



Commission Meeting

MINUTES

MONDAY, June 13, 2022

6:00 pm

1.0 Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairwoman Dr. Rocio Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.
Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held on a web-based platform.
The Chair welcomed new EHSD Director Marla Stuart to her first Commission Meeting

Commissioners present during roll call were:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez
District 3: Alternate member Rhoda Butler
District 4: Matt Regan
District 5: John Jones
Board of Supervisors: Alternate member Candace Andersen
Health Services: Alternate member Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria
EHSD: Marla Stuart
Children & Families Services: Alternate member Roslyn Gentry.

Commissioners who were not present during roll call were:

District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway
District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey
District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar
District 3: Lee Ross
District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley
Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis
Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli
EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen
Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

2.0 Public Comment

No comment from the public

3.0 Approval of Consent Calendar

Chairwoman Dr. Rocio Hernandez pulled agenda items #3.3.8, #3.3.16, and #3.3.17 from the consent calendar for discussion and consideration under item #4.0

John Jones made a motion, seconded by Candace Andersen to approve the remaining items on the consent calendar.

Roll call vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes
District 3: Rhoda Butler – Yes
District 4: Matt Regan – Yes
District 5: John Jones – Yes



Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes
Health Services: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria– Yes
EHSD: Marla Stuart – Yes
Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

The remaining consent calendar **APPROVED**.

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

EHSD Commissioner Marla Stuart made this statement:

I have an interest in agenda item **#3.3.8** because I am employed by the Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department, and this item directly impacts my department. I am recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room.

Marla Stuart left the meeting.

Board of Supervisors Alternate member Candace Andersen made this statement:

I have an interest in agenda item **#3.3.8** because I am a Contra Costa County Supervisor and receive a salary and reimbursement for expenses from the County. However, I am not employed by the County Department that is directly involved in the contract with First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission. I am not legally prohibited from voting on these items. Please record my disclosure in the Commission’s minutes.

John Jones made a motion, seconded by Roslyn Gentry to approve agenda item **#3.3.8**:

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director, or her designee, to execute a contract with Contra Costa County through its Employment & Human Services Department Community Services Bureau to provide home visiting services, in an amount not to exceed \$610,000, for term July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. FY2022-23 budget line: Family Support Initiative: Home Visiting (\$610,000). Funded 100% Prop 10 funding.

Roll call vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes
District 3: Rhoda Butler– Yes
District 4: Matt Regan – Yes
District 5: John Jones – Yes
Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes
Health Services: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria– Yes
Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None



Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Agenda item **#3.3.8** was **APPROVED**.
Marla Stuart returned to the meeting.

District 5 Commissioner John Jones gave the following statement:
I have an interest in agenda item **#3.3.16** because I am employed by CocoKids and this item directly impacts my department. I am recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room.

John left the meeting.

Marla Stuart made a motion, seconded by Matt Regan to approve agenda item **#3.3.16**:
APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Executive Director, or her designee, to execute a contract with CocoKids, Inc. to provide Quality Improvement Navigation (QIN) coaching, ongoing technical assistance (TA), guidance and communication to QIS and QRIS sites, and support in local implementation of the QRIS, in an amount not to exceed \$114,330, for term July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. FY2022-23 budget line: Early Childhood Education Initiative: Early Learning Quality (\$539,606) Funded 100% F5 CA Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive (IMPACT) funds.

Roll call of vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes
District 3: Rhoda Butler– Yes
District 4: Matt Regan – Yes
Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes
Health Services: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria– Yes
EHSD: Marla Stuart – Yes
Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Agenda item **#3.3.16** was **APPROVED**.
John Jones returned to the meeting.

Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria made the following statement:
I have an interest in agenda item **#3.3.17** because I am employed by the Contra Costa County Health Services Department, and this item directly impacts my department. I am recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room.



Dr. Mekuria left the meeting.

