



**Special Commission Meeting
M I N U T E S
Monday, October 17, 2022, 6:00 pm**

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairwoman Dr. Rocio Hernandez called the special meeting of the Commission @ 6:07 PM. Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held on a web-based platform.

Commissioners present during roll call were:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 2 Alternate: Srividya Iyengar
District 3: Lee Ross
District 4: Matt Regan
District 4 Alternate: Gareth Ashley
District 5: John Jones
Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli
EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Commissions who were not present during roll call were:

District 1 Alternate: Genoveva Garcia Calloway
District 3 Alternate: Rhoda Butler
Board of Supervisors Alternate: Candace Andersen
Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria
Children & Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry

The Chair also welcomed CSB Manager Nicholas Bryant who is visiting the meeting. Dr. Marla Stuart informed the Commission that Nicholas will be appointed to be her Alternate Commission Member for EHSD.

2.0 Public Comment

No public comment.

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

Item 3.1 was removed from the consent calendar.

Matt Regan made a move seconded by Dr. Ori to approve the remaining items on the Consent Calendar.

Roll call of vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez - Yes
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey - Yes
District 3: Lee Ross - Yes
District 4: Matt Regan - Yes
District 5: John Jones - Yes
Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis - Yes
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli - Yes



EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart - Yes
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh – Yes

Nos: NONE

Abstain: NONE

Absent: District 1 Alternate: Genoveva Garcia Calloway; District 3 Alternate: Rhoda Butler; Board of Supervisors Alternate Candace Andersen; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria; Children & Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry

The remaining consent calendar **APPROVED**.

4.0 CONSIDER for discussion any items removed from the Consent Calendar.

The chair opened the discussion of item 3.1

Dr. Marla Stuart made a motion, seconded by Matt Regan to approve the minutes from September 12, 2022 Commission Meeting.

Roll call of vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez - Yes
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey - Yes
District 3: Lee Ross - Yes
District 4: Matt Regan - Yes
District 5: John Jones - Yes
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli - Yes
EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart - Yes

Nos: NONE

The following members ABSTAINED:

Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis
District 5: John Jones
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Absent: District 1 Alternate: Genoveva Garcia Calloway; District 3 Alternate: Rhoda Butler; Board of Supervisors Alternate Candace Andersen; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria; Children & Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry

The item **APPROVED**.

5.0 CONSIDER accepting the 2023 health and dental employer-paid premium contribution rates for active employees; and accept the 2023 premium contribution rates for intermittent employees, COBRA participants, retirees, and survivors at the same levels as the County.

First 5 Contra Costa Human Resources Manager Tammy Henry gave a report on the item, citing that Contra Costa Health plan had a 6.8% increase and Health Net had between 7-8% increase in rates. It was reported that a majority of First 5 Staff are enrolled on Kaiser plans (which did not have an increase in rates).



After her presentation, Commissioner John Jones asked if staff had budgeted an increase for health benefits this year?

Tammy informed that the budget last year increased 5.5% and the increase in the upcoming budget is projected at about 5%.

Supervisor Burgis reported the county will increase its contribution to \$750 annually into the HSA (Health Savings Account) for active eligible employees who are enrolled in Kaiser Permanente High Deductible Health Plan and have an HSA as of January 1, 2023 of the new plan year. This contribution will be made with the February 10, 2023 pay for active employees. [Health Savings Account | Contra Costa County, CA Official Website](#)

Lee Ross made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marla Stuart to accept the 2023 health and dental employer-paid premium contribution rates for active employees; and accept the 2023 premium contribution rates for intermittent employees, COBRA participants, retirees, and survivors at the same levels as the County.

Roll call of vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez - Yes
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey - Yes
District 3: Lee Ross - Yes
District 4: Matt Regan - Yes
District 5: John Jones - Yes
Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis - Yes
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli - Yes
EHSD: Dr. Marla Stuart - Yes
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh – Yes

Nos: NONE

Abstain: NONE

Absent: District 1 Alternate: Genoveva Garcia Calloway; District 3 Alternate: Rhoda Butler; Board of Supervisors Alternate Candace Andersen; Health Services Alternate: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria; Children & Families Services Alternate: Roslyn Gentry

The item was **APPROVED**.

