



Commission Actions 01/27/20:

- ⇒ Commissioner Oscar Chavez assumes Office as Commission Chair
- ⇒ José Morales, MD, sworn in as Commissioner
- ⇒ Approved Consent Agenda
- ⇒ Approved Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Performance Report
- ⇒ Approved the Long-Term Finance Plan Update
- ⇒ Adopted the Strategic Planning 2020 Roadmap

**First 5 Sonoma County
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2020
Santa Rosa, CA**

I. Call to Order

The First 5 Sonoma County Commission met this date in regular session. A quorum was present, Chair Oscar Chavez called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm. Commissioner Oscar Chavez expressed looking forward to the Commission’s work in 2020.

Commission Members Present: Kelly Bass Seibel, Oscar Chavez, Jose Morales, MD, Michele Rogers, Socorro Shiels

Absent: Supervisor Lynda Hopkins, Jennielynn Holmes

Staff: Angie Dillon-Shore, Renée Alger, Andrea Carter, Natalie Kramer, Sabrina Rodrigues, and Sandra Uribe

Arrived after meeting was called to order: Kristin Fladseth arrived at 3:41 pm.

II. Potential Conflicts of Interest

Chair Oscar Chavez requested that Commissioners identify potential conflicts of interest and recuse themselves from discussing or voting on the identified matter. No conflicts were identified by Commissioners.

III. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items

No public comment.

IV. Oath of Office

Commissioner Morales, MD was appointed by the Board of Supervisors for a two-year term on the First 5 Sonoma County Commission. Chair Oscar Chavez introduced Commissioner Morales, MD and read his brief biography. Andrea Carter, First 5 Sonoma County Office Manager deputized by the County of Sonoma, administered the Oath of Office.

V. Consent Agenda

I. Minutes of December 02, 2019

II. Correspondence: *Letter from Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County, Executive Director and Board Chair, 12/6/19*

Approve Consent Agenda

MOTION: BASS SEIBEL/ROGERS

AYES: CHAVEZ, MORALES, SHIELS

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

RECUSE: NONE



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VI. Budget Performance Report: Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Christina Hollingsworth, the Commission’s CPA, provided an overview of the recommended First 5 Sonoma County Quarter 2 Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Performance report.

Staff Recommendation: Approve Second Quarter Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Performance Report

MOTION: BASS SEIBEL/ROGERS
AYES: CHAVEZ, FLADSETH, MORALES, SHIELS
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
RECUSE: NONE

VII. Long-Term Finance Plan Update

Angie Dillon-Shore, Executive Director, presented a recommendation to accept the long-term finance plan update. Long-term financial planning is a core element of the ongoing governance of all local First 5 Commissions – they are mandated to update the long-term financial model on a regular basis due to a declining revenue source (Prop. 10 tobacco tax) as the primary funding stream. The model has three main components: tobacco tax revenue projections, planned expenditures, and beginning and ending fund balances.

Revenue projections for Prop. 10 are provided twice annually by the state so that the Commissions can update their financial models. Ms. Dillon-Shore stated the revenue disbursements are significantly lower than what was projected last May. Payments during the last six months have also been delayed: to date, revenue for this fiscal year has only been received for July and August 2019. The Commission’s Executive Committee met to review the long-term financial model and to develop a recommendation for this update.

Commissioner Bass Seibel stated the Executive Committee has taken a conservative approach to updating the model. Conservative estimates of Prop. 10 revenue are being used and a higher minimum threshold for prudent reserve is being recommended. The five-year model steps down all expenditures, starting in FY 21-22, until reserves are depleted, except for a prudent reserve of 50% of the prior year’s Prop. 10 revenues. The Executive Committee will be reviewing the financial model quarterly due to the instability in the Prop. 10 estimates.

Commissioner Bass Seibel also noted that while no current commitments of funding are impacted, staff should monitor grantee expenditures and consider requests for budget modifications through the lens of cost efficacy. She requested through the Chair that the Executive Director forward updates from First 5 California on the revenue disbursements and projections

Recommendation: Approve Long-Term Finance Plan Update

MOTION: ROGERS/SHIELS
AYES: CHAVEZ, BASS SEIBEL, FLADSETH, MORALES,
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
RECUSE: NONE

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VIII. Adopt Strategic Planning 2020 Roadmap

Angie Dillon-Shore, Executive Director, presented the proposed Strategic Planning 2020 Roadmap. Last August, the Commission established the Strategic Plan Design Team to develop a strategic planning process. The team is composed of Commissioners Oscar Chavez, Socorro Shiels, Kelly Bass Seibel, and Angie Dillon-Shore, Executive Director and Renée Alger, Program Director. Four meetings were held and facilitated by a consultant to develop the proposed Roadmap for strategic planning. The major elements the team focused on were:

- Planning goals
- Guiding principals
- Informing and resourcing
- Key questions
- Mechanism for engagement
- A timeline
- A decision-making structure for planning

The Roadmap articulates six foundational principles, all of which are grounded in current research and best practice. These principles are the foundation upon which the priorities will be built and elevated:

- Children's experiences, birth to 5, set the trajectory for their life course.
- Parents and caregivers are a child's first and most important teachers.
- The first two years provide the greatest opportunity to maximize the critical and long-lasting impact on a child's developing brain.
- Some children need more supports to address structural gaps in opportunity due to racial and economic inequities.
- The entire community benefits from optimal child development.
- The best investment of resources is in proven approaches to early prevention and intervention.

