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## Minutes: Children and Families Commission Meeting

735 East Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408

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**Meeting Date, Time and Location**      October 27, 2014  
3:30 p.m.  
Vice-Chair Ohikhuare called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

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**Pledge of Allegiance**      The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chair Ohikhuare

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**Conflict of Interest Disclosure**      Commission members shall review agenda item contractors, subcontractors, and agents, which may require member abstentions due to conflict of interest and financial interests.  
  
A Commission member with conflicts of interests shall state their conflict under the appropriate item. A Commission member may not participate in or influence the decision on a contract for which their abstention has been recorded.

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**Attendees**      **Commissioners Present**

- Margaret Hill
- Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D.
- James Ramos
- Elliot Weinstein, M.D.

**Staff Present**

- Karen E. Scott, Executive Director
  - Cindy Faulkner, Operations Manager
  - Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant
  - Debora Dickerson-Sims, Administrative Supervisor II
  - Staci Scranton, Supervising Office Assistant
  - Mary Jaquish, Supervisor
  - Ruth Ann Martinez, Staff Analyst II
  - Bobbi Albano, Staff Analyst II
  - Mary Alvarez, Staff Analyst II
  - William Kariuki, Staff Analyst II
  - Chrystina Smith-Rasshan, Staff Analyst II
  - Ronnie Thomas, Staff Analyst II
  - Leslie Fountain, Media Specialist II
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Report –  
Karen E. Scott  
Executive  
Director

**Thank You**

To Commissioner Weinstein for joining me at the State Commission meeting on Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Weinstein was very engaged and provided some great ideas to the State Department of Health Services and the First 5 CA State Commission.

**Save the Date**

First 5 “**Commissioners Pre-Conference**” on February 10, 2015.

With participation from nearly every CA State Department addressing the needs of children and families First 5 CA is hosting a 2015 Child Health, Education and Care Summit in February. The pre-conference will run from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Sacramento.

The Pre-Conference will engage participants in a conversation about how, collectively and regionally, Commissioners might work across county borders to support the sustainability and spread of First 5 efforts. More details to follow.

**F5 Association and State Meetings**

Over two days in Burbank recently, First 5 Association and First 5 CA members had great discussions and sharing of strategies on things such as oral health funding, systems-building, options for increasing First 5 revenues, and measuring child poverty in California.

California, meaning the CA Department of Education through First 5 CA, has submitted an application for the **Federal** Preschool Expansion Grants, which would bring in \$140 Million (\$35M a year for four years) to support 3,700 new and improved preschool spaces. If approved the preschool expansion program would be administered through 11 subgrantees, one being San Bernardino County. Over the four year period, First 5 CA looks to receive \$850K for parent engagement and teacher training.

The Department of Health Care Services made an **\$8 million Request for Funding to Support Dental Outreach** to families with children aged 0 to 3 and/or with a child who has not seen a dentist in the past year. The proposed campaign included a mailer and other materials costing \$812K and would expect to generate \$16M in increased Denti-Cal usage.

Commissioners agreed that these services are important, however, encouraged the Department to look to other sources such as the Affordable Care Act outreach funds to accomplish this same goal.

This request was not included in the Governor’s Budget. While these kinds of requests were at some level understandable in the years of state recession, now when their funds are increasing, the State should not be turning to First 5, whose funds are rapidly declining, for funding of these services. It should also be noted that most First 5’s Commissions, including First 5 San Bernardino, already support children’s oral health care in many ways to reduce access and financial barriers such as providing parent education, increasing dental providers through education and training, covering co-pays, funding procedures not covered by Denti-Cal such as behavior management/anesthesiology for children and otherwise ensuring optimal development support.

The Commissioners declined to make a motion on this item. As a result, funds will

not be made available for this project.

The 600% increase in administrative costs over the last 10 years by the **BOE** continues to be of concern to both the State Commission and all local commissions. We have had these conversations for about 8 years. First 5 LA, the Children and Families Commission of Orange and the First 5 Association have given significant support to help with this evaluation. The State Commission approved a request in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for a private, independent audit of the BOE. This audit would look at the allocations for Prop 10 dollars for collection and enforcement and the hours being utilized by the various classifications under the BOE.

A report was presented on possible additional revenue sources to augment the declines in Proposition 10 revenues.

- E-Cigarettes – redefining the statutory definition of tobacco products to include products that contain nicotine.
- Marijuana – including early childhood programs in any proposition to legalize marijuana
- Tobacco – increasing the tobacco tax from 87 cents
- Specialized License Plates
- Voluntary Contributions on Income Tax Forms
- Requesting donations in F5CA advertisements
- Applying for Federal, State and Philanthropic Grants

Commissioners were most interested in the first 3 options, which are most likely to result in significant revenues. Staff was asked to come back in January with further research on the feasibility of these options and any information on the restrictions on either staff or Commissioners in engaging on these issues.