First 5 Contra Costa Executive Director Ruth Fernandez made the following statement:

My husband is a psychologist and had a contract with Counseling Options and Parent Education (COPE) to provide clinical consultation to the clinical staff at COPE within the last 12 months. I have an interest in agenda item #3.3.17 because the money my husband received as a result of the contract was a source of income for my household. I am therefore recusing myself from this item and will be leaving the room. Please record my disclosure in the Commission's minutes.

Ruth Fernandez left the meeting.

Supervisor Candace Andersen read the following statement:

I have an interest in agenda item #3.3.17 because I am a Contra Costa County Supervisor and receive a salary and reimbursement for expenses from the County. However, I am not employed by the County Department that is directly involved in the contract with First 5 Contra Costa Children and Families Commission. I am not legally prohibited from voting on these items. Please record my disclosure in the Commission's minutes.

Roslyn Gentry made a motion, seconded by Matt Regan to accept agenda item #3.3.17:

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Board Chair, or her designee, to execute a contract with Counseling Options & Parent Education Support Center Inc. to provide Triple P classes to parents with children ages birth to 5 years old utilizing certified trainers with skill sets in serving the development needs of young children and their families throughout Contra Costa County, in an amount not to exceed \$140,412, for term July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. FY2022-23 budget line: Early Intervention Initiative: Triple P Positive Parenting (\$193,782). Funded \$86,741 from Prop 10 funds, \$10,300 from Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation and \$43,371 from Contra Costa Health Services-Behavioral Health Services Division/Mental Health funds.

Roll call vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes

District 3: Rhoda Butler– Yes

District 4: Matt Regan – Yes

District 5: John Jones – Yes

Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes

EHSD: Marla Stuart – Yes

Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Agenda item #3.3.17 **APPROVED**.



Dr. Sefanit Mekuria and Ruth Fernandez returned to the meeting.

5.0 CONSIDER adopting a resolution authorizing First 5 Contra Costa to conduct teleconference meetings under Government Code section 54953 (e) and making related findings.

The chair asked if there were questions from the floor regarding the item.

No questions from the floor.

Matt Regan made a motion, seconded by Roslyn Gentry to adopt a resolution authorizing First 5 Contra Costa to conduct teleconference meetings under Government Code section 54953(e) and making related findings.

Roll call of vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes

District 3: Rhoda Butler– Yes

District 4: Matt Regan – Yes

District 5: John Jones – Yes

Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes

Health Services: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria– Yes

EHSD: Marla Stuart – Yes

Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

Item 5.0 **APPROVED.**

6.0 Consider approving increased salary range, car allowance and professional development reimbursement for the First 5 Executive Director in the revised EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS RESOLUTION NO. 2021/02

The chair informed that both this item and 7.0 are related.

Deputy County Counsel Keiko Kobayashi explained that this item, the increase salary range, car allowance and professional development reimbursement for the First 5 Executive Director in the revised Employee Compensation and Benefits Resolution No. 2021/02 directly impacts agenda item 7.0 and is why you are making this proposal, in order to achieve what the board had directed you to do. You had to make this change to the current benefits resolution in order to accomplish what you need to get for your next agenda item.

John Jones asked if item 6.0 is an increase of the current range of the Executive Director’s salary

The Chair said yes.

Marla Stuart asked if the next item’s 5% increase was intended to be added on top of the current range



The Chair explained increased salary range is to allow the next agenda item increase of 5% be possible.

Marla Stuart made the motion, seconded by Matt Regan to approve.

Roll call vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes

District 3: Rhoda Butler– Yes

District 4: Matt Regan – Yes

District 5: John Jones – Yes

Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes

Health Services: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria– Yes

EHSD: Marla Stuart - Yes

Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

The motion **APPROVED**.

7.0 Consider approving a 5% increase in salary, a 5% increase in monthly car allowance, and up to \$1,200.00 reimbursement every year for memberships, subscriptions, and professional development for the Executive Director.

