

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

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2013

Commissioners Present

Don Dennison	Children's Services Network
Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
Mary Kern	Community at Large
Lee Collins	Department of Social Services
Michael McNerney, M.D.	San Luis Obispo County Medical Association
Janet Murphy	Community at Large

Commissioners Absent/Excused - Julian Crocker, SLO County Office of Education;
Bruce Gibson, SLO County Board of Supervisors; Melinda Sokolowski, Child Care
Planning Council

Staff Present

First 5 staff: Susan Hughes, Jason Wells, Misty Livengood
Commission Evaluator: Tom Keifer
Commission Counsel: Patricia Gomez

Call to Order

Vice-Chairperson Dennison called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

ITEM 1 - Adoption of Agenda

Commissioner Collins made a motion to adopt the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairperson Comments & Update

Vice-Chairperson Dennison took the opportunity to thank Patricia Gomez, Commission Counsel, for her many years of dedicated service to First 5 San Luis Obispo County. He indicated he'd known and worked with her even before she began working with First 5 SLO County and had always appreciated her expertise. Commissioner Collins also commented on his experience working with her on various projects.

ITEM 2 - Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 3 - Consent Agenda

- 1) Approval of the May 22, 2013 minutes
- 2) Approval of Q3 Financials – FY 2012-13
- 3) Approval to exercise the option to extend the current lease for office space with Walter Brothers Construction Co., Inc. to July 31, 2015.
- 4) Approval of a Budget Adjustment Request in the amount of \$26,801.00 for MediCal Administrative Activities (MAA) revenue received for fiscal year 2011-12
- 5) Approval of a second amendment to the contract between the County of San Luis Obispo and the Children and Families Commission for the benefit of the Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA) program

Commission Collins inquired about two items on the financial reports - specifically the funded programs list other category: 1) What RAR-SLOCOE represented and 2) a more detailed explanation of the category of Summit/Children's Bill of Rights (CBOR) and whether the expense included staff time.

Ms. Hughes responded: 1) RAR is Raising and Reader and 2) the category included expenses for CBOR planning and expenses (e.g. facility rental, speakers, materials) related to the April Children's Summit. No staff time was included.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

ITEM 4 - Annual Strategic Plan Review

Susan Hughes indicated this item was scheduled to meet the requirements of the annual strategic planning review required by First 5 California. The review consisted of two parts: 1) approval of the financial plan as revised and 2) an update of the two programs funded in January 2013 (Health Navigator and Health Access Training).

- 1) Revised Long Term Financial Plan: The Commission will review and approve the amendments to the 2011-15 adopted long term financial plan.

Ms. Hughes explained the proposed revisions were 1) updated 2011-12 revenue using audited amounts, updated revenue using new state projections received in June 2013, added MAA revenue received in June 2013; 2) deleted the amount related to two contracts that ended on June 2012, added unspent 2011 funding as directed by the Commission during program discussions in the fall of 2012.

Commissioner Borenstein made a motion to adopt the revised Long Term Financial Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kern and passed unanimously.

- 2) New Activities: The Commission will hear about the progress being made by the Health Access Training and Health Navigator Programs to assist families in the navigation and use of the public health care system.

Jason Wells provided a short overview of the two programs which were funded in January 2013. He introduced several staff responsible for the Health Navigator Program - Dan Cano and Joshua Smith (The Link – north county) and Mary Squellati, Cristina Macedo, and Alma Bernal (CAPSLO –coast/central/south county). Mr. Wells also introduced Joel Diringier and Becca Carsel (Diringier and Associates) who are responsible for the Health Access Training Program.

The guests explained the Health Navigator Program advocates for families with children, ages 0-5; provides education, healthcare resources and referrals; assists families in enrolling in insurance programs for which they are eligible; and assists families with connecting with affordable healthcare services.

They are partnering with DSS, healthcare providers and family advocates (to name just a few) to work toward the objectives noted above. They've attended several outreach events and met with various agencies and groups (WIC, DSS, S.A.F.E, School District Nurses, Head Start, State Preschool, United Way, Sierra Vista and French Hospitals, Tri-Counties Regional Center, etc.). They've also attended events such as school open houses and Kindergarten Round-up at schools throughout the County.

They've established referral policies and procedures and are receiving referrals from family advocates and CHC, in addition to walk-in referrals from DSS and Kindergarten Round-ups.

Trends they are seeing include 1) majority of referrals are for older siblings with no documentation, 2) parents with Medi-Cal don't understand the paperwork and/or deadlines, 3) lack of transportation, 4) parents are hard to reach for follow-up, and 5) families dealing with stressful issues and missing deadlines.

