



REGIONAL ACCESS PROJECT FOUNDATION

Annual Board Meeting

Approved Minutes

Wednesday January 22, 2025 at 9:00 AM

41550 Eclectic St. Palm Desert, CA 92260

51625 Desert Club. Ste 101, La Quinta CA 92253

415 N. Main Street Blythe CA 92225

83966 Fiesta Rd. Coachella, CA 92236

**I. CALL TO ORDER: By Vice-Chair A. Wilson at 9:00 - Roll Call: S. Benoit, C. Borba, G. Colangeli, A. Dew, C. Galvez arrived at 9:03, M. Gonda, R. Gutierrez arrived at 9:25, J. Hayes, B. Kroonen, M. Meyer, R. Ortega (Good Cause determined), E. Romero, K. Rodgers, T. St.Johns, V. Tanner, A. Wilson, Supervisor Perez/P. Cooper.**

**Excused absence: J. Pye.**

**Absence: B. Gonzalez**

**Also Present: Anyse Smith, Staff: L. De Lara, M. Reyes, G. Holliday, T. Fantini, V. Arroniz, A. Chavez, M. Robles, D. Morales, S. Minor, A. Huesca, A. Lackie.**

**Ally Anderson, CADC Program Director of ABC Recovery.**

**II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

In order to meet Brown Act requirements, items may be added to the agenda only upon decision by a majority of the Board of Directors to add the item because of a need for immediate action.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To approve the agenda as submitted.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>B. Kroonen</b>	<b>A.Dew</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**III. Board Membership**

A. Reappointment of Board Members. - The Nominations Committee met on January 11 and considered the following board member's participation with board requirements.

- Craig Borba
- Tori St.Johns

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To recommend to the Board to reappoint C. Borba and T. St.Johns to 4-year terms.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To reappoint C. Borba and T. St. Johns to 4 year terms.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>V. Tanner</b>	<b>M. Meyer</b>	<b>17 –C. Galvez and R. Ortega arrived.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

B. New RAP Board Member - The Nominations Committee interviewed two candidates, Connie Golds and Anyse Smith for the one vacancy. The Committee considered the Board of Directors Profile Matrix (Attach. #1).

Nominations Committee Recommendation: To appoint Anyse Smith to the Board to a 4-year term.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To appoint Anyse Smith to a 4 year term.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>C. Galvez</b>	<b>E. Romero</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

III. PUBLIC COMMENT Any individual wishing to comment on the agenda or an item not on the agenda may do so by emailing [mreyes@rapfoundation.org](mailto:mreyes@rapfoundation.org) or calling in at the number above. All emailed comments must be received prior to 9:00 AM. Persons wishing to speak on general comments regarding non-agenda items will be called for at this time. Specific comments regarding agenda items will be called for during discussion of each item. Please be prepared to limit your Public Comment remarks to three (3) minutes. - **None**

ABC Recovery to provide an update on grant progress and their services. - **Ally Anderson, CADC Program Director of ABC Recovery delivered a presentation and provided information about the expansion which was completed in 2024 which added 80 beds for men and 4 beds for women.**

#### IV. CONSENT ITEMS: Action Required

- A.** December 18, 2024 Board Meeting Draft Minutes - Receive and file (Attach. #2)
- B.** CEO Report - Receive and File (Attach. #3)
- C.** Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report – Receive and File (Attach. #4)
- D.** Financials for Period ending December 31, 2024– Receive and File (Attach. #5)
- E.** Grant Report - Receive and File. (Attach. #6)

Staff Recommendation: To receive and file the December 18, 2024 BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Financials up to December 31, 2024, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, and Grants Report.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To receive and file the December 18, 2024 BOD Minutes, CEO Report, Financials up to December 31, 2024, Coachella Valley Healthy Living Report, and Grants Report.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>B. Kroonen</b>	<b>C. Borba</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>A. Dew and A. Smith</b>

- F.** NPO Centric Report - Receive and File (Attach. #7) - Taly Fantini, NPO Centric Director to make a presentation to share highlights of monthly activities.

