

**FIRST 5 KERN**  
**KERN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION**

Wednesday, August 7, 2019  
Kern County Superintendent of Schools  
1300 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 1A  
Bakersfield, California

**MINUTES**

COMMISSION CONVENED @ 2:00 P.M.

Present Commissioners: Lerude, Richers, Sandrini, Sill, Wasson, Wood; Alternate Christopher  
Absent Commissioners: Curioso, Gleason

Note: Co, Gn, Le, My, Rs, Si, Sl, Wn, and Wd are abbreviations for Commissioners, Curioso, Gleason, Lerude, Murphy, Richers, Sandrini, Sill, Wasson, and Wood respectively. Alternate Commissioners Giffard, Scrivner, Hasting, and Christopher are also similarly denoted. For example, “Gd-Cr” denotes Commissioner Giffard made the motion and Commissioner Christopher seconded it. The abbreviations “AB” means absent and “ABD” abstained. “All ayes” means that all Commissioners present voted affirmatively. “NO” indicates a negative vote by the indicated Commissioner(s).

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- 1) None

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 2) Committee member announcements and reports
  - Commissioner Wasson introduced new Commissioner Debbie Wood as well as Commissioner Murphy’s alternate, Jill Christopher and welcomed them both.
- 3) Technical Advisory Committee Report
  - Commissioner Lerude gave a synopsis of the TAC meeting of June 17, 2019, which included:
    - ✓ With several new members, the Chair asked for a roundtable introduction to acquaint the new members with the existing members.
    - ✓ Kevin Bartl, Communications and Media Specialist, reported on First 5 Kern’s updated website and stated the Handprints newsletter is now being produced monthly rather than quarterly.
    - ✓ Mr. Maier gave an update on the RFP process and reported that he is in the process of selecting the Independent Evaluation Committee.
- 4) Personnel Committee Report
  - Commissioner Wasson reported the Personnel Committee met twice, July 12, 2019 and July 31, 2019.

- Personnel Committee meeting – July 12, 2019
  - ✓ A staff member requested to speak before the Committee and was asked to give notice in writing in order to address the Committee, at its next meeting.
  - ✓ Commissioner Murphy reported July is Purple Ribbon Month, with several events taking place all around Kern County and thanked First 5 Kern for their support.
  - ✓ The Committee reviewed the employee step schedule and a Cost of Living Analysis. The item was tabled for another meeting seeking further analysis.
  - ✓ Mr. Maier distributed a new job description for a full time Director of Strategic Initiatives. This position will fill and continue the work currently performed by Marc Thibault, Consultant. The item was tabled for further discussion at a future meeting.
  - ✓ The Committee discussed the executive director evaluation process.
  - ✓ The Committee went into closed session. No report out.
- Personnel Committee meeting – July 31, 2019
  - ✓ The Committee discussed the Director of Strategic Initiatives position. Commissioner Wasson stated considering staffing changes within First 5 Kern, the Committee is fully considering the position, to continue the work being performed by Mr. Thibault, Consultant.
  - ✓ The Committee went into closed session. No report out.

5) Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Maier welcomed Commissioner Wood as its newest Commissioner and Jill Christopher, Alternate Commissioner for Commissioner Murphy.
- Mr. Maier distributed handouts to the Commission outlining the First 5 Association and First 5 California updates which covered:
  - ✓ First 5 Association of California bill tracker handout. Mr. Maier reported Governor Gavin Newsom embraces early childcare and early childhood services. More funding in the quality matrix, more reimbursements and extra slots for universal preschool. Most bills are dealing with childhood mental health and early intervention, which is a Help Me Grow model. Most of the bills are in appropriations and will be voted on when the Assembly and the Senate returns from recess.
  - ✓ Assemblyman Rudy Salas, Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Early Childhood Development, will meet Tuesday, August 13, 2019, 10:00 A.M., at the State Capitol, Room 126, for an informational hearing on overview of early childhood intervention services for children with special needs. Mr. Maier reported he would be attending the meeting and speaking under public comments.
  - ✓ Mr. Maier reported the First 5 Center for Children's Policy is an initiative of the California Children and Families Foundation, a sister organization of the First 5 Association of California. The Center develops research and

policy ideas with the goal of helping to improve early childhood systems in California. The Foundation will leverage multiple funding sources to strengthen systems of care through: communications, advocacy, collaboration, skill building, innovation and learning. Mr. Maier reported he will give an in-depth PowerPoint presentation on First 5 Center for Children's Policy at the October 2, 2019, Commission meeting.

