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"Making a positive difference in the lives of young children"

Commission Meeting MINUTES

March 22, 2011 @ 3:00 p.m.

Department of Education @ 1135 Lincoln Street, **Gallery Room** - Red Bluff, CA 96080

Attendance: Commissioners Paula Brown Almond, Tony Cardenas, Larry Champion, Cynthia Cook, Beverly Grace, Valerie Lucero, Charlene Reid and George Russell.

Absent: Sister Patricia Manoli

1. **PUBLIC HEARING: First 5 California Annual Report** – Executive Director Snider highlighted the report; First 5 Tehama and the Tehama County Department of Education's School Readiness program and the evaluation results were included. The First 5 California "Kit for New Parents" was a focus of the report as well; translations of the kit included 6 languages – the American Journal of Public Health has reported this great resource has had a great impact on the children and families of California.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None heard
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:** These items include routine fiscal and administrative actions to be approved by a single majority vote.
 - 3.1. Minutes from February 15, 2011 Meeting
 - 3.2. General Warrant Register
 - 3.3. ClaimsCommissioner Cynthia Cook made the motion to accept the consent agenda as submitted; Commissioner Beverly Grace seconded, motion carried 8/0.

4. **REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 4.1. **INFORMATIONAL:** Director's Report

Work plan highlights:

- Grantee Cluster Meeting
- Mobile Dental Clinic Coordination Transition Meeting
- Commission & Committee Meetings prep
- Updated Letter to Legislators & Budget Conference Committee – signed by Commission Chair, Valerie Lucero and sent on 3/7/11
- Quality Counts Evaluation Planning

- System of Care meetings: It has been determined that Memorandums of Understanding will not be necessary for future partnerships.

Council & Committee meetings:

- Northern California Child Development, Inc. Community Needs Assessment Committee meeting; Personnel Committee meeting; Membership Committee meeting; InterAgency Coordination Council meeting; Fiscal Committee meeting. Please call me or come and see me if you have any questions or concerns regarding any of these activities.

Local Partnerships:

- Nurturing Parenting is being offered by TCHSA Drug and Alcohol services and the agency will sustain the classes because of the need and the dramatic difference it has made for participants. This was a program component of the grant provided through First 5 Tehama. TCHSA Drug and Alcohol staff stated, "What we learned through the DADS program is what we have to continue this important service for parents."
- Met with Dr. Sage and staff at the Red Bluff Rolling Hills Clinic for a tour and to discuss future partnership opportunities.
- School Readiness is partnering with all of the elementary schools in Gerber, Los Molinos and Corning and will be using a new research based, standardized Kindergarten School Entry Profile to screen all of the incoming kindergarten students. The School Readiness program will also facilitate input on each student from preschool teachers. Michelle Rosauer, School Readiness Coordinator, stated this has been successfully implemented.
- School Readiness is partnering with Mental Health; providing Nurturing Parenting program in Spanish at West Street School in Corning. The first, very successful session and had ten parents and 18 children attend! In week two there were 15 parents!
- School Readiness assisted Gerber, Los Molinos, and Corning in kindergarten registration day. Resources and information were provided to all incoming families as well as help with medical and dental access to any families in need of that help. Michelle stated this process has proven successful and the schools have expressed their appreciation.
- The FAST program through School Readiness has started in Corning and Gerber.

4.2. INFORMATIONAL: Project Updates

- **Tehama County Health Services Agency: PSAP (Perinatal Substance Abuse Program) and DADs programs.** Project Coordinators, Patrice Tamp (DADS program) and Michael Brown (PSAP program) presented a program update to the commission. PSAP - Program targets pregnant women and women parenting

children up to one year of age, who use drugs or alcohol – offering case management; assessments; access to drug and alcohol treatment and transportation. DADS - A program for parenting men with substance abuse issues – offering parenting education, parent/child lab, transportation and case management. Staff reported that St. Elizabeth Community Hospital will continue to do the universal testing that was a part of the original PSAP program. The drug court program will continue to fund a modified version of some of the DADS program services.

- Parents participants from the TCHSA programs were present to report to the Commission on their experiences through the services funded through First 5 Tehama:
 - Mom delivered her baby at SECH and tested positive for drugs in her system. PSAP staff came to the hospital and connected her with Drug and Alcohol services. The staff helped her through the CPS process. Mom celebrated her D&A graduation on January 27, 2011 and has been clean since April 2010. Her husband is in the DADS program and is attending parenting classes – she feels these classes have really helped them both be better parents. The couples’ children are scheduled to return home in April.
 - Dad has his children removed from his care in 2010. He worked with D&A to get clean and do what needed to happen to get his girls back home. He reported he is now 6 months clean and has been successful in getting his children home. He’s happy to say they are all happy, healthy and loving life.