Staff Recommendation: To receive and file.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To receive and file. The UCR graduation for current class will take place on June 13.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>A. Dew</b>	<b>C. Borba</b>	<b>18 R/ Gutierrez joined meeting</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>A. Smith</b>

- G.** Updated RAP website – Presentation by Stephanie Minor, Director of Development – **S. Minor delivered presentation of the revised RAP website.**

#### V. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS – Action May Be Required

- A.** Resignation of Karina Quintanilla- The City of Palm Desert notified RAP on Jan. 13 that the City of Palm Desert has replaced K. Quintanilla with councilmember Gina Nestande as their liaison to RAP. The

RAP Board will consider this vacancy at a future board meeting per the Executive Committee's direction.

Staff Recommendation: To accept the resignation and send letter of appreciation to Councilmember Quintanilla.

Motion:	To accept the resignation and send letter of appreciation to Councilmember Quintanilla.			
Motion By:	Second By:	# Approve:	# Oppose:	Abstention (Name):
C.Borba	M. Meyer	16	V. Tanner	R. Gutierrez was not present.

B. Supervisor V. Manuel Perez or his Representative- to provide update on County matters of interest.

*Supervisor Perez gave an update and mentioned the following topics:*

- 1. Is serving as Riverside County Chair for 2025, also serving on CSAC Executive Team – 1 of 15 Supervisors statewide.*
- 2. He met with Animal services staff and offered his support for their efforts. A new Director will be announced soon.*
- 3. Will be adding the City of Villa de Alvarez as a Sister City to County, along with the State of Colima. Will be hosting dignitaries starting on Sunday thru next Tuesday. He is planning a trip to Mexico in Feb.*
- 4. Announced that 100 families have been relocated from Oasis Mobile Home Park. Acknowledged the participation of CVWD and IID along with the Torres Martinez Tribe and the Federal agencies for their role in making this happen.*
- 5. Announced the CV Dust Summit starting Feb. 6 – will include AQMD and will cover the physical health and economy.*
- 6. The National Date Festival will start on Feb. 16 and will run for 3 weekends.*
- 7. Mentioned the Carver Tract in Indio and the County's efforts to improve the sidewalks, roads and address flooding issues. Hopes that investments in infrastructure will lead to the area being annexed by Indio.*
- 8. The Juvenile Justice hosted along with the Annie E. Casey Foundation will take place on Feb. 20.*
- 9. The Fishing Derby will take place on Feb. 22. - improvements at Lake Cahuilla Veterans Regional Park will include improvement of pool, addition of splash pad, improvement of restrooms, addition of horseshoe, pickle ball and playground. Hurkey Creek will also experience improvements.*
- 10. The State of the 4<sup>th</sup> District will take place on April 7 at Fantasy Springs.*
- 11. He responded to a question from M. Meyer that he would get update on discussion to develop a park in Bermuda Dunes.*
- 12. The Point in Time Homeless count is taking place today. 800 new housing units have been added in the Coachella Valley. Acknowledged that the CV is a leader in the State for addressing homelessness.*
- 13. In response to the question from C. Galvez, he is working with County staff to assess the impact of the new Trump Administration. He is looking to other counties, for example, Monterey County to create a "welcoming" message acknowledging immigrant's contributions and positive values/characteristics.*

C. GRANTS TRACKER FY 2024-2025: (Attach. #8) - *Melissa Robles, Grants Manager delivered update.*

D. Small Grant

Small Grant #1	ACV East Valley Service Expansion
Requested Amount:	\$10,000.00

Reviewer's Average Scores:	85%
ACV offers 14 programs and numerous support groups to improve socialization and support, both for the diagnosis and caregiver. Programs improve skills, reduce social isolation and loneliness, and offer mental health support.	
With the addition of 2 bilingual staff ACV's 2025 plan is to continue to expand its efforts to reach Hispanic residents through targeted outreach presentations at various locations in the EV, participation in health fairs, development of collaborative partners and scheduled screenings of EV residents at VIM, Mecca Family & Farmworkers Service Centers, etc. They will continue development & launching of additional in person and zoom Spanish-language support-groups, programs & written materials.	
Prior RAP Funding:	FY20-21 Small Grant: \$5,000; FY22-23 Small Grant: \$3,000 FY23-24 Sponsorship Grant: \$4,000; FY23-24 Small Grant: \$10,000 FY24-25 Sponsorship Grant: \$5,000