- ✓ Mr. Maier gave an update on the Census 2020 meeting reporting Kern County lost 28% of funding due to absence of the hard to count populations. First 5 Kern is actively involved in assisting with getting accurate counts. Funding has been allocated to provide kiosks at our Family Resource Centers and our local libraries.
- ✓ Mr. Maier gave an update on the Request for Proposals 2020-2025 funding cycle. Mr. Maier reported we received a total of 41 proposals for a five-year total of \$41 million. The Independent Evaluation Committee will meet in August to pare down the proposals, then forward the proposals over to the Project Review Committee.
- ✓ Mr. Maier reported the First 5 Association Summit will be held December 9 – 11, 2019, in Palm Springs, California.
- ✓ Mr. Maier reported Theresa Martinez-Ortiz, Chief Program/Evaluation Officer has resigned her position effective August 3, 2019. Commissioner Wasson thanked Ms. Martinez-Ortiz for her eight years of service and all she has accomplished and stated she will be missed.
- ✓ Mr. Maier reported our Report to the Community is complete and thanked Kevin Bartl for his work on the project. Mr. Maier welcomed all to take a report before leaving.

## SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### 6) Contractor Highlight

- Pam Pritchard, Manager, Early Childhood Services for Kern County Superintendent of Schools gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Kern Early Stars program. Ms. Pritchard stated they are a team dedicated to working with providers and teachers through the quality improvement pathway designed to acknowledge the quality care already provided, as well as further enhance quality through:
  - ✓ Coaching/Support
  - ✓ Networking
  - ✓ Resources
  - ✓ Trainings
  - ✓ Educational Reimbursements

## ACTION ITEMS

- 7) Minutes of the Children and Families Commission meeting of June 5, 2019 –  
APPROVED

Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes



- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 8) Special Funding Request from West Side Recreation & Park District – APPROVED SPECIAL FUNDING REQUEST TO THE WEST SIDE RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT TO CONTINUE SERVICES TO THE WEST SIDE OUTREACH AND LEARNING CENTER PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-20, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$129,614; AUTHORIZED THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT OR OTHER DOCUMENT(S) TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES DESCRIBED, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY COUNSEL AS TO FORM; AND AUTHORIZED THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE ANY OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THESE SERVICES.
- Cr-Le  
SI-ABS  
Co, Gn – AB
- 9) Amendment Number 1 to Project 2019.4.01 – (Help Me Grow Kern County – Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services) APPROVED AMENDMENT NUMBER 1 INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS E, F AND G TO PROJECT 2019.4.01 HELP ME GROW KERN COUNTY WITH KERN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES, WITH A TERM DATE BEGINNING APRIL 1, 2019 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020; AUTHORIZED THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT OR OTHER DOCUMENT(S) TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES DESCRIBED, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY COUNSEL AS TO FORM; AND AUTHORIZED THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE ANY OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT.
- Si-Si  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 10) Professional Services Agreement with Theresa Martinez – APPROVED THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THERESA MARTINEZ, CONSULTANT; TO BEGIN AUGUST 8, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020; IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$84,500; AUTHORIZED THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT AND ANY OTHER DOCUMENT(S) NECESSARY, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY COUNSEL AS TO FORM; AND AUTHORIZED THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE ANY OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS AGREEMENT.

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS TO BE RECEIVED AND FILED

- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 11) Monthly Financial Reports for May and June 2019 – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 12) Report on Expenditure under the Policy on Support of Community Activities and Events (Purple Ribbon Month Community Awareness Campaign) – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 13) Report on Expenditure under the Policy on Support of Community Activities and Events (Learning & Edu-Care Continuing Education Seminar) – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 14) Letter from Susan Perko, President, Assistance League Bakersfield, dated June 25, 2019, re: Thank You – RECEIVED AND FILED

- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 15) Letter from Theresa Martinez-Ortiz, Chief Program\Evaluation Officer, First 5 Kern, dated July 12, 2019, re: Resignation – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 16) Collaborative Agreement with First 5 Association’s Help Me Grow California, dated July 26, 2019, re: Help Me Grow California Affiliation Partnership– RECEIVED AND FILED
- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 17) Minutes of the Personnel Committee meetings of July 12 and July 31, 2019 – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Si-SI  
Co, Gn – AB  
All Ayes
- 18) Minutes of the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting of March 18, 2019 – RECEIVED AND FILED

ADJOURNMENT

- 19) Adjourned to Wednesday, October 2, 2019, 2:00 P.M., 1300 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Board RM 1A