

FIRST 5 YOLO Commission
Meeting Minutes May 13,
2020

The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 13th day of May, 2020 via Zoom virtual conference meeting.

Commissioners in Attendance: Jim Provenza, Nichole Sturmfels, Nichole Arnold, Sally Brown, Heidi Kellison, Garth Lewis, Karleen Jakowski, and Jenn Rexroad,

Staff in Attendance: Gina Daleiden, Victoria Zimmerle, Melina Ortigas

Public in Attendance: Justine Jimenez

Item #1: Call to order

J. Provenza called the meeting to order **at 3:04pm**

Item #2: Roll Call

Absent: Melissa Roberts

Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Commissioners reviewed the agenda

Approve agenda.

MOTION: S. Brown **SECOND:** J. Rexroad Motion carries unanimously
The Chair confirmed a voice vote sufficient for this item.

Item #4: Statement of Conflict and Recusal

None.

Item #5: Public Comment

None.

Item # 6: Updates and Announcements from the Chair

Chair Provenza and the Board of Supervisors have been working almost exclusively with the pandemic response and managing the daily changes to the orders from the State. He shared that largely Yolo County is making progress, people have been cooperative with the stay-at-home orders, and this early action appears to be yielding results, as Yolo has had a relatively low rate of contagion in the Community. The County continues to work hard to ensure that residents are safe and everyone in the community is taken care of.

Item # 7-9 Consent Agenda

Item #7: Approve First 5 Yolo Commission Meeting Minutes from 03/11/2020 and 04/08/2020

Item #8: Receive **Emergency COVID-19 Relief Funds Report:** CCHC Behavioral Health, CCHC Perinatal, Northern California Children's Therapy Center, RISE Inc., Yolo County Children's Alliance, International House: Davis- International Parent Community

Item #9: Accept Report on Q3 Funded Partner Progress

Revised March 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes, inclusive of minor changes for typographical areas were shared with the Commission prior to the meeting.

Approve consent agenda items 7-9.

MOTION: G. Lewis

SECOND: H. Kellison

Chair Provenza called a roll call vote.

Ayes: N. Sturmfels, H. Kellison, K. Jakowski, S. Brown, J. Rexroad, N. Arnold, G. Lewis, J. Provenza

Nays: none

Motion carries unanimously

Item #10: Public Hearing: Receive and Accept First 5 CA Annual Report FY18-19

G. Daleiden shared that the report has not yet been discussed widely within the First 5 Network because of the emergency COVID response and reminded Commissioners that the Commission reviews and accepts the First 5 CA report annually per First 5 Statute. Chair Provenza noted that Yolo County was featured positively in the report.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING at Chair Provenza opened the Public Hearing.

Time: **3:13pm**

No public Comment.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING at **3:14pm**. Chair Provenza closed the Public Hearing.

Accept First 5 CA Annual Report FY18-19

MOTION H. Kellison

SECOND: K. Jakowski

Chair Provenza called a roll call vote.

Ayes: N. Sturmfels, H. Kellison, K. Jakowski, S. Brown, J. Rexroad, N. Arnold, G. Lewis, J. Provenza

Nays: none

Motion carries unanimously

Item #11: Accept Q3 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Summary Report

V. Zimmerle reviewed the Q3 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Summary Report. The Commission discussed and asked clarifying questions related to Prop 10 funding.

G. Daleiden reminded Commissioners that Prop 10 allocations are paid two months in arrears and therefore, we will not know our final FY19-20 Prop 10 allocation until after the close of the fiscal year. She also shared First 5 Association's concerns about a need for greater transparency at the State level related to the fees charged on Prop 10 funding and there will be a move to hire an auditing consulting firm to work with the State to provide greater clarity on the numbers given to First 5.

Commissioners discussed the current oversight practices and outstanding questions regarding oversight, revenues, and charged fees.

Accept Q3 Revenue and Expenditure Year-to-Date Summary Report.

MOTION: H. Kellison

SECOND: J. Rexroad

Chair Provenza called a roll call vote.

Ayes: N. Sturmfels, H. Kellison, K. Jakowski, S. Brown, J. Rexroad, N. Arnold, G. Lewis, J. Provenza

Nays: none

Motion carries unanimously

Item #12: Review Proposed Funding Plan FY20/21

G. Daleiden reminded Commissioners that the funding plan presented is in draft form, which is typical for May and staff will bring the final version to the June Commission meeting for adoption. The draft represents the best approximations for proposed amounts for each program and are subject to change particularly given the current emergency situation.

The majority of programs are a continuation of multi-year programs, however, First 5 always contracts on a year-to-year basis with partners even if the intent is to fund over multiple years. Some programs that are heavily leveraged and span multiple years are funded with some program reserves to ensure the long-term sustainability of those larger projects.

