin, Jimmy Bronson, Jon Ditommaso, Jeremy Thomas, Erin Punicam;  
Interpreters: Pam Warkentin and Nikki Wolfe
- IV. Public Comments (3 minutes per visitor) – none
- V. Approval of Agenda Items – approved by consent JS pointed out that we need to change the officers names on the agenda but unable to vote on it due to lack of quorum
- VI. Approval of **April** Board Minutes – will do by email
- VII. President's Report – RWD
  - A. YES job fair was a great success congrats to staff for their hard work. The feedback was very positive and one teacher told me that "she doesn't like field trips" but felt that this was a worthy one for the kids to miss academic time to come." another teacher said "the parents will see that they got great information and products from DHHSC and hopefully the parents will want to come and be a part of DHHSC too."
  - B. Yes to ASL workshop last Saturday was wonderful. Nice to have Marla Hatrak and Sheri Farinha present this information. I felt the research, data, and legislative advocacy tips were very beneficial especially as Michelle and I prepare to present to the FUSD Board of Education. We have been getting the runaround and still have not been confirmed on the Board of Education's agenda; we plan to have an event that will allow for a show of community support. Therefore we will be appearing at the public comments tomorrow afternoon at 5:30 p.m. and submitting a formal request.
  - C. Reminder about board training on May 15 and 22 - would like everyone to attend. Our goal is to have 12 board members by the end of 2012. We can accomplish this goal; keep recruiting.
- VIII. Vice-President's Report – JS  
We have received applications for Board members and will be conducting interviews. We have a team of individuals to reach out to the community and get better ideas on how to run the agency to better serve the community.
- IX. Secretary's Report – SS-none

- X. Treasurer's Report – DD (absent) 3 month summary report will be next month.  
**April** Financial Report distributed.

Checking/savings balance	\$347,650
Accounts Receivable total	\$356,251
AR grants	\$244,740
AR interpreting	\$111,511
Accounts payable	\$12,307
Mortgage payable	\$135,480
Board private fund balance	\$4,270
Profit/loss	\$35,691
DSS grant for 11-12	\$650,564
Spent	\$557,742
Unspent	\$92,821

- XI. Executive Director's Report – Michelle Bronson

A. National volunteer month is April and we are recognizing all of our volunteers this month, including the Board. They have been presented with a plague, pen and pin.

B. We are receiving more requests to do presentations, including for In-Home Support Services (IHSS) staff and Myriam from Madera Emergency Preparedness Committee (for the same group Rosemary and Nikki presented for last year). Next Monday will be for IHSS, and Myriam and I are collaborating on a presentation she wants done for her group. We appreciate these opportunities as they enable us to build connections while obtaining further referrals for training and services.

C. I am pleased to share that April Davies was recently accepted to be on IHSS Advisory Committee. Diana Lee was also invited to participate on another advisory committee, and I am proud of staff for becoming involved with different committees.

D. Last Wednesday we had two different activities: We hosted our Youth Employment Services (YES) Career Fair, which was a success. We had more than 30 students attend, along with their teachers and aides. DOR consumers also attended, and the feedback we received was very positive. It is our goal to host the career fair again next year, and I'd like to thank all the staff and volunteers who were involved.

E. Our D/HH senior citizens were invited to attend a free Elder Abuse Conference last Wednesday. Nine of our community members attended, and I'd like to thank Susan Coulter for coordinating our D/HH table, along with interpreters for the conference.

F. As you may recall, I mentioned last month that our very own Stacy and Shane were involved with the Disability Advocacy Team's filming of a PSA as a Deaf patient at a doctor's office with a rude secretary. Our Advocacy Team is planning to host the Video Premiere here at DHHSC on June 8<sup>th</sup> @3pm, and once the details are finalized, I will be sending out the announcement. I hope you all will be able to attend. I am excited about this project and proud of Stacy and Shane.

