

**FIRST 5 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES (APPROVED 7/8/2015)
May 27, 2015**

Commissioners Present

Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
James Brescia	SLO County Office of Education
Mary Kern	Community at Large
Lee Collins	Department of Social Services
Janet Murphy	Community at Large
Melinda Sokolowski	Child Care Planning Council
Tracy Schiro	Children's Services Network

Commissioners Absent/Excused -- Gibson, McNERNEY

Staff Present

First 5 staff: Wendy Wendt, Jason Wells, Misty Livengood
Commission Evaluator: Tom Keifer
Commission Counsel: Ray Biering

Call to Order

Vice Chair Borenstein called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

ITEM 1 – Vice Chair Comments & Update

-None-

ITEM 2 - Public Comment

Mary Bianchi representing Friends of Martha's Place announced a new program in collaboration with Caly Poly Biostatistics professor and students to develop and collect community-wide performance measures, looking at children who cycle through Martha's Place. It is designed as a multi-agency/multi-sector collective impact model, and is funded in part through the Community Foundation. The goal is to look at long-term development, school-readiness, etc. of children who have received Martha's Place services. Start date is June 1, 2015.

ITEM 3 - Consent Agenda

- a) *Approve March 25, 2015 minutes*
- b) *Approve Children's Services Network Nomination of Tracy Schiro to continue as Designated rep for another 4-year term (2015-19)*
- c) *Approve Renewal Terms for Office Lease at 3220 S. Higuera; Authorize Executive Director/Chair to Sign Lease Renewal Documents.*
- d) *Approve 2015-18 Agreement with San Luis Obispo County for administrative services related to the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program*
- e) *Approve Q3 – FY 2014-15 Financials*

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Collins noted a typo in the draft Minutes (March 25, 2015).

Commissioner Brescia made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with revision to the March Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kern and passed unanimously.

ITEM 4 – Staff Reports

Staff updated the Commission on various projects and information regarding First 5 SLO County.

ITEM 5 – Updates on State-Level Activities

Staff updated the Commission on various projects and information regarding First 5 – CA and State Association.

Program Officer Jason Wells introduced Commissioners to the new F5 Association Intranet, and highlighted an upcoming webinar on June 16 that will focus on state-level oral health advocacy efforts. Former Oral Health Program Manager Theresa Anselmo added comment on state-level updates related to oral health, including summaries of AB 648 (Virtual Dental Home) and a recent state audit report on Medi-Cal's dental program. She pointed out that the hiring of a state Dental Director and a new epidemiologist sets solid groundwork for enhanced attention to oral health issues and improved outcome measurement.

ITEM 6 –Authorize First 5 SLO County Staff to Submit Letter of Intent and/or proposal in response to an RFP expected for release in June 2015

Executive Director Wendy Wendt introduced the IMPACT Program, a pending funding opportunity through First 5 CA that will support local efforts to develop a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) in early childhood education settings. Ms. Wendt explained that the RFP will likely be released with a deadline for Letter of Intent and possibly proposal prior to the next Commission meeting.

Public Comment: none

Commissioner Sokolowski made a motion to authorize First 5 staff to submit a Letter of Intent and/or full proposal for IMPACT Program funding. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Schiro commented that this type of opportunity is in line with Commission's ongoing conversation on the importance of leveraging funds. Commissioner Collins requested that the proposal be shared with Commissioners as soon as it is submitted.

ITEM 7 – Approve FY2015-16 Administrative Budget

Wendy Wendt presented the proposed administrative budget for FY2015-16.

Discussion: Commissioner Borenstein proposed adopting the budget as proposed, but also requested during the coming year a re-assessment of the Commission's currently adopted assumption to use a 1.8% CPI increase as an automatic annual increase to the Administrative Budget. Commissioner Collins clarified with First 5 Counsel Ray Biering that a vote to adopt the proposed budget did not include a formal approval of Ms. Wendt's request in her presentation to freeze her salary pending completion of a salary study for all staff. Commissioner Sokolowski asked for clarification on the distinction between "media and promotion" under Professional Services and also under Special Department Expense. Ms. Wendt explained that the former is designated for a contracted vendor to upgrade website and social media, and the latter is for outreach supplies, materials and outreach event entry fees.

Public Comment: none

Commissioner Schiro made a motion to approve the FY15-16 Administrative Budget as proposed by staff. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sokolowski and passed unanimously.

