

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

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 27, 2017 (DRAFT)

Current Commissioners Present

Bruce Gibson (Chair)	SLO County Board of Supervisors
Penny Borenstein, M.D. (Vice Chair)	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)
Janet Murphy	Community at Large
Tracy Schiro	Children's Services Network
Melinda Sokolowski	Child Care Planning Council
Bob Watt	Community at Large

Commissioners Absent/Excused: NONE

Staff Present

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

Call to Order

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

ITEM 1 –Chair Comments

Commissioner Gibson reminded of the photo session following the meeting.

The December 6 Commission meeting will be held at the Rancho El Chorro Auditorium and will be followed by a reception to honor the 2017 Hands-on Heroes.

Fiona Lloyd-Moffett – a preschool teacher at Baywood Elementary School – has been named SLO County Teacher of the Year. Commissioner Gibson directed staff to draft a letter of congratulations from First 5.

ITEM 2 – Commissioner Announcements and Updates

Commissioner Borenstein announced that the County has been awarded 200k per year over 5 years for oral health capacity building. Funding source is Proposition 56 Tobacco Tax.

Commissioner Brescia announced that regional migrant education (San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties) is now being managed out of the SLO County Office of Education. He also updated the Commission on a regional teacher recruitment/retention initiative in partnership with Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern and SLO Counties. A priority for the coming year is early childhood education teacher recruitment/retention.

ITEM 3 - Public Comment – Items not on the agenda

Stephanie Uclaray, Recruitment Social Worker at DSS, provided an update on the new ASPEN program – a foster family recruitment project in partnership with local public schools. Atascadero is actively involved and the project is working to bring on other partner districts. A SLO County team is presenting the ASPEN program at the upcoming CWDA conference. DSS also has a new intern trained in trauma informed care in preschools.

ITEM 4 (ACTION ITEM) - Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of the June 28, 2017 Minutes
- b. Approval of Q4 2016-17 Financials (unaudited)
- c. Approval of 2018 Calendar

Public Comment: None

Wendy Wendt pointed out a minor computational error in the Q4 2016-17 financial statements (Item 4b) that has since been corrected. The cover letter had included a \$40 math error in the reporting of GASB 54 fund balance figures (Restricted Funds should be \$110,488, not \$110,448). The correct figures occur in the fiscal audit, to be presented for Commissioner approval under ITEM 5.

Commissioner Borenstein made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with the correction to Item 4b as noted above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Drake and passed unanimously.

ITEM 5 (ACTION ITEM) – Public Hearing: Commission Review and Approval of FY2016-17 Annual Audit

Executive Director Wendy Wendt provided highlights on the annual audit process and document, followed by comment by Auditor Bob Crosby CPA of Crosby Company.

Ms. Wendt noted that there was a minor typo in the draft audit that was distributed for review prior to the meeting. Commissioner Drake's name had not appeared on the list of Commissioners. The correction has since been made in the final document.

Commissioner Gibson pointed out the counterintuitive increase in First 5 SLO County assets over the previous year, given the 8% drop in revenues. Ms. Wendt explained that this is due to a delay in anticipated start-up of several new programs that had originally been scheduled to launch during 2016-17 but are now on schedule to launch in 2017-18 (e.g. Parent Education, Home Visiting, Developmental Screening).

Public Comment:

Commissioner Watt made a motion to approve the 2016-17 Annual Audit with the correction noted above. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schiro and passed unanimously.

ITEM 6 -- Staff Reports

First 5 Communications Officer Misty Livengood updated Commissioners on recent events and activities at First 5.

- The First 5 Website is undergoing a facelift.
- The summer meeting of First 5 funded Partners was hosted at the Food Bank
- First 5 is facilitating a local community conversation about the Help Me Grow model being incorporated into many California counties to work toward improved approaches to developmental screening/referral for 0-5 year olds.
- Georgia Brown School Readiness families are active in the community garden!
- First 5 donated office space for recent webinars on climate change hosted by the Health Promotion division at County Public Health.
- September is a big month for local professional development events hosted by a variety of partners.
- First 5 SLO County is a sponsor of the annual Milk Donor Drive, organized by the Central Coast Breastfeeding Coalition.
- Care.Cope.Connect. is a project of Sesame Street in collaboration with the First 5 Association to provide families who are facing uncertain circumstances (including fear of deportation) with materials and suggested ways to support their young children.
- Talk.Read.Sing. is going strong with a variety of activities at the local and state level. Highlights include a summer visit by the First 5 California Talk.Read.Sing. Express, summer movie ads in Atascadero and Arroyo Grande theaters, and a new grocery cart ad campaign in Los Osos and Grover Beach.
- First 5 outreach staff were in evidence at 5 summer farmers' markets – Cambria, Paso Robles, Atascadero, Grover Beach, and SLO.
- The monthly Hands-on Heroes campaign continues to be a success. A celebration of all 12 Heroes will take place at a reception following the December 6th Commission meeting.