G. In addition, you may have seen the recent Fresno Bee article written by Rick Bentley about the captioning glasses, in which Dr. Sue Stone's comments were included. After reading the article and seeing that the glasses were provided at Edwards 21 theatre in Riverpark, my daughter and I decided to try out the glasses. The glasses were pretty neat, but somewhat bulky and heavy on the ears. The green text on the glasses are centered, which somewhat interferes with actors and actresses' faces on the screen. Nonetheless, I really appreciated having more

movie options, the new technology, and being able to go to Riverpark, not just Signature Theatre. I appreciate the progression in technology and having more options.

H. We are pleased to announce that James Mcguire was recently hired as our new part-time Client Services Specialist for the Merced office.

I. On April 24 I attended training on “Resolving Team Conflicts” through our Sierra Partners HR firm. I enjoyed the training because we discussed different strategies and techniques on how to deal with different perspectives and goals and how to pull everyone together on the same team. We discussed normal group cycles and what to expect any time a new person joins the team. This training was applicable because same as here, we all have different perspectives and sometimes different goals, but the heart of our services is to best serve our community.

X. Operations Director’s Report – JL, presented by MB

A. We finished our third quarter report to DSS this month. We are doing very well in our service categories, though we do notice that advocacy is not requested as much. We would appreciate everyone's help in encouraging community members to seek advocacy assistance from us when needed. DHHSC staff is ready and willing to be an advocate for those who need it. For more information on this service, ask any staff member. We are working on why these requests are down and how to increase, as we consider this a very important part of the mission of DHHSC.

B. Also this past month, I presented our grant application to United Way in Merced. The presentation went well, and I very much appreciated having Angelica Martinez there to assist and also Jonathan Silva, our new VP of the Board, for doing a great job interpreting for me. Thank you both. We should learn sometime this month if we will be awarded grant funds.

C. Last week, DHHSC had its first-ever Career Fair, funded by Sequoia Area 8 Board of Supervisors as part of our YES program grant. We are thankful to them for the support, and also I want to express my thanks to all of the staff and volunteers who participated in making the fair a successful event with over 70 people attending. Everyone was surprised in how many D/HH professionals there are out there. It was a great success, and we feel that we learned from the experience, so that we can make it even better next time!

D. Last, I want to mention that there may be a vacancy on Fresno's AC by this year's Community Comments event, which is usually in August. If you are interested in becoming a new member of the AC on that day, there will be an election. Feel free to contact me for more information. We need to make sure that more community members are aware of what the AC is and what they do, so if a spot opens up, someone will be prepared to nominate themselves at community comments to become a new member. Contact [Jesse@dhhsc.org](mailto:Jesse@dhhsc.org) for more info.

XI. Committee Reports –

- a. Bylaws Committee – SS—no report
- b. Fundraising Committee – JS--Wonders of the Animal Kingdom is July 14-15. ED (Entertainment Deaf) performances for the D/HH community are having their first meeting May 25 @ 7 pm location TBD. This project will raise money for DHHSC.
- c. Grant Monitoring Committee – RWD Grants were reviewed for Fresno and Merced only as there are currently no grants for Visalia or Salinas. We need a % spent and unspent accounting system so I can provide better feedback. RE DOR, I do not understand why certain funds have been spent or not spent—please reflect in report. MB response: CLAST has paid for itself; other programs have been a challenge. If clients don’t show up, follow through, etc...it is hard to show the accounting and we have lost revenue this way.

XII. General Board Comments – Unfinished and new business postponed to next meeting due to lack of a quorum.

XIII. Public Comments (specific to agenda – 3 minutes per visitor) –none

XIV Announcements –

A. The Board has discussed and has met with DHHSC staff management team and there will be a new structure to DHHSC starting July. Michelle will become the executive director and there will no longer be an operations director. Jesse’s new title is ‘Grants and Marketing Director’, and he will now report to Michelle. There will be a new 30 hour position: Service Personnel Director to supervise all staff members in all four offices. This person will not work with clients. The position is advertised on the website. This structure will be more efficient and opens an exciting new chapter for DHHSC.

XV. Adjournment – 7:20

**Date of Next Local Board Meeting: June 12, 2012 6:30 to 8:30 @ DHHSC – Fresno**

Submitted by Sue Stone, DHHSC Secretary