ITEM 8 – Public Hearing: Annual Strategic Plan Review

Annual Strategic Plan Review included three focal points of discussion:

- 1) Commissioners and staff confirmed that the Plan continues to accurately reflect current work being done in each of the five Initiative Areas (Health, Oral Health, School Readiness, Perinatal Substance Abuse Prevention, Special Needs). June 30, 2015 marks the midpoint of two-year contracts within each Initiative Area, and all contracting agencies are on track with performance and spending. It was also noted that starting in January 2015 a systematic and ongoing review of the current Strategic Plan has been a priority agenda item at each Commission meeting as part of the process to develop the next Strategic Plan (2016--).

- 2) Within the Health Initiative, two pending projects in social media/marketing and health education/coordination have not yet been fully developed or launched, partly due to staff turnover at First 5 (Executive Director) and the Public Health Department (MCAH Program Manager). Staff committed to developing and proposing options for these funds at the July or August 2015 Commission meeting.
- 3) The Long-Range Financial Plan was updated to reflect current revenue and expenditures, new state-level revenue projections, and revised assumptions on a ten-year time-horizon with declining revenue and eventual program closeout.

- *Public Comment: none*

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the revised First 5 San Luis Obispo County Financial Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

ITEM 9 – Strategic Planning Presentations and Discussion: Oral Health Initiative

Commissioner Borenstein launched discussion by announcing Dr. Navid Fardanesh as the new Oral Health Program Manager (a position funded partially by Public Health and partially by First 5 SLO County).

Program Officer Jason Wells provided a summary of the Commission's last strategic planning discussion (March 25 meeting) that focused on brain development and toxic stress. Key themes discussed included 1) the connection between early brain development and attachment/communication with adult caregivers, and 2) the adverse effects of poverty on children's health and brain development.

Wendy Wendt and Theresa Anselmo presented the Community Plan for Children's Oral Health in San Luis Obispo County, updated by the Children's Oral Health Coalition in 2014. The Plan includes three overarching themes – Prevention, Access, and System Integration. Ms. Anselmo and Ms. Wendt encouraged Commissioners to use the Plan as a guide in their strategic planning deliberations.

Discussion: Commissioners and members of the public* articulated the following areas of interest/concern:

- Water Fluoridation should remain on the community's advocacy agenda. It is an issue that has been addressed with First 5 involvement in the past and is difficult to resolve.
- Waiting lists for pediatric dental care (both preventive and treatment) are long and growing. The county relies on only three practices that take MediCal patients – Tolosa Children's Dental Center, Community Health Centers of the Central Coast, and Dr. Tran. Low MediCal reimbursement rates continue as

serious disincentives for increased participation by other dental practices.

- What ways can we facilitate access? Examples: transportation, childcare.
- What ways can we increase provider capacity? Examples: provide pediatric training for general dentists; join state-level advocacy regarding MediCal reimbursement policies for dental care; explore opportunities for local FQHC (Community Health Centers of the Central Coast) to contract with private dentists; look into enhanced fee models in other states such as WA ABCD.
- Continue to invest in prevention by educating families: WIC, Head Start, etc.
- Recognize the value of integrated system-level work and planning through the Children's Oral Health Coalition and its individual members.
- Recognize the value and increased involvement of the Central Coast Dental Society – Dental Days, Give Kids a Smile, etc.
- Important to stay vigilant, maintain work and public awareness about the importance of investing in oral health, especially prevention. The promising trends we've seen in recent years (e.g. decrease in caries, increase in access to dental homes) are likely to dip without continued supports.

**Public Comments contributed by Suzanne Russell and Dr. James Forester (Tolosa Children's Dental Center), Joel Diring (Diring and Associates), Kathleen Karle (SLO County Public Health Department, Martin Meltz (Community Advocate)*

Commissioner Collins recommended First 5 send a support letter re: AB648 (Virtual Dental Home), due for review by Assembly Appropriations Committee on May 28, 2015.

ITEM 10 – Commissioner Comments and Announcements

Commissioner Collins – The CAL WORKS rapid rehousing project has successfully placed 70 families in homes. Goal: 189 families housed.

Commissioner Borenstein spoke on Central Coast Voices radio broadcast on the topic of vaccinations. She received many call-in comments on both sides of the issue.

Commissioner Borenstein announced that HEALSLO Coordinator Amber Hendry has resigned.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

*All materials referred to in these minutes, as well as an audio recording of the meeting, are available at the First 5 SLO County office. Call (805) 781-4058 for information. **The next Commission meeting will be July 8, 2015 from 4:00-6:30 at the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education Board Room, 3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA.***