Each Health Navigator shared examples of the challenges involved in assisting families.

The Health Access Training Program conducted four training sessions, in addition to weekly updates via the telephone for the Health Navigators (and others), and a monthly newsletter to the community. A website has been established: SLOHealthAccess.org and a Family Resource Center Directory has been created.

Commissioner Borenstein commented it appeared the program was addressing access to care issues from a number of different angles. She inquired whether or not the health navigators had connected with home visiting programs in the public health department, to which the answer was yes.

Commissioner Collins commented DSS was going to the Board of Supervisors in 60 days to request 20 new, bilingual positions to address the launch of the Affordable Care Act.

Commissioner Borenstein continued and asked if there are children in the 0-5 age group who are eligible but not enrolled in Medi-Cal. The response was “yes” for various reasons. Various examples were provided and included 1) someone whose income increases over a previous year and 2) doesn't re-enroll because they believe they are no longer eligible and families transitioning from Healthy Families and not enrolled.

Public Comment: Laurie Morgan, S.A.F.E System of Care in South County thanked Ms. Carsel and Mr. Diringer for their work. She indicated the partnership was very valuable.

ITEM 5 - Commission approval of a fee agreement with Adamski Moroski Madden Cumberland & Green for legal services to be provided by Raymond A. Biering and Jeffery Minnery

Because the current contract for legal services with Patricia Gomez ends on June 30, 2013, it was necessary to do an RFP process to recruit new Commission Counsel. Jason Wells provided background on the process which consisted of 1) solicitation of proposals through an online advertisement on the SLO County Bar Association website, 2) Review Committee (Crocker, Dennison, Hughes, Gomez) that scored/ranked the proposals, 3) Interview Committee (Crocker, Borenstein, Kern, Hughes – Gomez participated but did not make a recommendation) that interviewed the top, two proposals. The annual amount for legal services for 2013-14 is a maximum of \$20,000 as budgeted.

Mr. Biering and Mr. Minnery of Adamski Moroski Madden Cumberland & Green attended the meeting to introduce themselves and answer any questions.


Ms. Gomez commented on several positive components of the fee agreement specifically that two representatives are designated for First 5 SLO, the hourly rate cannot be changed without agreement from First 5 SLO, and the firm does not charge extra for various ordinary business expenses (copying, fax, mileage, etc.) unlike some of the other applicants. She believed the firm has unique qualifications because of its history with multiple public agencies. She also stated that knowledge and experience would benefit First 5 SLO.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve the fee agreement with Adamski Moroski Madden Cumberland & Green for legal services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kern and passed unanimously.

ITEM 6 - Staff Report: Staff will update the Commission on various projects and information regarding First 5 SLO County

Susan Hughes reminded the Commission that interim strategic planning activities would begin in the fall of 2013 following the timeline below:

Strategic Plan	2012-13 (6 mos)	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Total						
August Option	\$ 50,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000	\$ 820,000						
September Option	\$ 117,143	\$ 234,286	\$ 234,286	\$ 234,286	\$ 820,000						
October											
Staff Recommendation	\$ 58,900	\$ 121,300	\$ 319,900	\$ 319,900	\$ 820,000	TBD in new Strategic Plan					
Current Contract Period			To be determined FY 13-14			2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total		
Fund Now	\$58,900	\$121,300	\$ 319,900	\$ 319,900	\$820,000	\$335,000	\$ 335,000	\$335,000	\$1,825,000		

Misty Livengood presented an advocacy update which included:

- ✓ 80 individuals and 20 agencies have endorsed the Children’s Bill of Rights
- ✓ July 16th City of SLO Proclamation for the Children’s Bill of Rights (Commissioners Kern and Murphy will attend along with United Way Youth Board members and YouthWorks members)
- ✓ A CBOR endorsement toolkit is available
- ✓ First 5 California is placing more emphasis on and providing more communications support to county commissions including topical issues and campaigns and monthly newsletters
- ✓ Various Facebook postings that have been done (Pandora radio - kidstation, daddy’s tool bag)

Public Comment: None

ITEM 7 - Commissioner Comments and Announcements

Several Commissioners expressed their thanks to retiring Vice-Chairperson, Don Dennison. Commissioner Borenstein also provided several comments and presented Commissioner Dennison with a card and gift from the Commission. A video greeting was also given by Chairperson Crocker. Commissioner Dennison provided remarks about his time on the Commission and thanked his fellow Commissioners and First 5 staff for their dedication to young children.

ITEM 8 - Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 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: September 25, 2013, from 4:00 to 6:30 PM at the SLO County Office of Education, Board Room, 3350 Education Drive, San Luis Obispo.***