Commissioner Socorro Shiels provided an overview of lessons learned 2010-2020, the starting point for strategic planning was to understand what has been learned through the implementation of the current strategic plan, which was 2010-2020, a ten-year strategic plan. These highlights were addressed:

- Investments in best practices and EBP have led to positive outcomes for individual families and children
- Funding programs has not moved the needle at a population level
- Services are often provided in silos, families encounter “wrong doors”
- Much learning about collective impact – now at a critical juncture
- Sonoma County has embraced the importance of evidence-based practice
- Prop. 10 funds are less reliable to project, requiring a long-term funding strategy that is responsive to this new reality

Commissioner Shiels noted that First 5 Sonoma County is evolving a true collective impact strategy in Sonoma County and are at a critical juncture with regards to collaboration.

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Ms. Dillon-Shore noted that the updating the Long-term Financial Model was a key step in the strategic planning process. Staff will work on engaging a consultant to support the planning work going forward. First 5 Sonoma County is working with Upstream Investments and an outside evaluation consultant to develop a “landscape” analysis that synthesizes all current and relevant data.

A list was provided to show some of the data sources and interactive engagements that will be part of the landscape assessment:

- First 5 Sonoma Community Indicators Report, 2019
- CA Strong Start Index, 2017
- CAP Sonoma Community Profile & Needs Assessment, 2019
- READY - Sonoma County Kinder Readiness Report, 2019
- Sonoma County Child Care Needs Assessment Update, 2019
- Sonoma County Homeless Count, 2019
- MCAH Needs Assessment, 2018
- Survey on ballot measure to fund children's services, 2019
- Children Now Scorecard, 2018
- Portrait of Sonoma County, 2014
- U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2017
- First 5 Focus Schools List, 2019
- Parent listening sessions @ FRCs
- Data Deep Dive Sessions
- Leadership Advisory Roundtables

The core planning work will be done by the Strategic Planning Advisory Team who will develop the recommendations for strategic priorities and strategies. The composition of the workgroup reflects the focus on systems, on funding outcomes and the need to achieve impact through collective strategies:

- First 5 Sonoma County Commissioners (3)
- First 5 Sonoma County Leadership Advisory Roundtable (1)
- Sonoma County’s Funder’s Circle (2)
- First 5 Sonoma County Staff (2)
- Cradle to Career Sonoma County – Goal 1 Workgroup (3)

Ms. Dillon-Shore presented the Timeline of Planning Activities (See document *First 5 Sonoma County Strategic Planning 2020 Roadmap* for detail.) The goal is to fully implement the five-year plan with the selection of providers and all contracts executed in time to start on July 1, 2021.

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Strategic Planning 2020 Roadmap

MOTION: SHIELS/BASS SEIBEL
AYES: CHAVEZ, FLADSETH, MORALES, ROGERS
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
RECUSE: NONE

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Commissioner Michele Rogers expressed how over the past 10 years the needle has moved significantly with improving childcare and finding a medical home. Now the needles are changing and are different that we have to move.

Public Comment: Tina Moss, Program Manager, Early Learning Institute, commented that Prop 10 provides funding for early childhood development programs, that advocacy convener does not fall under Prop. 10 services. She expressed concerned this approach will diminish funding capacity instead of develop it.

Public Comment: Melanie Dodson, Executive Director, Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs) commented that First 5 Sonoma County is truly a champion for children and please share this messaging publicly. Ms. Dodson expressed that she supports the planning approach but stated the need to be careful not to damage existing systems. As Chair of the Leadership Advisory Roundtable, Ms. Dodson does not want the responsibility of choosing one person from the group for the planning workgroup. She recommended that she work with staff/Executive Director to ensure appropriate representation.

