



Commission Meeting MINUTES

Monday, October 11, 2021, 6:00 pm

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairwoman Marilyn Cachola Lucey called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held on a web-based platform. Meeting protocols were introduced.

Present during **roll call** were:

District 1 Commissioner: Dr. Rocio Hernandez
District 2 Commissioner: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 3 Alternate: Rhoda Butler
District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley
Health Services Department: Dr. Chris Farnitano
Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Also present: County Counsel Keiko Kobayashi

Commissioners absent:

District 3: Lee Ross
District 4: Matt Regan
EHSD: Kathy Gallagher

Alternates absent:

District 1: Genoveva Garcia Calloway
District 2: Srividya Iyengar
Health Services: Daniel Peddycord, RN.
Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis
EHSD: Aaron Alarcon-Bowen
Children & Families Services: Roslyn Gentry

2.0 Public Comment .

There were no public comments received.

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

Gareth Ashley made a motion, seconded by Kathy Marsh to approve the Consent Calendar.

Roll call vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez	Yes
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey	Yes
District 3: Rhoda Butler	Yes
District 4: Gareth Ashley	Yes
Health Services Department: Dr. Chris Farnitano	Yes
BOS: Candace Andersen	Yes
Children & Families' Services: Kathy Marsh	Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lee Ross, Matt Regan, John Jones, Kathy Gallagher, Roslyn Gentry, Genoveva Garcia Calloway, Srividya Iyengar, Daniel Peddycord RN, Diane Burgis.

The Consent Calendar **APPROVED**.

4.0 CONSIDER for discussion any items removed from the consent calendar.

No items were removed from the consent calendar.

District 2 Alternate Commissioner Srividya Iyengar arrived at this time.

5.0 Recognition presentation honoring Shawn Garcia for twenty-one years of service as Administrative Manager for First 5 Contra Costa.

Ruth Fernández led the presentation in honoring Shawn Garcia for over 21 years of service as Administrative Manager for First 5 Contra Costa. Shawn received and read a plaque commemorating this recognition. Then was followed by well wishes from Staff and Commission followed by a short slide presentation.

6.0 CONSIDER accepting the 2022 health and dental employer-paid premium contribution rates for active employees; and accept the 2022 premium contribution rates for intermittent employees, COBRA participants, retirees and survivors at the same levels as the County.

Shawn Garcia gave a brief presentation of the 2022 premium contribution rates. From its inception, the Commission has chosen to participate in the County's health benefit plans for First 5 employees. Each year, the County negotiates premiums with the health insurance carriers and provides a rate sheet to First 5 listing the employee and employee contributions based on the negotiated rates. Since 2012, the Commission has adopted an 80% employer/20% employee contributions split on health premiums for active employees who work 20 hours or more per week. Dental rates for active employees, as well as health and dental rates for retirees are at the same contribution levels as the County. The employer portion of retiree health and dental contributions are paid out of the First 5 CERBT trust. First 5 does not contribute to health or dental premiums for permanent-intermittent employees, part-time employees who work less than 20 hours per week, COBRA participants, or survivors of retirees.

After presentation, Chair opened the floor for questions.

There were no questions from the floor.

Dr. Chris Farnitano made a motion, seconded by Candace Andersen to accept the 2022 health and dental employer-paid premium contribution rates for active employees; and accept the 2022 premium contribution rates for intermittent employees, COBRA participants, retirees and survivors as the same levels as the County.

Roll call vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez	Yes
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey	Yes
District 3: Rhoda Butler	Yes



District 4: Gareth Ashley	Yes
Health Services Department: Dr. Chris Farnitano	Yes
BOS: Candace Andersen	Yes
Children & Families' Services: Kathy Marsh	Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Lee Ross, Matt Regan, John Jones, Kathy Gallagher, Roslyn Gentry, Genoveva Garcia Calloway, Srividya Iyengar^[CR1], Daniel Peddycord RN, Diane Burgis.

Motion **APPROVED**.

7.0 RECEIVE "Collaborative Advocacy + Power Partnership" (CAPP) Overview Presentation by First 5 Contra Costa's Special Projects Coordinator, Fran Biderman and Senior Director of Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa, Mariana Moore.

Fran Biderman and Mariana Moore gave a joint presentation overview of the "Collaborative Advocacy + Power Partnership (CAPP), a building collective collaboration of several community based organizations and residents of Contra Costa County who came together to advocate for equitable policies and systems. It's goal is to enhance skills and capacity of participants to engage in effective joint advocacy, to deepen and accelerate lasting community impact and to design and implement a joint policy advocacy campaign.

After the presentation, the Chair opened the floor for questions.
There were none.

8.0 RECEIVE presentation for the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program by First 5 Contra Costa's Early Childhood Education Program Officer Melissa Cunningham and First 5 Contra Costa Quality Matters Coach, Deanna Carmona.

Melissa Cunningham and Deanna Carmona gave a joint presentation of the First 5 Contra Costa Early Childhood Education initiative updates.

The focus of the presentation was on the Dual Language Learner (DLL) Pilot Study Expansion Phase, its alignment with the Statewide Master Plan, goals, strategies, regional practice and collaboration.

After their presentation, the floor was opened to questions and discussions.

Gareth Ashley wanted to know more about bilingual book kits that are being made available.

Melissa: Most of the books are in either Spanish, Mandarin and English and books are available in many other languages to families as needed.

Marilyn Cachola Lucey asked what services or programs for children with disabilities were integrated in the DLL Expansion Phase.

Melissa stated that the goals of the Master Plan that refer to equity center around Dual language learners and children with disabilities. This DLL Pilot Study Expansion Phase focuses on the Dual Language Learner however does not exclude children with disabilities in its outreach.



Marilyn asked First 5 Contra Costa Deputy Director Camilla Rand if are there any plans to address children with disabilities being part of that Master Plan?

Camilla re-emphasized that the intent of the grant is specific to Dual Language Learners and is an extension of phases one and two research components of which First 5 Contra Costa was involved. Children with special needs and children with disabilities remain to be an important area that we focus on and is one of the Governor's priority areas; however, this is an area where the funding is specific to DLL children and school readiness.

Dr. Farnitano asked for clarification on one of the statistics provided in the presentation, if the focus was meant to be on the citizens only?

Melissa stated that for the purposes of the presentation, this information was available and did not differentiate.

Marilyn Cachola Lucey read a question from the chat message from Hannah Michaelson: What about kids with disabilities, who are also DLL, are there specific trainings or programs that will prepare your staff for that specific inner sectional population?

Camilla: stated that this is a capacity building initiative to be able to really support a wide range of providers who work with a diverse range of children.

Ruth added that the subjects of ableism and inclusion is a major statewide topic and is a priority for the First 5 Association. The parameters of this grant were specifically determined for us but we consider it our responsibility to bring into the forefront families and children with disabilities and special needs.

9.0 Executive Director's Report

Dr. Ruth Fernandez gave the Executive Director's report (see slides):

- a) Introduced Jessica Keener, Ready Kids East County Coordinator. Also introduced Ms. Jules Means, First 5 Intern, UC Berkeley Social Work Master's Program.
- b) Report on First 5 Contra Costa adopted Mandatory Vaccination Policy
- c) Continue distribution of COVID emergency supplies & books.
- d) Report on WEBINAR: ABCs of Keeping Kids Safe during COVID-19.
- e) COVID Rent Relief Emergency Rent Assistance Program bus ads roll out in Central and East County, sponsored by First 5 Contra Costa.
- f) First 5 Association Strategic Plan Launch.
- g) First 5 Association REDI Fall Workshops.
- h) Bills signed: SB 65 (Skinner, The Momnibus Act) and SB 395 Caballero (Vape Tax).
- i) Please save the date for the Special Commission Meeting and Special Meeting of the Executive Committee of October 25, 2021.

Dr. Farnitano commented that after the WEBINAR presentation on Keeping Kids Safe During COVID-19, he was able to share the presentation links with the United Latino Voices who had reached out to him. He also expressed support to the Momnibus Act and doula programs that support maternity care.

10.0 Communications

- SB 395 (Caballero) Healthy Options and Prevention Education (HOPE) Act: Electronic Cigarettes
- New Public Meeting Teleconferencing Rules – AB 361, Contra Costa Clerk of the Board Office

Ruth shared the communications items above that was included in the packet materials.

11.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

There were no Commissioner Updates.

12.0 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.