Grants Committee Recommendation: For the Board to approve the request for \$10,000

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To approve \$10,000.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>V. Tanner</b>	<b>A. Dew</b>	<b>18</b>		<b>0</b>

#### E. Sponsorship

Sponsorship #1	GPL-Grandparents Love
Program:	The Taste of Soul and Comfort
Requested Amount:	\$5,000
The Taste of Soul and Comfort is a celebration and support hub for grandparents raising grandchildren. By combining the joy of shared meals with access to vital resources, the event fosters connection, empowerment, and practical assistance, all while raising awareness of the unique challenges faced by these caregivers. The event will offer direct access to essential services, such as medical, legal, and financial assistance, through partnerships with resource providers, ensuring grandparents have the tools they need to thrive.	
Prior RAP Funding:	N/A

Grants Committee Recommendation: To approve request for \$1,000 instead of the \$5,000 requested. The reason for the reduced amount is because this is a first year event and first time grantee.

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To approve \$1,000.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>M. Maria</b>	<b>B. Kroonen</b>	<b>17 – E. Romero left.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

F. Discuss the Palisades Fire and consider if there is a role for RAP to assist.

**No action taken. A. Dew would like for NPO Centric to provide training to assist families seeking resources. CEO will explore with A. Dew and NPOC committee.**

Grants Committee Recommendation: For the Board to discuss and decide.

<b>Motion:</b>				
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>

#### G. Flood and Earthquake Insurance Renewal

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve renewal of policy up to \$19,000

<b>Motion:</b>	<b>To approve renewal of policy up to \$19,000. Previous year's amount was \$14,000, a 27% increase.</b>			
<b>Motion By:</b>	<b>Second By:</b>	<b># Approve:</b>	<b># Oppose:</b>	<b>Abstention (Name):</b>
<b>C. Borba</b>	<b>V. Tanner</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

#### VI. Information Items

- A. Board Committee Assignments (Attach. # 9)
- B. BOARD ATTENDANCE for 2025 (Attach. # 10)
- C. Grants Committee: Met on Jan. 13. Approved Dec. 9, 2024 Minutes (Attach. # 11) Next meeting Feb. 18.
- D. Executive Committee: Met on Jan. 13. Approved Dec. 9 Minutes(Attach. #12) Next meeting Feb. 18.
- E. Finance/Investment Committee: Met on Jan. 13. Approved Dec. 9 Minutes (Attach. #13) Next meeting Feb. 18.
- F. NPO Centric Committee: Met on Dec. 16. Approved Nov. 18 Minutes (Attach. # 14). Next meeting March 17.
- G. Governance – Human Resource Committee: Next meeting TBD.
- H. Facilities Committee: TBD
- I. Health/Mental Health: Next meeting TBD.

#### VII. BOARD MEMBER / STAFF COMMENTS

- Introduce Andres Chavez, NPO Centric Program Manager/ Marketing Manage - **Andres introduced himself.**
- Announcement of Form 700 and Annual Code of Ethics forms due – **M. Reyes will be delivering the Annual Conflict of Interest forms to the board later today.**
- Congratulations to Diane Morales, Data and Systems Program Manager for achieving the Results Based Accountability certification. - **CEO acknowledged achievement.**

#### VIII. Closed Session:

California Government Code Section 54956.8 - Property  
California Code Section 54956.9 - Legal

**Report out: The Board unanimously voted in favor of counter offer and directed CEO to proceed.**

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Next meeting Feb. 26, 2025 at 9 AM. **Adjourned at 11:05**