IX. Presentation: Building an FRC Network to Promote Neighborhood & Family

Amber Twitchell, Associate Director from On the Move presented alongside members of the Sonoma County Strengthening Families Network, on building an FRC Network to Promote Neighborhood & Families through funding from First 5 Sonoma County Responsive Grants Program. On The Move has worked with four Family Resource Centers over the past two years to strengthen families in Sonoma County through building the capacity of the network utilizing the following approach:

1. **On the Verge** – On the Verge convened a group of FRC leaders as a leadership development learning cohort.
2. **Innovative Team Building** – Team members rapidly built strong, trusting relationships to support each other through conversations about equity, racism and trauma-informed care.
3. **Common Platform** – Participants elected to use Protective Factors and the Strengthening Families Framework as an operational network foundation.
4. **Outcomes & Strategies** – Through analysis of existing efforts and gaps, network members identified strategies to impact common outcomes for families.

Sonoma County has invested heavily in our community capacity to implement evidence-based practice (EBP), yet one of the challenges remains that EBPs are expensive. Sharing resources, including funding and training across FRCs will dramatically impact the breadth and depth of quality EBPs that are offered to Sonoma County Families. The Network recommended continued investment to build the capacity and reach of the FRCs to support the resiliency of families and community. Amber Twitchell noted her strong advocacy at the state level to bring resources to support local FRC capacity, preferably through First 5 as an intermediary funder.

The Commission enthusiastically praised the work presented by the network and On The Move.

X. 2020 Commissioner Roles & Accountability

Chair Oscar Chavez went over the 2020 Commissioner roles and accountability.

- Review Conflict of Interest Policy & Brown Act Guide
- Submit *Statement of Economic Interest* (Form 700) by 2/28

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- Complete Ethics Training by 2/28

A half day retreat for Commissioners is being planned for June or July for strategic planning.

XI. Key Stakeholder Report: Impact & Sustainability of the Teen Parent Connections Program

Rachel Cuevas Rouda, Director of Communications, Senior Consultant with Learning for Action presented a report commissioned by First 5 on the impact, need for and opportunities to sustain the Teen Parent Connections program (TPC). Department of Health Services requested support from First 5 Sonoma County to study this program in an effort to find a way to sustain the services. Teen parent population is declining, but racial disparities and the need for critical support persists.

TPC is making a difference for teen parents and their babies by:

- Strengthening positive parenting skills to promote healthy child development and growth
- Encouraging continuation of school and pursuit of educational goals
- Building parental capacity to be self-sufficient
- Supporting long-term generational and economic impact through an upstream approach
- Critical support for strengthening teen parents’ sense of self-efficacy
- Central role in coordinating the system of services for the teen parent population in Sonoma County
- Only program helping teen parents navigate system of care and get connected to comprehensive services

Opportunities to sustain and expand TPC services:

- Retain program within DHS with current model and staff
- Pool funding
- Maintain and expand TPC partnerships
- Increase outreach and awareness for TPC
- Leverage cost savings data

XII. Executive Director’s Report

Angie Dillon-Shore, Executive Director, provided the following updates to the Commission:

Candidates Forum: First 5 Sonoma County co-hosted a Supervisor Candidates Forum on Children and Families Issues on January 16th at the Glaser Center, co-sponsored with Child Parent Institute, Prevent Child Abuse Sonoma County, Cradle to Career, 4Cs and Center for Innovation and Resources. The forum was well-attended and elevated the intersection of issues impacting children and families, including mental health, housing, income inequality and child care. All three current supervisors that are running participated, as well as two of their challengers.

Governor’s Budget 2020-2021: Governor Newsom announced the 2020-2021 state budget of \$222 billion the highlights included:

- Job protection for paid family leave
- \$75m to for preschool facilities on school campuses

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- \$140m to increase child care access
- \$158m to expand state subsidized preschool
- More than \$1 billion to fight homelessness
- \$10 million towards cross-sector training programs on adverse childhood experiences
- \$54 million for developmental screening
- MHSR (Prop. 63) Reform

A key proposal in the Governor’s budget was the creation of the Department of Early Childhood Development under the CA Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS), effective July 1, 2021. The goal of a unique department will be to promote a unified, quality, and affordable child and family serving system under a single system of state administration and to reduce agency silos. Child care programs that will be under the purview of this department include:

- CA Department of Early Childhood Development: CalWORKs child care programs
- Voucher-based child care programs
- Direct contract child care programs
- Head Start and Early Head Start
- Emergency child care bridge program (for foster children)
- Child care quality improvement
- Early Childhood Policy Council – Master Plan for Early Learning & Care

Nicotine Vaping Tax: The Governor has proposed new tax methodology on vaping products to take effect on January 1, 2021, and will be \$2 for each 40 milligrams of nicotine in the product. Best estimates indicate that this could generate around \$32 million in funding annually, which will be deposited into a new special fund to be used for administration, enforcement, youth prevention, and health care workforce programs. It’s unclear whether this new funding calculation will consider the existing tobacco taxes. First 5 has received funding from other vaping and e-cigarettes products since they were classified as tobacco products in 2015. The Association is meeting with the Governor’s office this week to advocate that we receive our equivalency on this new tobacco funding source.

XIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 pm.