Additionally, there are two new grants: IMPACT 2020 and a Home Visiting Coordination grant coming from First 5 CA. The Home Visiting Coordination Grant may fund as early as July of 2020. The application for the grant is expected to be streamlined, and First 5 staff will be working to submit as quickly as possible.

Commissioners discussed, asked clarifying questions, and discussed possible modifications to program implementation in response to COVID-19 to create opportunities for providers to have more direct communication with families. J. Provenza suggested adding an easily visible website link to First 5 Yolo programs for the public, especially as families look for resources during COVID-19 pandemic. G. Daleiden agreed to work with M. Ortigas on a link connected to the home page and a brief description of programs as a companion to the program Funding List (in the Strategic Plan) for the next Commission meeting in June.

S. Brown pointed out, under the additional information section in the cover sheet for this item, that the fiscal year dates were incorrect. F5 Staff noted the updated cover sheet.

N. Sturmfels suggested adding a key to define the shading used in the funding plan and asked for a diagram or description that gives more detail on how the programs are related and funded. This would allow members of the public to understand First 5 program portfolio and services. V. Zimmerle explained that the Funding Plan is a component of the Strategic Plan, and a tool to see how the programs align, but when the Funding Plan goes into the actual Strategic Plan it will not have summary or shading in addition to the Goal Area Strategies information.

G. Daleiden offered that staff will include a brief description of programs in the next Commission Packet with the Strategic Plan item.

G. Daleiden emphasized how important it is to acknowledge the successful transition the Commission has led in the Strategic Plan. This has allowed First 5 Yolo to move from funding siloed programs to investing in coordinated efforts at real systems change. Currently, there are very few programs at First 5 Yolo that are not integrated in some way, which is commendable.

The Commissioners discussed ideas to help transition into face-to-face interactions in a safe manner

and what programs could do to help support families and prevent child abuse and domestic violence.

K. Jakowski discussed how Child Welfare Services addresses and made changes to contact procedures in consultation with Community Health Branch and Health Officers to allow staff to continue with necessary services such as investigations, drug testing, and mental health support services. Face-to-face contact is allowed when it is safe, and appropriate precautions are implemented.

K. Jakowski noted there is roughly a 35% to 50% decline in referrals seen at CWS and would be willing to share up to date numbers at a future Commission meeting. The referrals currently received are serious and need response and cooperation with law enforcement. Domestic Violence is the primary concern currently.

K. Jakowski also highlighted that CWS delivered a webinar for Washington Unified School District on how to assess vulnerable children in a virtual classroom and there is interest from the Davis Joint Unified School District in hosting a similar webinar as well.

J. Provenza recommended that a preliminary protocol be developed in collaboration with First 5 CA and the County to help guide agencies to implement child abuse and domestic violence preventive measures more effectively.

G. Daleiden noted that in Sacramento, CWS has a very useful checklist to help staff better identify child abuse or domestic violence signs and offered to have First 5 staff support Yolo County CWS to localize the information and then distribute to all First 5 partners.

G. Daleiden also suggested that protocol development could be further informed by partner agencies, especially those involved in the Road to Resilience Project. First 5 Staff will be meeting with the leadership team and will be able to bring this idea forward to them prior to the next Commission meeting in June.

M. Ortigas noted OCAP has also shared a webinar with all home visitors from Futures without Violence, to help support them to better identify the signs of abuse during virtual home visits.

Item 13. Receive and Discuss COVID-19 Updates

G. Daleiden provided a summary of updates and noted that in the upcoming June Commission meeting it may be necessary to extend the COVID Emergency Relief Funding. There are some dedicated funding streams coming from the State for childcare providers, but there are no dedicated funding streams of a similar amount in early childhood directed at vulnerable families. G. Daleiden is looking at a request from partners to provide help to families.

G. Daleiden noted that First 5 Staff are currently in a rapid response mode as things are changing quickly. She hopes that, in the summer, staff will be able to focus more on strategy and working to align the First 5 mission with current investments and how this can all align with a COVID recovery phase.

G. Lewis provided an update on schools:

- The County Office of Education has tried to mitigate the COVID-19 disruption by establishing regular lines of communication with district superintendents. More recently, teachers have been gaining confidence with the virtual format and schools are better connected with families, even though initially it was a challenge for families to transition to eLearning. The schools have been providing homework packets to parents and Yolo Arts has provided art kits for students and

families.