The Chair explained that this item is now an item that can be presented resulting from the approval of item 6.0.

Marla Stuart asked to clarify if the 5% increase is an ask above from the just approved range

The Chair said it is not above the range, but it is in the range that was just approved.

Keiko Kobayashi added that in order for item 7.0 item be accommodated, the range had to be adjusted in item 6, otherwise the Chair would not be able to properly negotiate with Executive Director, Ruth Fernandez.

John Jones asked for clarification, that the car allowance and professional development has nothing to do with the range. The range is only about the salary.

Tammy Henry said that it is correct and that those are separate items. The car allowance and the professional development are separate from the salary.

Staff Liliana Gonzalez asked if this is part of the step that comes as part of the performance review.



The Chair explained that this is part of the Executive Director’s annual review that happened six months late this fiscal year. The Executive Director gave the Commission a lot of information about the work that happened before getting to this place.

Tammy Henry explained that all three items were revised in the current employee benefits resolution to be able to allow the Chair to perform salary negotiations as she was instructed by the Commission; and so all three of those items have been revised so that negotiations would fall within the correct limits as stated in the resolution.

John Jones made a motion, seconded by Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria to approve a 5% increase in salary, a 5% increase in monthly car allowance, and up to \$1, 200.00 reimbursement every year for memberships, subscriptions, and professional development for the Executive Director.

Roll call of vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes
District 3: Rhoda Butler– Yes
District 4: Matt Regan – Yes
District 5: John Jones – Yes
Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes
Health Services: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria– Yes
EHSD: Marla Stuart - Yes
Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

The motion **APPROVED**.

8.0 Consider declaring and adopting Juneteenth as an observed First 5 Contra Costa staff holiday.

District 4 Commissioner Matt Regan shared that the Bay Area Council just made Juneteenth a holiday in 2021.

John Jones informed that Cocokids they also made it a holiday last year.

Motion made by John Jones, seconded by Roslyn Gentry to consider declaring and adopting Juneteenth as an observed First 5 Contra Costa staff holiday.

Roll call of vote:

District 1: Dr. Rocio Hernandez – Yes
District 3: Rhoda Butler– Yes
District 4: Matt Regan – Yes
District 5: John Jones – Yes
Board of Supervisors: Candace Andersen– Yes



Health Services: Dr. Sefanit F. Mekuria– Yes
EHSD: Marla Stuart - Yes
Children & Families Commission: Roslyn Gentry – Yes

Nos: None

Abstain: None

Absent: District 1: Alternate member Genoveva Garcia Calloway, District 2: Marilyn Cachola Lucey, District 2: Alternate member Srividya Iyengar, District 3: Lee Ross, District 4: Alternate member Gareth Ashley, Board of Supervisors: Diane Burgis, Health Services: Dr. Ori Tzvieli, EHSD: Alternate member Dr. Aaron Alarcon-Bowen, Children & Families Services: Kathy Marsh

The motion **APPROVED**.

9.0 Receive presentation recognizing Contra Costa County Community Colleges Staff for 17 years of commitment to the Contra Costa Professional Development Program (PDP).

Deputy Director Camilla Rand initiated presentation to recognize Contra Costa Community Colleges staff for the long-standing partnership with First 5. Camilla and Melissa Cunningham, Early Childhood Program Officer, gave a presentation, highlighting the 17-year Professional Development Partnership and its many accomplishments. She introduced the following speakers, Maria Arroyo, Khulud Jamil and Cecilia Plaza who each shared their student experience and expressed their gratitude to the Contra Costa Professional Development Program.

After the presentation and words of appreciation from students and colleges and First 5 staff, Melissa Jackson, Mae Saeteurn and Sue Handy received the clocks given to them by First 5 for their contributions and each were invited to say a few words.

Melissa Cunningham ended the presentation by noting that although these contracts will be ending, the relationships with the colleges and supports for the early childhood workforce will continue.

