

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

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2019 (Approved September 25, 2019)

Current Commissioners Present

Bruce Gibson	SLO County Board of Supervisors
Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
James Brescia	SLO County Office of Education
Devin Drake	Department of Social Services
James Forester, DDS	Medical Representative (Central Coast Dental Society)
Mark Haas	Children's Services Network
Janet Murphy	Community at Large
Bob Watt	Community at Large

Commissioners Absent/Excused --

Melinda Sokolowski Child Care Planning Council

Staff Present

Commission staff: Wendy Wendt, Jason Wells, Misty Livengood, Sarah Reinhart, Kris Roudebush
Commission Counsel: Natalie Frye-Laacke

Call to Order

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order 3:00 PM.

ITEM 1 –Chair Comments

Chair Gibson reminded that this is the last Commission meeting of the fiscal year; the next meeting will be on September 25, 2019.

He encouraged Commissioners to stay connected with staff and programs over the summer.

He acknowledged meeting attendee Dr. Jim Tedford who is the incoming medical representative joining the Commission beginning with the September 2019 meeting.

ITEM 2 - Public Comment – Items not on the agenda

Brooke Griffiths, lead Health Educator with Community Health Centers of the Central Coast, requested the chance to give public comment on Item 7; due to a scheduling conflict she was unable to stay beyond the first few minutes of the meeting. Ms. Griffiths has been a major

champion for and co-designer of the MHSA 3 by 3 Project. On behalf of CHC, she expressed how pleased the organization is to have the opportunity to contract with First 5 on this initiative.

ITEM 3 – Commissioner Comments/Announcements

None

ITEM 4 - Consent Agenda

- a. Approve May 22, 2019 minutes
- b. Approve 1-Year Contract Extension with Center for Family Strengthening for Early Childhood Advocacy Services
- c. Approve 1-Year Contract Extension with Pediatric Physical Therapy and Services, Inc. for Best Pals
- d. Approve 1-Year Contract Extension with Thomas Keifer Consulting for Evaluation Services
- e. Approve 1-Year Contract with Magda Williams for Family Support Counseling Services
- f. Approve Amendment to LOA with First 5 Ventura County for IMPACT HUB activities
- ~~g. Approve Contract with City of SLO for Child Care Study~~
- h. Approve Long Range Financial Plan Update
- i. Approve 2019-20 Administrative Budget

Public Comment: None

Item 4b was pulled for a separate vote due to Commissioner Watt's conflict (Chair of the Center for Family Strengthening Board).

Commissioner Drake made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda (without 4b). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brescia and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Forester made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 4b. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Haas and passed (7-0; Commissioner Watt recused).

ITEM 5 – Staff Report

Misty Livengood updated the Commission on various projects and information regarding First 5 SLO County:

- First 5 upcoming involvement in advocacy related to 2020 Census
- Where's the Care Town Hall (May 29)
- First 5 Executive Director Camille Maben Visit – speaker at Where's the Care Town Hall; site visits to funded programs (Tolosa Children's Dental Center, Parents Helping Parents, Raising a Reader graduation - May 29-30)
- Talk Read Sing Night at the Blues Baseball Game (June 1)
- Talk Read Sing – Jason Wells Friday morning Instagram Live (soon to move to FB)
- Raising a Reader graduations countywide, attended by First 5 team members

Public Comment: NONE

ITEM 6 – 2019-20 Advocacy Budget Plan

Executive Director Wendy Wendt and Communications/Outreach Officer Misty Livengood presented a fiscal plan for \$100,000 in funds allocated to advocacy activities:

\$20,500: Talk Read Sing

\$14,500: Children’s Bill of Rights/Hands on Heroes

\$65,000: New/General Advocacy

- We are the Care Initiative - \$20,000
- Family Friendly Workplace Campaign - \$20,000
- Town Hall Events (2) - \$6,000
- Cannabis Awareness Media Campaign (with Public Health) - \$5,000
- Month of the Child Promotions - \$7,000
- Action for Healthy Communities - \$5,000
- State Policy/Advocacy Participation - \$2,000

Chair Gibson pointed out that 40% of the fiscal plan is tied up in the We are the Care Initiative and Family Friendly Workplace campaign. He urged staff to make sure that they are also prioritizing their time to make regular public comment at civic meetings, and maintaining contact with key decision makers on Advocacy Agenda issues.

Commissioners also emphasized the importance of staying focused on state-level advocacy.

Commissioner Borenstein urged that we also connect state First 5 with local decision makers. For example, the next time Camille Maben visits San Luis Obispo County, schedule her to speak to the Board of Supervisors.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Watt made a motion to approve the 2018-19 Advocacy Budget Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Borenstein and passed unanimously.

ITEM 7 – HELP ME GROW PART A: Approval of a 3-year Contract with Community Health Centers of the Central Coast: 3 by 3 Developmental Screening Partnership (MHSA Innovation)

Jason Wells introduced the Agenda item. He first referred to Brooke Griffith’s introductory public comment at the beginning of the meeting. This contract is part of the MHSA Innovation project. The term is 3 years, from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022. The total amount is \$108,973. Services to be delivered include coordination of developmental/behavioral health screenings for children under 3; health education encounters, anticipatory guidance and

referral support related to developmental milestones and potential delays; and participation in data collection to determine optimal methods for completing screenings and follow-up.

He emphasized how supportive and committed the CHC staff have been in helping to finalize the contract terms and set the groundwork for launching the project at the San Luis Obispo based clinic on Casa Street.

