



Children & Families Commission
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**Commission Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, December 12, 2017
 Stanislaus County Office of Education
 Board Room
 1100 "H" Street, Modesto, CA**

Members Present: Vicki Bauman, Ignacio Cantu Jr., Vito Chiesa, David Cooper, Kathy Harwell (Chair), Mary Ann Lee, Nelly Paredes-Walsborn (Vice Chair), George Skol, Dr. Julie Vaishampayan.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: David Jones, Executive Director; Veronica Ascencio, Accountant; Stephanie Loomis, Administration; and Jack Doering, Commission Counsel.

- I. Chair Harwell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Commission members, staff, and attendees were introduced and welcomed.
- II. Commission members and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Announcement of Commissioner Recusals – None
- IV. Public Comment Period – None
- V. Consent Calendar
 The Consent Calendar was approved.
Motion by Bauman, Second by Skol. Unanimously approved.
- VI. Agenda Items
 - A. The Commission approved the Commission Meeting Minutes of October 24, 2017.
Approved on the consent calendar. Motion by Bauman, Second by Skol. Unanimously approved.
 - B. Executive Director’s Office
 - 1. The Commission heard a presentation by Moira Kenney from First 5 Association. She shared the Association is working on building a First 5 Network Strategy to achieve greater unity, influence and impact across First 5, leading to more funding, and greater outcomes for children 0-5 and their families. The Commission thanked her for the presentation.
 - 2. Section 130140 of the California Health and Safety Code requires that “the county commission conduct at least one public hearing on its proposed county strategic plan before the plan is adopted.” The Commission is considering adoption of a strategic plan for calendar years 2018-2020. This plan is consistent with the current strategic plan for 2015-2017 and would serve as the guiding document for the Commission for the next three years until amended or replaced.

The Commission closely monitors State revenues and creates long-range financial models based on State revenue assumptions as well as Commission priorities and spending assumptions. Annual State revenue for the Commission has decreased from a high of nearly \$7.1 million in 2004-2005 to the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget projection of \$4.3 million. There have been several factors, including the increased tax on tobacco products

and the increase in legal smoking age in California, that are influencing the trend of decreased revenue.

Commission staff has clearly communicated to its funded partners for nearly 10 years that current levels of funding are not sustainable and that the Commission at some point will need to take action to make changes to funding levels. With continued decreasing State revenue and a decreasing fund balance, the Commission is preparing to take action on its strategic priorities, budget and long-range model and has been communicating with funded partners through multiple channels over the past six months that this process will be taking place.

Aside from the declining State revenue available for the work of the Commission, there are also multiple additional factors impacting the future strategic direction of the Commission. These adaptive challenges and opportunities include things like the significant collective impact work occurring in Stanislaus County to create broad-based systems of change through movements like Focus on Prevention. Also, there is a strong willingness of key stakeholders to participate in collaborative work for the improvement of the community. There is a need for greater 0-5 and family systems development and coordination in our community and the need for stronger data systems surrounding the work of children and families. The historical relevance and leadership of the Children and Families Commission is a tremendous strength that needs to continue to be utilized. And the financial capacity of the Commission to drive change for population health indicators - as well as program-based indicators – needs to be considered. These are just some of the forces and factors at work locally that will form any future strategic process the Commission engages.

It is the intention of the Commission over the next 12 months to consider a Request for Proposal (RFP) process for a strategic direction and planning process. It is anticipated this RFP and planning process will require a significant investment of time and financial resources. Engaging this effort would allow for an intensive process of data collection and analysis, as well as a thorough process for strategic reflection and establishing future Commission priorities, taking into account the multiple factors impacting the operating environment. The result of this process would be the groundwork for an updated strategic plan. A new Strategic Plan with updated Commission priorities, would provide the framework for long-term spending into the future through an updated long-range financial model. Upon completion of the draft Strategic Plan at this future point in time, the Commission would then consider this updated Strategic Plan for adoption and implementation.

The Commission heard a detailed presentation on the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan that is referenced above. A Public Hearing was opened at 4:56 p.m. by Chair Harwell and, hearing no comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 4:57 p.m.

The Commission adopted the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan and instructed staff to place the Plan on the Commission website.

Motion by Skol, Second by Paredes-Walsborn. Unanimously approved.

3. The Commission approved the 2018 Meeting calendar.

Approved on the Consent Calendar. Motion by Bauman, Second by Skol. Unanimously approved.

- C. Committee Reports – ***Approved on the Consent Calendar. Motion by Bauman, Second by Skol. Unanimously approved.***

1. The Commission accepted the minutes for the Operations Committee meeting held on November 16, 2017.
2. The Commission accepted the minutes for the Administrative Committee meeting held on December 4, 2017, including the Monthly Financial Report as of October 31, 2017.

II. Correspondence – None

III. Commissioner Reports – None

IV. Staff Reports

- David shared site visits with Commission funded partners continue to occur and are going well.
- David shared he attended Brown Act training offered by Stanislaus County Office of Education. He noted the Commission is compliant with Brown Act requirements.
- David shared he attended a meeting held by Valley Children’s Hospital where they shared their intent to build a significant outpatient specialty health facility in the community.
- David shared the Commission office would be closed Tuesday, December 26.
- David shared a Family Resource Center (FRC) Leadership Team was started and the group has begun developing a 2018 training schedule for FRC staff.
- David shared he meet with Dave White from Opportunity Stanislaus. He shared information regarding an upcoming workforce training program offered by Opportunity Stanislaus, Stanislaus County Department of Workforce Development and the VOLT Institute.
- David shared Commission, Community Services Agency and FRC staff met recently to discuss proposed process improvement changes regarding the Family Development Matrix used by FRCs for client case management. The group reached consensus and the proposed process improvements will be implemented in the future.
- In light of the continued decrease of Commission revenue, as mentioned during the Strategic Plan presentation, David made a recommendation for the Commission to consider evaluating contract reductions for 2018-2019. The Commission directed staff to begin working with funded partners to determine whether budget reductions were feasible by July 1, 2018 and to discuss impacts. Partner organizations have advised that the sooner they receive notice of possible the changes the better as they will begin going into their own budget processes during the first part of 2018. Staff will bring an update back to the Commission and a possible agenda item related to proposed budget reductions based on feedback and discussion.

V. The Commission meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.