

**California Rehabilitation Oversight Board Minutes
April 17, 2019 Meeting**

The California Rehabilitation Oversight Board (C-ROB) met in open session at 9:30 a.m. on April 17, 2019, at the CDAA, The Training Center at CDAA, (3rd floor of the Elks Tower Building), 921 11th Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Board Members present: **Roy Wesley**, Inspector General (Chairman); **Raul Arambula**, MA, Intersegmental Support (Designee for Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Chancellor, California Community Colleges); **William Arroyo, M.D.**, Regional Medical Director, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (Speaker of the Assembly Appointee); **Ralph Diaz**, Secretary, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR); **Brenda Grealish**, Assistant Deputy Director, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services, (Designee for Jennifer Kent, California Department of Health Care Services); **Darren Thompson**, Sheriff, County of San Benito (Governor Appointee); **Susan Turner**, Professor, University of California, Irvine (President of the University of California appointee); and **Carolyn Zachry**, Administrator, Adult Education Office, Career and College Transition Division, (Designee for Tony Thurmond, Superintendent of Public Instruction).

Board Members absent: **Michael Daly**, Chief Probation Officer for the County of Marin (Senate Committee on Rules appointee); **George Maynard**, Deputy Director of Hospital Strategic Planning & Implementation (Designee for Stephanie Clendenin, Director (A), California Department of State Hospitals); and **Jennie Singer**, Professor, California State University, Sacramento (Chancellor of California State University appointee).

Office of the Inspector General staff: Chuck Rufo, Executive Director; James C. Spurling, Counsel to the Board; Nico Gilbert-Ingelsrud, Rehabilitation Analyst; and Linda Whitney, Board Secretary.

Presenters:

CDCR:
Kevin Hoffman

Paws for Life:
Jon Grobman
Alex Toner
Mallie

HealthRight 360:

Ray Macias

California State Auditor:

Aaron Fellner
Matt Gannon

Public Comments:

Mary Lou Garcia
Hellan Dowden

Item 1. Call to order

Chairman Wesley called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

Item 2. Introduction and establish quorum

Chairman Wesley introduced the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) staff participating in the meeting. It was noted that a quorum would be established later in the meeting.

Item 3. Review agenda

There were no comments concerning the agenda.

Item 4. Review and approve minutes from the January , 2018 board meeting

Once a quorum was established, the minutes from the public session were approved without changes. William Arroyo moved to approve the minutes and Brenda Grealish seconded the motion. Carolyn Zachry, Raul Arambula, and Susan Turner voted to approve the minutes. Darren Thompson abstained from voting.

Next the board reviewed the minutes from the closed session. William Arroyo moved to approve the closed session minutes, and Brenda Grealish seconded the motion. Carolyn Zachry, Raul Arambula, and Susan Turner voted to approve the minutes. Darren Thompson abstained from voting.

Item 5. Executive Director updates

Mr. Rufo reported that since our last meeting, the California State Auditor has published their report. Recommendations for C-ROB are listed on page 47. The auditor recognizes that C-ROB has the expertise for oversight, but does not have sufficient resources, and that funding and statutory authority would be needed to carry out the recommendations.

Item 6. Board discussion regarding the California State Auditor Rehabilitative Programs Audit

James Spurling led the discussion regarding the California State Auditor's report. He reported that the board reviewed the draft report at the last meeting and decided their response regarding the draft. We also submitted a 60-day response, as required by the State Auditor, noting the report was distributed to the board and would be discussed at the next board meeting. We also noted the status as "not fully implemented" with an unknown finish date. The next responses are due July 31 and January 31, 2020.

Aaron Fellner and Matt Gannon attended from the Auditor's office. Mr. Fellner stated there is proposed legislation such as AB 1867, that would assist C-ROB and the OIG in following-up with the auditor's recommendations. He also stated that they only audited the in-prison programs, not mental health patients.

Mr. Wesley stated that we will see if additional funding and authority are approved by the legislature to provide the resources C-ROB needs to implement the auditor's recommendations.

Item 7. Board discussion regarding the C-ROB Mission & Vision Statements

Mr. Spurling led the discussion regarding the mission and vision statements. He stated that he compiled a few suggestions from ideas submitted by the board members. He reminded the board that the vision statement should represent the dream we have for C-ROB, while the mission statement will share how and why we will carry out the vision.

The board discussed the various suggestions. They discussed what they'd like C-ROB to be able to do in comparison with what it's statutorily authorized to do.

Item 8. Board decision regarding the C-ROB Mission & Vision Statements

The board tabled this decision to a future board meeting.

Item 9. Presentation: California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Kevin Hoffman presented the In-Prison Programming Overview. He stated that the department is aware of the need for data-driven decisions. He shared a video of programs offered. Mr. Hoffman presented an overview of all the in-prison programs CDCR offers, such as Long-Term Offender

Programs, Offender Mentor Certification Program, Arts in Corrections, and Cognitive Behavior Therapy. He showed a video regarding innovative grant programs, Arts in Corrections and Paws for Life.

Jon Grobman and Alex Toner presented with Mallie (a canine participant) for Paws for Life. Mr. Grobman stated that 15 inmates will get to go home early due to this program. The inmates learn responsibility and team building as well as recognizing the behaviors that led them to being in prison. Mr. Grobman stated that the program affects the culture on the yard. It eliminates racism, creates family, calms inmates, builds teamwork and humanity, builds gaps between inmates and COs. Paws for Life teaches the inmates marketable skills they can use to make a viable wage once released; often about \$100 per hour.

Ms. Toner stated that she started the program five years ago to help dogs. The program rescues dogs and people. She partnered with Los Angeles City and County so inmates are guaranteed jobs when they are released. They can work for LA or they can use their skills to be dog trainers. A typical trainer wage is \$100 per hour, on the low end.

Ray Macias presented for HealthRight 360. He stated that he was sentenced to 15-to-life. He studied in prison, became a part of a mental health group and then began to see real change. He took advantage of programs once he was released, such as HealthRight 360. He continued with substance-use treatment and obtained a job cutting meat. He went to community college, got married and got his own apartment. He attributes his success after release to the programming and housing assistance he received after release.

Item 10. Future board meeting schedule

The board reviewed the remaining dates for 2019 board meetings: June 5 and September 4.

Item 11. Future agenda items

Mr. Wesley asked if the board members if they had any ideas for future agenda items. Ms. Grealish suggested a presentation on linking offenders to mental health plans and Dr. Arroyo suggested medication assisted therapies.


Item 12. Public Comment

Mary Lou Garcia commented that she would like a presentation on the importance of programming. She is concerned that C-ROB cannot address her concerns because they lack authority. She would like C-ROB to be able to take some action.

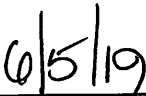
Hellan Roth Dowden stated she recognizes the changes and improvements to the programs. She stated that landscaping has just been reinstated because it wasn't until it was cut that people realized all the other skills that program taught. Ms. Dowden suggested that industry councils should verify the skills being taught are ones the inmates can use once released. She also suggested that an educator should be a member of the placement committee.

Item 13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46am.



C-ROB Secretary



Dated