Alternate Commissioner for District 2, Srividya Iyengar arrived at this time.

10.0 Receive staff presentation of the First 5 Contra Costa Theory of Change

Ruth gave a presentation on the First 5 Contra Costa's Theory of Change and began the presentation by stating this is about First 5's internal work in implementing the Strategic Plan and developing tools that help operationalize the work, which is broad and aspirational.

The Strategic Plan calls on First 5 to focus more intentionally on changing systems. The shift is a product of what we see as a more comprehensive approach to supporting children and their families and as a way for us to use our declining revenue as strategically as possible. An overview of the Theory of Change includes:

- A) Internal and External Context, which includes the key assumptions, problem, and the role and values of First 5
- B) The First 5 core strategies to address the problem
- C) The system and family outcomes we hope to achieve to reach the ultimate impact that all children are healthy, ready to learn, and supported in safe, nurturing communities.



Ruth ended by stating that we can use our Theory of Change as another tool for telling a story about our work with the community. The goal is to develop a tool kit for staff and commissioner capacity building to be used for public meeting presentations or other community engagements.

District 2 Alternate member Srivydia Iyengar thanked Ruth for the informative flow chart to help focus on the mission.

11.0 Executive Director's Report

Ruth gave the following updates:

Internal Updates:

- a) Status Report on staffing and recruiting: Actively recruiting Finance and Operations Director position and the Policy, Strategy and Evaluation Director position will follow soon.
- b) Announced that Special Projects Coordinator, Fran Biderman will be retiring in March 2023.
- c) Administrative Office Relocation update: the plan is to move into the new offices by mid-July.

County Updates:

- a) First 5 Contra Costa and EHSD are moving ahead with collaboration for Measure X Funding: regarding services to support providers serving children with disabilities. First 5 Contra Costa will be match Measure X funding with Prop 10 funds to enhance services to families with children with disabilities.
- b) Currently in the works, is a partnership with Health Services to provide space at First 5 Centers for COVID Vaccines Rollout for children ages 0-5 years.
- c) Antioch CHANGE Report will be released June 22, 2022 as the team continues with ongoing advocacy for tenant protections. There is a Call to Action on June 14, 2022 at 5:30 PM @ Concord City Hall.
- d) First 5 Association REDI Webinars were sent out to Commissioners and are open to all.
- e) State Budget Highlights: Ruth provided a broad summary of key legislative highlights that included: The Assembly and Senate jointly released a Legislative Budget on June 1, 2022. The budget includes \$37.5 billion in General Fund Reserves and \$52 billion in discretionary spending. The budget must be passed by the Legislature and sent to the Governor by June 15, 2022. As a First 5 Network, we are keeping track of several budget categories, I'll like to highlight a couple this evening:
 - a) **On Overall Help for Families** – highlights on Young Child Tax Credit and Better for Families Rebates. Includes \$8 billion for the Better For Families (BFF) Rebates plan to provide relief to Californians from the impacts of high gas prices and other growing costs due to inflation.
 - b) **Childcare: *Childcare Workforce and Development Block Grant*** - provides \$120 million in one-time funding, and ongoing federal Child Care and Development Block Grant funding, for the Childcare Workforce and Development Block Grant; *Stabilizing Investments in the Child Care System* - provides \$1.3 billion ongoing general fund, and \$494 million ongoing Proposition 98, for increases in rates for the child care system; *Child Care Pandemic Response Policies* - Adopts Governor's proposals to continue actions taken during the COVID-19 pandemic to waive family fees for childcare and create hold harmless policies for the 2022-23 fiscal year; *Child Care Infrastructure* - adopts Governor's proposal to invest \$200 million in additional child care facilities, with amendments to allow for expenditures on new construction.

There were no questions from the floor.



12.0 Communications

Memo: Board Direction on Conducting of Live Advisory Body Meetings

13.0 Commissioner F.Y.I. Updates

None.

14.0 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm