

FIRST 5 KERN
KERN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Kern County Superintendent of Schools
1300 17th Street, Room 1A
Bakersfield, California

MINUTES

COMMISSION CONVENED @ 2:00 P.M.

Present Commissioners: Carrigan, Gilbert, Nilon, Richers, Sill, Wood; Alternate Commissioner Bermudez
Absent Commissioners: Couch, Judd

Note: Cn, Ch, Gt, Jd, My, Nn, Rs, Sl, and Wd are abbreviations for Commissioners, Carrigan, Couch, Gilbert, Judd, Murphy, Nilon, Richers, Sill, and Wood, respectively. Alternate Commissioners Bermudez, Mena, and Perez are also similarly denoted. For example, “Nn-Wd” denotes Commissioner Nilon made the motion, and Commissioner Wood 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 members announcements and reports
 - Commissioner Wood reported the OneSight Vision Clinic is a nonprofit program coordinating with the Kern County Superintendent of School’s Migrant Program to treat students without vision care. Commissioner Wood said this week alone that the organization saw 700 students. The need rate is 94-96% that need glasses. Commissioner Wood reported it was fulfilling work and invited the Commission to come by to see the clinic in action. The clinic is currently at the Kern County Fairgrounds, Harvest Hall.
 - Commissioner Wood reported this is her third request to staff to have Dr. Oputa present to the Commission regarding the Racial Equity Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) training. Mr. Maier stated that he had tried to reach Dr. Oputa to no avail.
 - Commissioner Bermudez announced this month is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and the Department of Human Services is sponsoring the following activities:
 - ✓ “Recognizing the Signs of Child Abuse and Neglect” is a free virtual training on Friday, April 15, 2022, at 10:30 A.M. You can register at www.kcdhs.org.
 - ✓ In partnership with the Kern County Network for Children, the Department of Human Services, is offering a free webinar, “Reimaging Our Community: Equity and Community Voice as the



Foundation,” presented by Junious Williams on April 21, 2022, at 9:00 A.M. via Zoom <https://kcsos.zoom.us/j/91362468481>. No registration is required. For more information, contact Martha Gomez at (661) 636-4488.

- ✓ The Department of Human Services is partnering with the faith-based community for Blue Sunday on April 24, 2022, a nationally designated day to pray and remember the victims of child abuse and those who worked to rescue them. For more information, go to www.bluesunday.org.

- Commissioner Gilbert reported the public school system is adding Universal Transitional Kindergarten. And through a phased-in approach, the state will serve all four-year-olds in our public school system. Commissioner Gilbert suggested presenting on this topic at the June Commission meeting.

3) Executive Committee Report

- Commissioner Nilon reported on the two Executive Committee meetings of February 11 and March 2, 2022. The item for consideration was the public employee recruitment for an executive director, updating the job description, timing, and deadlines.

4) Technical Advisory Committee Report

- Commissioner Wood reported there was a presentation by Hector Gutierrez, Strategic Initiative Specialist, on the Strategic Planning meeting on March 2, 2022. At the meeting, there were breakout sessions. The lead for each session reported to the group, which led to a robust discussion. The takeaway from the discussions was First 5 Kern has continued to use the same forms for the past 12–15 years. Commissioner Wood stated, unfortunately, for some families answering the forms can be trauma-inducive. The conversation resulted in the TAC wanting to create a special subcommittee to review and update intake forms.
- Commissioner Wood made a referral to staff to create a subcommittee(s) to include staff to review and update the Persimmony intake forms.
- Commissioner Nilon and Roland Maier, Executive Director, agree staff should participate on the TAC Subcommittees, and the TAC should report back to the Commission as necessary.

5) Strategic Planning Report

- Hector Gutierrez, Strategic Initiatives Specialist, had the Commission view the ACEs video to give context to the conversations around our Strategic Planning and our contract with Unite Us.
- Mr. Gutierrez gave an update on the ACEs Conference, reporting there were more than 400 participants in the day-long event to support the health and well-being of children, the overview of ACEs and how it shows up in our work, and the strategies we can employ together. As county systems, county leaders, and First 5 Kern mobilize, the work can transform the lives of children and families.
- Paula De La Riva, Program Officer, gave a synopsis of the Strategic Planning meetings held in March in preparation for the 2025 funding cycle.
- Mr. Gutierrez reported the TAC and community members/stakeholders wanted to discuss areas they could work on regarding the 2025 Request for Proposals (RFP). The TAC would like to see the next RFP be inclusive of mental health, family support,

food insecurity, housing insecurity, whole child/whole family initiatives, an environment where children play, the work of ACEs, and thinking about systems weaving as we plan for the next RFP.

6) Communications and Media Report

- Kevin Bartl, Communications and Media Specialist, gave an update on the outreach he has worked on over the recent months:
 - ✓ Mr. Bartl worked with Providence Consulting to produce a long and a short version of the ACEs video. First 5 Kern will share the video with our partners and as a stepping stone for future partnerships.
 - ✓ Mr. Bartl reported First 5 Kern now has a YouTube page where you can find recorded videos and training workshops.
 - ✓ Mr. Bartl reported the search for our next Executive Director started with a press release and was then promoted by our social media, Indeed.com, and a paid FaceBook sponsorship advertisement.
 - ✓ Mr. Bartl reported First 5 Kern started a LinkedIn page and asked the Commissioners and audience to seek out our page, like, and share.
 - ✓ Mr. Bartl reported The Report to the Community would be out within weeks in a new digital format.

7) Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Maier introduced and welcomed Lito Morillo, Director, Kern County Human Services, to the Commission.
- Mr. Maier reported that the First 5 Association seeks to hire an Executive Director. The Association has solicited the help of Koya Partners to assist with the recruitment process.
- Mr. Maier reported first 5 California hired an Executive Director, Jacqueline Wong. Ms. Wong will replace the outgoing Executive Director, Camille Maben.
- Mr. Maier reported on The Kids Plate program, funded by voluntary purchases of the "Have a Heart, Be a Star, Help Our Kids" license plate. Since the program's inception, \$50 million has been raised to focus on child abuse prevention, childhood unintentional injury prevention, and childcare safety and health. The funds raised support local agencies with vital health education and training resources to benefit all California children and families, especially those living in rural and urban underserved communities.
- Mr. Mair reported the statewide network of First 5s would meet via Zoom legislators on April 19, 2022, for the annual First 5 Advocacy Day to lift up key early childhood legislation and budget proposals and promote its Whole Child, Whole Family policy agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING

Sl-Cn
Jd, Ch – AB
All Ayes

- 8) Strategic Planning Revisions FY2022-23 – OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING; ALLOWED PUBLIC COMMENT AND TESTIMONY; CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING; ADOPTED THE FIRST 5 KERN FY2022-23 STRATEGIC PLAN; DIRECTED THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO DISTRIBUTE THE STRATEGIC PLAN – RECEIVED AND FILED



- Wd-Rs 9) First 5 California Annual Report FY2020-21 – OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING;
Jd, Ch – AB ALLOWED PUBLIC COMMENT AND TESTIMONY; CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING
All Ayes – RECEIVED AND FILED

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- 10) Unite Us and Help Me Grow Kern County Pilot Project Demonstration – Analy Martinez, Program Officer, and Hector Gutierrez,
- Hector Gutierrez, Strategic Initiative Specialist, and Analy Martinez, Program Officer, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the systems approach to connecting families to developmental screenings and referrals through Unite Us. This technology platform streamlines electronic referrals for social needs and tracks outcomes.

ACTION ITEMS

- Cn-Rs 11) Minutes of the Children and Families Commission meeting of February 2, 2022 –
Jd, Ch – AB APPROVED
All Ayes
- Rs-Cn 12) Professional Services Agreement with UNITE US, Inc. – APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL
Jd, Ch – AB SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH UNITE US INC., MAY 31, 2022 THROUGH MAY 31,
All Ayes 2023; IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000, AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OR OTHER
DOCUMENT(S), SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY COUNSEL AS TO FORM; AND
AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE ANY OTHER ACTIONS
NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS AGREEMENT.
- Rs-Bz 13) Change to Bylaws Governing Proposed Qualifications Nomination and Selection of
Jd, Ch – AB Commissioners and Committee Responsibilities – ADOPT THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO
Nn, Wd-ABS THE COMMISSION BYLAWS, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4A GOVERNING THE
PROPOSED QUALIFICATION, NOMINATION, AND SELECTION PROCESS; AND
ARTICLE VI, SECTION 1, GOVERNING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE
INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEES; AND DIRECT THE BYLAWS BE REPRINTED AND
DISTRIBUTED AS NECESSARY.
- Cn-Rs 14) Committee Appointments – CHAIRPERSON MAKE AND COMMISSION APPROVED
Jd, Ch – AB APPOINTMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS TO THE EXECUTIVE, TECHNICAL
Wd - ABS ADVISORY, BUDGET AND FINANCE, PERSONNEL, COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND
COMMUNICATIONS, AND THE PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEES.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Cn-Rs 15) Executive Committee Minutes of February 11, 2022, and March 2, 2022 Meetings –
Jd, Ch – AB RECEIVED AND FILED
All Ayes

- Cn-Rs
Jd, Ch – AB
All Ayes
- 16) Monthly Financial Reports for December 2021, January, and February 2022 – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Cn-Rs
Jd, Ch – AB
All Ayes
- 17) Report on Expenditure under the Policy on Support of Community Activities and Events (Kern Medical Foundation) – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Cn-Rs
Jd, Ch – AB
All Ayes
- 18) Report on Expenditure under the Policy on Support of Community Activities and Events (Caring Corner) – RECEIVED AND FILED
- Cn-Rs
Jd, Ch – AB
All Ayes
- 19) Letter from Brown Armstrong, dated March 10, 2022, re: Letter of Engagement – RECEIVED AND FILED