- The County Office of Education continues to provide meals to students 0-18 regardless of their home district and this will continue through the summer months.
- Fortunately, there has not been a need to establish pop-up emergency childcare centers for Essential workers due to the amount of existing space in the County.
- Distance Learning will continue in the county in summer programs. Sadly, the graduation ceremonies will all be done virtually this year. The districts are trying to highlight the accomplishments of seniors and making them feel special in this new format.
- The County has established a road map for how to re-open schools. There is a task force including the County Office of Education, district partners, UC Davis, and Woodland Community College to strategize about what school will look like in the fall (distance learning, or a hybrid model with some face to face etc.) with a focus on preschool through 12th grade. The guidelines will include public health recommendations and risk mitigation. The road map will allow local jurisdictions to identify the pedagogy that best meets the local needs.

G. Daleiden expressed her appreciation for YCOE for collaborating with First 5 on essential supply distribution and for being able to store supplies on short notice.

H. Kellison raised the possibility of using Title I funding to link the Food Bank with Free and Reduced meals at school districts. One small business she interviewed noted that 60% of their farm to table business was lost and that was exclusively with the Washington Unified School District. It may be worthwhile asking all the school districts about this to see if the issue is more widespread.

J. Provenza highlighted that the County is currently debating whether FEMA will be able to reimburse for the supplies the County needs. If the County submits a claim that asks for too much funding, the entire claim could be impacted. It is possible that only food may be allowed to be submitted for reimbursement. Congressman Garamendi is involved to try to help the County get adequate reimbursement.

G. Daleiden raised the issue regarding a drop in patients accessing essential and preventive medical services to the First 5 Executive Committee, and discussed how First 5 CA might lead in raising public awareness, as this is very much in line with the work of First 5 CA. In a subsequent conversation with the First 5 Yolo Executive Director, the First 5 CA Executive Director agreed to follow up with the Surgeon General's office to explore working with their communications firm on public messaging.

The Commissioners discussed their observations in their respective districts and communities.

S. Brown. noted the biggest concern in Winters is the budget short fall and how that will impact services in the community. On the bright side, she has seen a wonderful display of family bonding. Dads are out with their kids on bikes and families are out recreating and enjoying themselves as they shelter-in-place.

N. Arnold commented that some kids are having a hard time--they want to be with their friends in-person and struggle to understand why they cannot right now.

G. Daleiden confirmed that First 5 as a network is concerned about the trauma that may be caused to children by the pandemic and the economic fall-out and the social justice implications. It is estimated that 80% of the individuals most severely impacted are those who make 40k or less.

G. Daleiden thanked First 5 staff (V. Zimmerle, M. Ortigas, A. Jonsson, J. Kumaravel, and L. Duisenberg) for their tremendous work to respond to the increased challenges and workload to support

partners in new ways. The work First 5 is seeing from partners is amazing and it makes staff at F5Y want to do everything possible to support them.

H. Kellison added that in Davis there is a need for guidance on the new childcare regulations as the County looks to expand access to childcare to non-essential workers. There are also concerns around drowning as cities are not able to offer swim lessons during the existing shelter in place orders.

J. Provenza mentioned that Swim America is collaborating to see if protocol can be developed to pass through State regulations, which would allow some lessons, camps, and swim teams to be able to open with careful safety protocols.

G. Daleiden discussed the direction for Emergency Relief Funding. The Commission agreed the emergency funding was not agency-based but rather need-based, and as such agreed an agency could apply more than once for funding for a different purpose or to continue the service for which they originally requested funding.

Item #14: Executive Director Report

- First 5 plans to hire .5FTE funded by the IMPACT 2020 Grant as soon as possible. The IMPACT Grant is expected to fund July 1, 2020. The position description will likely be posted in late May/early June.
- First 5 Yolo will have a streamlined process to find an appropriate person.
- The grant-funded Home Visiting Coordinator (title may change) will require some active recruitment. First 5 Yolo Staff will work with county partners to help identify an experienced candidate with credibility in the home visiting field. This position will be part-time and fully funded by the Home Visiting Coordination Grant. The grant is intended to fund a position to help improve collaboration among county home visiting programs and to provide a liaison between the local First 5 and First 5 CA on this grant.

First 5 Association held a virtual advocacy day in April for executive directors to meet with legislators via Zoom or phone to impress upon them how important it is right now for them to carefully consider any cuts that would damage children and families.

First 5 Association is hiring an Executive Director and the First 5 Association Executive Committee is currently ready to interview the final three candidates. This position is critical right now for every county, as all First 5s need someone to lead First 5 work across the Network. It is imperative to have a greater collective impact and maximize the diminishing resources counties are all facing.

Item # 15: Commissioner Reports

H. Kellison asked whether there is an opportunity for the school district to fund blue light glasses if the students are expected to continue in distance learning for the foreseeable future. She indicated optometrists are concerned about the blue light and near sightedness issues with increasing use of technology. G Lewis confirmed he would follow up to see if this can be funded.

Item #16: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **4:55** p.m. The next Commission Meeting will be June 10, 2020 from 3-5pm.