4.3. INFORMATIONAL: First 5 California Signature Programs Update

- Teacher Quality Improvement Systems/ Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Education Standards (CARES) Plus – Locally “Quality Counts”: Conference call to discuss training programs that meet requirements. Discussed how we can best use the planning period to meet local training needs over the next two years.
- Child Early Learning Program: no update at this time

4.4. INFORMATIONAL: State Budget Updates/Impacts for pregnant women and children age 0-5

- The health trailer bill for Proposition 10 language in AB 99 passed both houses Wednesday March 16. Once Governor signs it, it becomes law. Here are the requirements laid out:
 - County First Five Commissions would owe a total of \$950 million to the state.
 - County Commissions that received less than \$600,000 in Prop 10 funds in FY 09/10 would be exempt (*First 5 Tehama falls within this category*).
 - Each County Commission would be required to pay the state the equivalent of 50% of the amount in their trust funds as of June 30, 2010, including “total reserved, total unreserved-designated and total unreserved-undesignated”.

- County Commissions would have until June 30, 2012 to complete payments to the state. If payment is not complete by that date, no FY 12/13 allocations would be made to that County Commission.
- County Commission payments “shall not cause any county commission’s fund balance to fall below the amount received by the county commission from the California Children and Families Trust Fund in the 2009/10 fiscal year.”
- If total funds received by the state exceed \$950 million, the excess will be proportionally returned to all contributing County Commissions.
- County Commissions and staff are protected from liability in the event that they must “disencumber existing obligations.”
- The State is reporting there is \$500million available in fund balances with \$450million in contracts that will be taken. Lawsuits are being filed by some of the larger counties to stop the taking of the funds that were already tied to contracts.
- Other Budget Updates – commissioners reported on various budget cuts and how their agencies are handling the shift.

4.5. INFORMATIONAL: Chairperson Appoints New Committee Members

- Commission Chair, Valerie Lucero appointed Sr. Pat Manoli to the Program Evaluation and Personnel Committees. All other members will remain as is.

4.6. COMMITTEE UPDATES:

a) Financial Committee Report

- DISCUSSION/ACTION: Policy/Procedure Review for GASB 54 Implementation
- INFORMATIONAL: Endowment Research and First 5 Tehama Funds

Commissioner George Russell made the motion to accept the Financial Committee report as submitted; Commissioner Cynthia Cook seconded, motion carried 8/0.

b) Personnel Committee Report

- INFORMATIONAL: Distribution of Input to Executive Director Evaluation Form
 - Process: Please complete and return form to Commissioner Russell no later than Friday, April 8, 727 Oak Street; P.O. Box 250, Red Bluff, CA. This form is optional; however, in order for issues to be used as part of the evaluation dialogue process documentation must be received. There will be a closed session during the April or June commission meeting to review the evaluation document provided by the personnel committee.

c) Membership Committee Report

- DISCUSSION/ACTION: By-Laws Review and Recommendations – committee recommended that no changes be made at this time.

4.7. INFORMATIONAL: Commissioner Updates

- Commissioner Charlene Reid: Budget cuts and realignment happening – working with Social Services Association on supporting the process. Concern around the changes and amendments being brought forth. Reductions may not be clear to public but are happening all the same. Communication and staff transparency is helping to proceed forward in process.
- Commissioner George Russell: Pleased to see latest survey stating 60% are in favor of a tax increase to help clean up the budget issues.
- Commissioner Beverly Grace: Is impressed with local agency administrators and management staff in their calm and professional handling with the budget cuts and program closures over the past year. Commissioner Grace has been doing some volunteering now that she is retired and may be the newest member of the Community Action Agency.
- Commissioner Larry Champion: Tehama County Department of Education is still waiting to see how far the cuts are going to go with education. Reports that there is good stuff happening along with the bad.
- Commissioner Cynthia Cook: Also measuring the cuts against program services. She will be attending the PATH dinner scheduled for April 30 – is happy to report all tables have been sold!
- Commissioner Valerie Lucero: Tehama County Health Services Agency is looking at cuts at the Federal level. Most cuts are anticipated in the public health programs including WIC and Maternal Child Health and Family Planning. Public Health's preparedness funds also may be cut. The State purchased flu vaccine will now be available at 50% less than last year. Who would get the shots will be strict – the uninsured and the low income and those with health disparities. Several high level positions have been filled at TCHSA, including a much needed psychiatrist.

4.8. ADJOURN

Next meeting April 26, 2011

Communications received by the FIRST 5 TEHAMA, Tehama County Children and Families Commission and Commissioner Information Packets are on file at the Office of the Executive Director, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff.

If you need disability modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Commission office at (530) 528-1395 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government code Section 54954.2(a).

Any written materials related to an open session item on this agenda that are submitted to the Commissioners less than 72 hours prior to the Commission meeting, and that are not exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act, will promptly be made available for public inspection at the Commission Office, 1135 Lincoln Street, Red Bluff, California, during normal business hours.