6.0 RECEIVE presentation of State Updates and Highlights from Avo Makdessian, Executive Director, First 5 Association of California.

Ruth Fernandez introduced Avo Makdessian who gave an update presentation on the activities at the First 5 Association.

His report highlights include:

- The First 5 Network Structure, Vision, Mission, Role and Approach representing all 58 First 5 County Commissions and Policy Development and State Advocacy.
- Gave the Strategic Plan and Priorities:
 - Assert Policy Leadership and Drive Systems Change
 - Member Support and Member Focused Support Area facilitating learning and engagement between all 58 county members
 - To center Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) in everything they do.

- Building Strategic Capacity as an organization and as a network.

Legislative Highlights in his report included:

- Ensuring Medi-Cal eligibility for children birth through age 5, awaiting federal approval set in 2025.
- SB951 to increase the amount of replacement wages for any family that had to take leave to care for a newborn, also known as Paid Family Leave.
- Looking for ways to ensure funding sustainability for First 5 Commissions throughout the state.
- Planning Work Group at the Association to talk about “what do we need” “what can we do?” and “what should we ask from the State, in terms of funding to recoup potential losses in revenue due to declining tobacco tax income.” The California State Association of Counties members had also been looking at First 5 sustainability and can be a source of support.
- How to incorporate Family Voice and Leadership.

Lee Ross asked, after the Governor’s recent veto of Mandatory Kindergarten, where does the State Advocacy from First 5 stand on that issue?

Avo reported that from the Policy Perspective, the Association has increased attention on a Health Development of young children and the focused on policies related to healthy development, particularly home visiting and medical reimbursement. He also informed that the association had not focused on as much on Early Childhood and Child Care and TK expansion. The Association is tracking all bills that were supportive in all those areas. For all the members that we represent Mandatory Kindergarten has been difficult for some rural communities to implement. He expressed hope that the Governor would restore funding for it in the future.

7.0 RECEIVE overview presentation of First 5 Contra Costa Strategic Planning Process for FY 2023-2026. Presented by Nicole Young, Consultant.

Nicole Young gave the following presentation on the process for updating the Strategic Plan:

- Reviewed First 5’s strategic planning framework.
- Gave an overview of the 2023 – 2026 Strategic Planning Process
- Provided layers of Organizational Planning from the strategic “big picture” goals to the operational day to day work routine.
- Gave common elements of a Strategic Plan using Theory of Change (Vision, Mission, Values, Goals and Strategies and Key Activities.)
- Gave an outline of the Planning Process and Timeline anticipating completion in May 2023.

Gareth Ashley asked why this upcoming Strategic Plan has moved away from having a 5 to 4 year plan in the past, to now 3-year plan?

Ruth informed that because there are many big transformation changes in policy, there is a lot we do not know long term. I think we can affect systems change in this term, and this incremental approach to our planning allows us to be intentional and make strategic decisions keeping in mind the fiscal landscape of dwindling revenue. This is why I would recommend we keep the term shorter for now.

Additionally, the following commissioners remarked:

- John Jones suggested a glossary of organizations and services that are being delivered be included in the upcoming retreat. He suggested also a way of identifying the dollars that are coming in and be



able to see the direction where our investments are going. The goal is to refrain from duplicating a partner or cohort's efforts.

- Dr. Marla Stuart informed that EHSD will share the information of its services to the Commission, referenced John Jones' remark.
- Lee Ross wants to see a summary of First 5 Contra Costa's previous goals and achievements and other datum (number of children who received various services information).
- Dr. Rocio Hernandez would like to see Commissioners plug in to operationalizing / representing / taking the role on matters being prioritized in the new Strategic Plan.

8.0 Communications:

The Chair noted that these 2 articles were included in the packet:

- Improving Racial Equity in Kindergarten Readiness Inventory Efforts Report from First 5 Center for Children's Policy.
- First 5 Contra Costa's Community Impact Award Notification by the East Bay Leadership Council.

9.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

Chairwoman Dr. Rocio Hernandez sends condolences on behalf of the Commission to District 3 Alternate Commissioner, Rhoda Butler who is mourning the death of her son.

10.0 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.