

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

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

July 13, 2020 (Special Meeting) APPROVED September 23, 2020

Current Commissioners Present

Bruce Gibson	SLO County Board of Supervisors
James Brescia	SLO County Office of Education
Erica Ruvalcaba-Heredia	Community at Large
James Tedford	Medical Representative (AAP Chapter 2)
Alison Ventura	Community at Large
Bob Watt	Community at Large

Commissioners Absent/Excused --

Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
Melinda Sokolowski	Child Care Planning Council
Devin Drake	Department of Social Services

Staff Present

Commission staff: Wendy Wendt, Jason Wells, Misty Livengood
Commission Evaluator: Tom Keifer
Commission Counsel: Natalie Frye-Laacke

Call to Order

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

ITEM 1 –Chair Comments

Commissioner Gibson welcomed Commissioners, staff and public to this specially scheduled meeting to review and approve a contract with the Low Income Investment Fund to provide consultation services on a collaborative feasibility study focused on child care capacity-building.

ITEM 2 - Public Comment – Items not on the agenda

None.

ITEM 3 – Review/Approve \$30,000 Contract with Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) to complete a Feasibility Study as Phase I of the Collaborative Child Care Study

Executive Director Wendy Wendt present the item, and began with an introduction of all attendees on the Zoom call. These included First 5 Commissioners and staff in attendance, representatives from three of the four partnering agencies on the study – City of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly, San Luis Coastal Unified School District (County of SLO rep was unable to attend). Shana Paulson (Child Care Resource Connection) and Raechelle Bowlay (Local Child Care Planning Council) were also in attendance, as were all three members of the LIIF consultant team – Elizabeth Winograd, Kristen Anderson, and Eileen Monahan.

Ms. Wendt summarized the evolution of the child care study initiative and partnership with the four public agencies. She also explained a minor delay in identifying a consultant for the feasibility due to the onset of the COVID pandemic. All parties were determined to proceed with the project despite the challenges presented by the current situation. Project study team members reviewed applicant proposals, and selected the LIIF team to conduct the Feasibility Study.

Comments:

Commissioner Watt expressed pride in First 5's role in this moment to address the child care crisis.

Commissioner Gibson added that child care and housing insecurity have risen to the surface of public awareness in the era of COVID.

Elizabeth Winograd thanked the Commission for its time and passion on this issue. She and her team have seen the dire need across California, and a looking forward to working on the issue with the San Luis Obispo County community.

Commissioner Brescia made a motion to approve a contract with the Low Income Investment Fund in the amount of \$30,000 for completion of a feasibility study – Phase 1 if the Collaborative Child Care Study. Commissioner Watt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Adjourn

4:17 p.m.