Chair Gibson asked for clarification on who designed the study, and how the number to be served was determined. Mr. Wells and Ms. Wendt clarified that multiple people collaborated to design the project and set program objectives/numbers to be served, including First 5 and Behavioral Health staff, CHC staff, Dr. Nisha AbdulCader, and Health Access Trainer Becca Carsel.

Public Comment: None (see Item 2 for Brooke Griffiths' comment)

Commissioner Drake made a motion to approve the 3 by 3 Contract with CHC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

ITEM 8 – HELP ME GROW PART B: Update on Centralized Access Point RFP, Approval of Contracts with County Departments (Public Health, DSS) to supplement First 5 Investment

Ms. Wendt introduced this item. Staff has developed an RFP for the purposes of selecting an operator of a Help Me Grow Centralized Access Point. First 5 would contribute up to \$200,000 annually for five years, with an expectation that the successful applicant will provide 1) increasing levels of cash and in-kind match over the course of the projects and 2) evidence of ability to grow and sustain the project after First 5 funding ends.

Two County Departments – Public Health and Department of Social Services – have drafted \$20,000 1-year contracts with First 5 for supplemental start-up funds toward launch of a Help Me Grow Centralized Access Point. Public Health's contract stipulates use of funds toward development of a Help Me Grow data base. Department of Social Services stipulates one-time start-up costs. Both agencies will consider a second year of support pending availability of county funds and satisfactory performance by the contracted operator of the Help Me Grow Centralized Access Point.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Brescia made a motion to proceed with appropriate arrangements with Public Health and Department of Social Services to solidify the financial commitments of these two agencies using the appropriate agreement mechanism upon guidance with counsel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drake and passed unanimously.

ITEM 9 – Wellness Trust Presentation

Commissioner Borenstein presented this item. A state-wide initiative is in motion that includes multiple partners* with an aim to ultimately enact a Wellness Trust Fund. Almost a decade ago the U.S. federal government enacted the Prevention and Public Health Fund. It was a dedicated fund to promote public wellness in communities (healthy eating, active living, etc.). Now the funding that is left (50% of what was originally available) is mostly categorical.

(*Partners include the Public Health Institute, County Health Executives Association of California, Change Lab Solutions, the Prevention Institute, and others)

A California Wellness Trust would allow for local discretion. Partners are looking to pursue some sort of funding source to support it (e.g. alcohol tax or sugar-sweetened beverage tax).

The Public Health Department of San Luis Obispo County hosted an event in February 2019 at which the Public Health Institute presented on how a Wellness Trust might work and what the vision is. One of the asks at that event was “are you able to take back to your organization a resolution or some type of endorsement of the Wellness Trust concept?” Several local organizations have jumped on board with letters of support and/or a resolution. Examples include CenCal Health, People’s Self-Help Housing, the Central Coast Dental Society, and several cities.

Commissioner Borenstein asked for guidance from Commissioners and First 5 Counsel Natalie Frye-Laacke on mechanisms that First 5 SLO County could employ to articulate support and joining the California Alliance for Prevention Funding.

Commissioners Brescia and Gibson expressed support for First 5 endorsement.

Commissioners and Counsel directed staff to work with Commissioner Borenstein to draft a resolution along with a staff report and more detailed supporting materials. The draft resolution and staff report will be on the September 25, 2019 Commission agenda for review and approval.

Public Comment: NONE

ITEM 10 – Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee Update – Strategic Planning Review of Current Programs

Jason introduced that the Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee took a deeper dive with First staff and the First 5 evaluation consultant into the 2017-18 Outcome Evaluation and 2018-19 Mid-year grantee reports, with an eye on development of the 2020 Strategic plan. The group looked at each of the current funded programs and considered assignment to one of three categories for consideration as part of the next four-year strategic plan: Keep, Modify, Sunset.

By completing this exercise in anticipation of strategic plan development, we are able to determine how much program funding the Commission will allocate to ongoing programs vs. new initiatives in response to changing community needs.

Commissioner Watt commented that staff was helpful in laying out the exercise format for the Evaluation subcommittee prior to meeting. It made the process more efficient.

Public Comment: None

ITEM 11 – Ad Hoc Nominating Committee – Approval of 3 At-Large Commissioners

As members of the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee, Commissioners Brescia and Murphy summarized the process for selecting three At-Large Commissioners. Applicants were interviewed by phone (Brescia, Murphy led with Wendt providing additional logistical detail). All applicants were sincere, had rich and diverse talents to offer. It was heartening to see their commitment. The committee selected two new At-Large Commissioners (Erica Ruvalcaba-Heredia, Alison Ventura) and one returning At-Large Commissioner (Bob Watt) to serve four-year terms commencing July 22, 2019.

Public Comment: None

Commissioner Borenstein made a motion to approve the Nominations of Erica Ruvalcaba-Heredia (Promotores Network/Center for Family Strengthening staff), Alison Ventura (Cal Poly faculty), and Bob Watt (retired school administrator, Center for Family Strengthening board) to serve as At-Large Commissioners. This approval serves as a recommendation to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors, who will issue final approval at an upcoming meeting in July. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drake and passed unanimously (7-0; Watt abstained).

ITEM 12 – Farewell to Outgoing Commissioners

Commission Chair Gibson kicked off a tribute by Commissioners and staff to honor outgoing Commissioners Mark Haas, James Forester and Janet Murphy. Special homage was paid to Janet Murphy, who is retiring from the Commission after 12 years (three terms) of service.

Chair Gibson closed with an acknowledgment that “what strikes me is that all of you have been hands-on with young kids for your entire careers. You all have been on the front lines.”

ITEM 13 – Adjournment at 4:35 p.m.