Executive Director Wendy Wendt gave the following updates:

- More than 60 people attended an introduction to the Help Me Grow concept at an August forum. The group heard from First 5 Association Director Moira Kenney,

strategic consultant Tom Altmayer, and Help Me Grow Ventura staffer Sharon Elmensdorp.

- State and federal legislative activity affecting early childhood:
 - SB63: Would extend unpaid family leave businesses with between 20 and 49 employees.
 - AB1520: Would establish an Anti-Poverty Task Force at the state level
 - DACA: Uncertainty related to federal policy affecting immigrant youth (and young parents).
 - Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP), the federal program that helps provide coverage for many low-income children, is in jeopardy of not being renewed.
- The Advancement Project, a state advocacy organization focused on poverty, has selected San Luis Obispo Local Child Care Planning Council and four other counties to participate in a pilot project designed to improve the way communities assess supply and demand for quality affordable child care.
- First 5 continues to develop individual contacts in the business community regarding family-friendly workplace practice and policy, including staff at the SLO Chamber, the Economic Vitality Corporation, and the Human Resources Association of the Central Coast. Commissioner Watt recommended reaching out to Devin Goetz, previous HR director at the SLO Tribune and recently hired to head up HR at SESLOC Federal Credit Union.

Public Comment: NONE

ITEM 7 – New Program Funding Updates

Associate Director Jason Wells updated Commissioners on the status of two new funding programs.

A contract with Joan Fusco, LCSW is being developed for Family Support Counseling Services in north San Luis Obispo County, based primarily out of the LINK for now. A final contract will be brought to the Commission for approval at the October 25, 2017 meeting.

- Commissioner Sokolowski asked for clarification on which providers will be able to refer to Ms. Fusco for services, and also asked if Ms. Fusco could provide some professional development support for family advocates.
- Commissioners Brescia and Watt expressed concern about sustainability of a program like this, especially with an independent contractor not associated with a particular agency that sees itself as a First 5 partner. Ms. Wendt commented that by not attaching the counselor to a particular agency, there is inherent flexibility built into the family support counseling model, both for Ms. Fusco and the existing counselor, Magda Williams. Ms. Wendt further commented that First 5 is interested in pursuing a sustainability plan in consultation with County Behavioral Health.
- Commissioner Drake commented that the hourly rate (\$70) which he thought seemed extremely reasonable.

A Request for Proposals for delivery of a Parent Peer Support Program is scheduled for release on September 28, 2017.

- Commissioner Forester warned against creating a parallel system for low-income families that doesn't integrate with existing offerings or across socioeconomic lines. Middle/upper class families have easy access to these types of programs, but not so for lower income families.
- Commissioner Brescia challenged First 5 to see this effort as a social justice tool, and a collaborate project the leverages a variety of resources.
- Commissioner Gibson confirmed that Commissioners are comfortable with the RFP being released as described.

Public Comment: NONE

ITEM 8 – IMPACT Program Update

IMPACT SLO Administrator Kris Roudebush summarized recent activities. She provided a refresher overview on the project overall, including timeline and budget. She updated Commissioners on first-year outcomes, which are ahead of projections on number of early learning sites participating in the program. She also outlined her key responsibilities and accomplishments since starting her job in March.

Public Comment: NONE

ITEM 9 – Presentation: Community Resource Project

Commissioner Sokolowski introduced two members of the Community Resource Center team who are based at CAPSLO and part of a multi-agency effort (CAPSLO, District Attorney, United Way and the County Office of Education) to build up local 2-1-1 capacity to better address the complex needs of people in the community. Krista Hoeckman is focused on San Luis Obispo, South County and part of the coast. Nanci Lovelace is focused on North County.

Ms. Hoeckman and Lovelace described the project in more detail, including a brief history and status of 2-1-1 statewide and in SLO County.

Commissioner Borenstein asked for clarification on the District Attorney's office connection to the project, and whether it is meant to serve a particular population. Ideally the county would be building on one resource directory. Commissioner Sokolowski explained that the project is being funded through a grant from the Office of Emergency Services and is a launching pad to improve upon the existing 2-1-1 information database.

Public Comment: NONE

ITEM 10 – Adjournment: 5:29 p.m.