PRESENT
Dina Richman, Chair
Anila Guruji
Mark Higgins
Gloria Leiva
Alex Li
Jae Rhee
Dr. Anthony Stein

NOT PRESENT
Elizabeth Beltran
Danielle Dejean
Kim Isaac
Jonathan Martinez
Yudy Mazariegos
Louis Mitchell
John Poulos
Ana Villasenor

ADVISOR TO THE BOARD-PRESENT
Larry DeBoer
Al Marsella

STAFF
Melinda Sullivan

CALL TO ORDER
The conference call was called to order at 9:30 AM.

MEDI-CAL PROVIDER ENROLLMENT
Ms. Sullivan advised the Board that Larry DeBoer, Frank Lara, and herself participated on a conference call on the topic of regional centers enrolling as Medi-Cal providers. Representatives of the Department of Developmental Services, the Department of Health Care Services and about 13 regional centers were on the call.

Centers were reminded that approximately 40% of the DDS budget is attributed to federal funding and that in 2017 the ‘21st Century Cures Act’ (intended to tighten the monitoring of
Federal funding) was passed. Regional centers coordinate services and provide case management. In 2018 California was audited and the lack of enrolled regional centers was cited as a deficiency and, as such, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) required that regional centers enroll as Medi-Cal providers if California is to continue to receive this federal funding. California unsuccessfully appealed this decision through several layers of federal bureaucracy; DDS was given a deadline of January 13th to submit the applications, which is why this could not wait for our regular board meeting.

Procedurally, the Medi-Cal Provider application process is coordinated through the Department of Health Care Services. During the conference call the Center learned that the individual regional center application requires confidential information of not only the executive director, but all board members as well. This confidential information includes names, birthdates and social security numbers of officers or directors as well as some general questions regarding fraud/abuse of any governmental programs.

With such a short time allotted for this process, combined with the holidays, the Center is suggesting that we arrange individual telephone appointments with each board member and we will complete the portion of the application related to the board member. A schedule with appointment times will be sent to Board members at the beginning of the year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 AM.

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Elizabeth Beltran, Secretary

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