



**Special Commission Meeting
MINUTES**

Wednesday October 28, 2020, 6:00 pm

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice-Chair, John F. Jones opened the meeting at 6:06 PM.

Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held on a web-based platform. The Chair introduced meeting protocols.

Commissioners present during roll call:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez

District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey

District 3: Lee Ross

District 4: Gareth Ashley

District 5: John Jones

EHSD: Kathy Gallagher

Health Services: Daniel Peddycord for Dr. Chris Farnitano

Children & Families Services: Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh

Also present was Deputy Counsel Keiko Kobayashi.

Alternates present on roll call were:

District 1: Genoveva Garcia Calloway

District 4: Matt Regan

Absent were Commissioners Supervisor Diane Burgis, Dr. Chris Farnitano (Health Services Dept.) and Alternate Commissioner Supervisor Candace Andersen.

2.0 Public Comment

No public comment.

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

No item removed for discussion

A motion was made by Lee Ross, seconded by Kathy Gallagher to approve the Consent Calendar.

All in favor by roll call:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez - Aye

District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey - Aye

District 3: Lee Ross - Aye

District 4: Gareth Ashley - Aye

District 5: John Jones - Aye

EHSD: Kathy Gallagher - Aye

Health Services: Daniel Peddycord for Dr. Chris Farnitano - Aye

Children & Families Services: Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh- Aye

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NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Absent: Supervisor Diane Burgis and Alternate Commissioner Supervisor Candace Andersen.

The Board unanimously **APPROVED** the consent items as presented.

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

There were no items pulled from the Consent Calendar for further discussion.

5.0 Consider accepting the 2021 health and dental employer-paid premium contribution rates for active employees; and accept the 2021 premium contribution rates for intermittent employees, COBRA participants, retirees and survivors at the same levels as the County

Shawn Garcia, Administrative Manager gave the following report:

The commission has chosen to since 2012 to participate in the County's Health benefit plans for First 5 Employees. Each year the County negotiates premiums with health insurance carriers and provides a rate sheet to First 5 listing the employer and employee contributions based on the negotiated rates. Currently, plan costs for 2020 and projected costs for 2021 are based on positions staffed for the full calendar year. Total employer contributions projected increase of 3.3%.

After the report, the Chair asked if there were any questions.

There were no questions received.

A motion was made by Dan Peddycord and seconded by Gareth Ashley to accept the 2021 health and dental employer-paid premium contribution rates for active employees; and accept the 2021 premium contribution rates for intermittent employees, COBRA participants, retirees and survivors at the same levels as the County.

All in favor by roll call:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez - Aye

District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey - Aye

District 3: Lee Ross - Aye

District 4: Gareth Ashley - Aye

District 5: John Jones - Aye

EHSD: Kathy Gallagher - Aye

Health Services: Dan Peddycord for Dr. Chris Farnitano - Aye

Children & Families Services: Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh - Aye

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Absent: Commissioner Supervisor Diane Burgis and Alternate Commissioner Supervisor Candace Andersen.

The motion was **APPROVED**.

6.0 Consider accepting the final financial report for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Ruth gave the report:



The enclosed represents the final financial report for FY 19/20 and the last year of approved First 5 investments under the prior Strategic Plan 2015/16-2019/20.

Major Revenue

1. Prop. 10 and Prop. 56 backfill revenue came in higher than last fiscal year.
2. Interest received was also slightly higher than projected.
3. As noted, there was a significant increase in new grants from philanthropic funders including: Sunlight Giving, the East Bay Community Foundation, the San Francisco Foundation, and other COVID related grants from the Y&H Soda Foundation, John Muir Health Foundation, Travis Credit Union, and the California Family Resources Centers Association (CFRA).
4. Due to cost savings associated with multiple vacancies in key roles for the majority of the fiscal year, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on direct services spending, and the increase of revenue through other funds – only 9% was drawn down from the fund balance amount projected at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Program

FY 19/20 program expenditures reflect the impact of COVID-19 due to decreased expenditures resulting from limitations of the Shelter in Place Health Order and cancellation/pausing of several direct services, activities, and other supports. Programming changes due to the pandemic include shifts in services through Home Visiting programming, the First 5 Centers, and Community Engagement events. Variances reflect an overall 82% in projected program expenditures.

Strategic Information and Planning (SIP): the variance in this budget category as noted in the budget is due to the vacancy of the SIP Manager, Evaluation Analyst and Program Assistant for the majority of the FY.

Administration: In the administration category, most notably the variance is seen in Professional Services due to an increase in Professional services contracts and legal services; given multiple vacancies the agency contracted with a Search Firm to direct the hiring of key management positions including the Executive Director, Deputy Director, and Finance and Operations Director positions.

Total closing fund balance as of June 30, 2020: \$18,201,950.

John mentioned that there were some additional funding that was to go through First 5 Contra Costa Families who were not able to avail of COVID 19 resources that Ruth had forwarded to HAB45 etc. in a swift pivot in order to assist county citizens during pandemic.

There were no further questions.

Motion made by Dan Peddycord and seconded by Kathy Gallagher to accept the final financial report for FY 2019-2020.

All in favor by roll call:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez - Aye

District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey - Aye

District 3: Lee Ross - Aye

District 4: Gareth Ashley - Aye

District 5: John Jones - Aye

EHSD: Kathy Gallagher - Aye

Health Services: Dan Peddycord for Dr. Chris Farnitano - Aye

Children & Families Services: Roslyn Gentry for Kathy Marsh - Aye

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NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Absent: Commissioner Supervisor Diane Burgis and Alternate Commissioner Supervisor Candace Andersen.

The final financial report was **APPROVED**.

7.0 Executive Director's Report

Ruth Fernandez gave the following highlights in this month's report:

- Staffing and hiring updates
- Organizational assessment and reflection RFP
- Strategic Plan internal mapping & Work Plan development
- ACES Aware Grants updates
- Ready Kids East County Parent Café Series in November, December and January
- COVID Survey Findings
- Measure X Updates
- Proposal to establish an Office for Racial Equity and Social Justice
- First 5 Association's Virtual Summit on Dec 7 -9. Commissioners and staff invited.

No questions from the panel.

No questions from the floor.

8.0 Communications

Ruth Fernandez wanted the Commissioners to view the three items in the packet:

- 8.1 First 5 Association Fact Sheet - Proposition 16: Equal Opportunities for All
- 8.2 First 5 Association Partner Letter on Saving the Child Care System
- 8.3 California's Early Identification and Intervention System and the Role of Help Me Grow – Executive Summary

9.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

Gareth Ashley reported that he participated in the Virtual District 2 Candidates Forum coordinated by the Central County Regional group and Monument Impact. The event was well organized and all debates went off very well. Most of the candidates support rent stabilization.

Genoveva Garcia Calloway announced a FREE COVID-19 Testing on November 7, 2020 at the WEST County Health Center at 13601 San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo CA. **United Latino Voices** organized this with the City of San Pablo and the Contra Costa County Health Services Department. Everyone is welcome. No appointment needed. No insurance needed. Testing for all ages. All testing will be confidential. Volunteers are needed.

John Jones commented on the upcoming November election and the importance of remaining calm and promoting civility regardless of who wins. He also congratulated all the group's efforts in getting CENSUS numbers up. Hope for positive outcome for the county.

10.0 Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

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