

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

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

December 1, 2010

**Commissioners Present**

Katcho Achadjian	SLO County Board of Supervisors
Penny Borenstein, M.D.	SLO County Public Health Department
Lee Collins	SLO County Department of Social Services
Julian Crocker	SLO County Office of Education
Don Dennison	Children's Services Network
Michael McNerney, M.D.	San Luis Obispo County Medical Association
Janet Murphy	Community at Large

**Commissioners Excused**

Rosalinda Rodriguez (Vacant)	Community at Large Child Care Planning Council
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**Staff & Consultants Present**

First 5 Staff: Susan Hughes, Jason Wells, Anne Tognazzini; Consulting Counsel: Patricia Gomez;  
Consulting Evaluator: Tom Keifer.

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Achadjian called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Consent Agenda**

- 1) Approval of the Minutes, October 27, 2010
- 2) Approval of the Outcome Evaluation Report 2010

Susan Hughes, First 5 Executive Director, explained there have been some recent changes to the Outcome Evaluation Report. Tom Keifer, First 5 Evaluator, gave a brief summary of the changes, noting that they resulted from having received feedback and additional information from Partners.

Commissioner Collins expressed concern about the CHI section of the Outcome Evaluation Report, in regard to the work that DSS does.

Commissioner Crocker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennison. Approval of Item 1 (Minutes) passed unanimously; approval of Item 2 (Outcome Evaluation Report) was opposed by Commissioner Collins.

### **Presentation: Partnership for Excellence in Family Support**

Lisa Fraser, Executive Director of SLO-CAP, reported on Partnership for Excellence in Family Support. Ms. Fraser explained that it's an organized governance body for family strengthening organizations throughout SLO County, whose purpose is to leverage resources, funding support, and to integrate services for families and communities. She provided historical information and outlined plans for the future.

#### Commission Representation on the Partnership for Excellence in Family Support

Commissioner Collins made a motion to approve Commissioner Rodriguez as First 5 San Luis Obispo County's representative on the Partnership for Excellence in Family Support. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Borenstein and passed unanimously.

### **New Member(s)**

Susan Hughes reported that just this afternoon, the Child Care Planning Council officially nominated Melinda Sokolowski, from CAPSLO, to be their designated representative, replacing Carol Capito.

Commissioner Collins made a motion to accept the resignation of Carol Capito as the designated member of the Child Care Planning Council, and to approve the recommendation of Melinda Sokolowski as her replacement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy and passed unanimously.

Chairperson Achadjian noted Supervisor Adam Hill has been asked to fill his place on the Commission, and Hill's name would go to the Board of Supervisors for approval in January.

### **CalWORKs Stage 3 Update**

Jason Wells, First 5 Staff, gave an update on CalWORKs Stage 3 funding, reviewing what had happened since the October 8 veto by the governor which would have ended the program November 1. He noted that First 5 SLO County had approved (at its October meeting) temporary funding to CAPSLO for CalWORKS Stage 3 families, from November through January, and a contract had been drawn up. However, he explained that at this time, it appears the program will continue to be funded by the State through the end of December.

Patricia Gomez, First 5 legal counsel, noted that the motion at the October Commission meeting was not clear, because it referred to “funding [which is] set to end November 1.” She explained that the motion didn’t state whether the triggering event was when the funds ran out or the date of November 1. As legal counsel, her recommendation is that funds running out would be the triggering event and that a motion is needed to clarify that.

There was discussion regarding the timeline for funding, and the original intent of providing a 3-month transitional period after funding ended, to allow parents to make other arrangements.

Commissioner Crocker made a motion that First 5 would allocate up to \$300,000 for the purpose of providing transitional child care for CalWORKs Stage 3 children ages 0-5, commencing when State funding ends, not to go past April 1, 2011. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Achadjian.

The motion failed on a 4-3 vote: Achadjian, Murphy, Crocker in favor; Dennison, Collins, Borenstein and McNerney opposed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dennison to clarify the language of the earlier motion (at the October Commission meeting), stating that the three-month funding term would start at the point at which funding from the State ended, covering only the months November through January. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Crocker. It passed on a 6-1 vote, with Commissioner Collins opposing.

### **Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards (CARES) Plus Program**

Susan Hughes reported on the First 5 CA 2010-2013 *Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards (CARES) Plus Program* Request For Application (RFA). She explained that it is a workforce development program, and that First 5 has right of first refusal as lead agency.

Ms. Hughes explained that she asked Tom Keifer, First 5 consulting evaluator, to review the previous CARES Program (REWARD) outcomes, and a meeting was convened to review and discuss the RFA. She noted that although it was agreed that workforce development is very important, staff ultimately recommended not participating, after determining it was not a good fit with respect to First 5 SLO’s current strategic planning efforts.

Commissioner Collins stated he strongly concurred with staff’s recommendation. There were no comments from the public.

### **February Strategic Planning Retreat, Commission Discussion**

Susan Hughes previewed possible topics for the February strategic planning meeting, including commission review of current bylaws relating to membership composition; succession planning; and meeting frequency, dates and times.

There were no comments or questions from the Commission or public.

## **Staff Report**

Susan Hughes spoke about Action for Healthy Communities folios, regional activities, defending fund balances, and upcoming Regional and State Conferences. She also reported on the Grand Opening of the Paso Robles First 5 Early Education Center in September.

## **Commissioner Comments and Announcements**

Words of appreciation were spoken by and about Chairperson Achadjian and Commissioner Collins, who are both retiring from First 5 after this meeting.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 PM, to a thank-you celebration honoring retiring Chairperson Achadjian and Commissioner Collins.

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All materials referred to in these minutes are available at the First 5 SLO County office.  
For a more detailed account, recordings of the meeting are available by calling (805) 781-4058.

**The next Commission meeting will be a Strategic Planning Retreat:**

February 10, 2011

Avila Beach Golf Resort Grill, 8:30 to 4:30