Please review the Executive Director’s Report for some great photos and information on our Literacy Campaign events, including the “All Aboard the Reading Railroad” scheduled for Saturday, November 1st at the Highland Branch Library and the collaboration that came together to bring a truckload of 40,000 books to our children.

**Changes to the Agenda**

No changes to report.

**Consent**

A motion was made by Commissioner Weinstein and seconded by Commissioner Ramos to approve the Consent Items. With Commissioners Egge and Haugan absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item No.	CONSENT
1	Approve minutes of September 10, 2014 Commission Meeting. (Presenter: Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant, 252-4252)
2	Approve Commission Schedule for 2015 (Presenter: Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant, 252-4252)

Item No.	DISCUSSION
3	<p>Conduct public hearing of the Children and Families Commission for San Bernardino County Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013-14.                      (Presenter: Scott McGrath, Supervisor, 252-4259)</p> <p>The Public Hearing was conducted. No public comments were presented on this item.</p>
4	<p>Conduct public hearing of the Children and Families Commission for San Bernardino County Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2013-14.                      (Presenter: Debora Dickerson, Administrative Supervisor II, 252-4269)</p> <p>The Public Hearing was conducted. No public comments were presented on this item.</p>
5	<p>Approve Amendment A1 to Contract Number IC021 with Vavrinek, Trine, Day &amp; Co., LLP increasing the contract amount by \$20,900 for a total of \$104,500 for Fiscal Year 2015-16 to conduct and prepare an annual audit and report of First 5 San Bernardino's financial statements.                      (Presenter: Debora Dickerson, Administrative Supervisor II, 252-4269)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b>                      None</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b>                      None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Ramos to approve Agenda Item 5. With Commissioners Egge and Haugan absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
6	<p>Approve Amendment A4 to Contract CE009 with the County of San Bernardino on behalf of Children's Network extending and increasing the contract for 6 months for \$164,194 for the latter half of FY 2014-2015 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,680,338 to continue implementation of countywide educational campaigns and community events addressing child abuse prevention.                      (Presenter: Bobbi Albano, Staff Analyst II, 252-4266)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b>                      Vice-Chair Ohikhuare asked how long Children's Network has been associated with First 5. Regina Coleman answered since First 5 San Bernardino's inception.</p> <p>Commissioner Hill commented that Children's Network does an outstanding job planning their annual conference.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b>                      None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Ramos and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve Agenda Item 6. With Commissioners Egge and Haugan absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
7	<p>Approve Contract IC025 to Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SEI) for the period beginning October 28, 2014 and ending June 30, 2017 to assist in the facilitation and implementation of the First 5 San Bernardino Capacity Continuum Project in the amount of \$749,999 for Fiscal Years 2014-2017.                      (Presenter: Bobbi Albano, Staff Analyst II, 252-4266)</p>

	<p><b><u>Discussion</u></b> None</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Ramos and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve Agenda Item 7. With Commissioners Egge and Haugan absent and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
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**Public Comment**      None

Commissioner Weinstein recently attended, along with Karen Scott, the First 5 State Meeting held in Burbank. Commissioner Weinstein noted that more people attend our Commission meetings than the State meeting. He explained that the First 5 State office is in charge of administering the 20 percent of the budget for the entire State of California's First 5's as opposed to the 80 percent that goes to the various county commissions.

Commissioner Weinstein stated that the group discussed ways to increase funding for First 5 since funds are slowly diminishing. In order to continue to do a lot of the good things we have done the group discussed leveraging our money, and build systems and alliances with different groups to make the money go further, as well as seek out other sources of revenue. Suggested tax increases for cigarettes, marijuana, and tobacco products were discussed. Commissioner Weinstein mentioned that he would not rule out funds from grants.

Commissioner Weinstein also spoke with several other state and First 5 commission staff about forming collaboratives and contacts through the American Academy of Pediatrics and other medical groups that have quite a bit in common with projects the State is planning.

**Commissioner Roundtable**

Karen Scott stated that about four years ago the southern regional commissioners convened for a day. It was well received and talked about throughout the State and there were many requests for another gathering. Ms. Scott stated she is excited for the upcoming Pre-Commissioner Workshop to be held on February 10, 2015 in Sacramento where southern region commissioners will again convene along with other State First 5 Commissioners, as well as state and county policymakers, health advocates and early childhood educators.

Vice-Chair Ohikhuare commended Karen Scott, her leadership and First 5's collaboration to continue services and build capacity among agencies. Vice-Chair Ohikhuare asked attendees to offer suggestions of what could be done differently so we can help each other survive, collectively.

Ms. Scott also stated that Prop 10 funding will continue to decrease and that message is important to disseminate to the public, especially to our non-profits, so they understand that we will need to figure out how to do more with less. We need to figure out how to accomplish our goals and continue to see successful outcomes through systems work and embracing collective impact.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Commissioner Ramos and seconded by Commissioner Hill to adjourn the meeting. With Commissioners Egge and Haugan absent and without further comment or objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. by unanimous vote.

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**Next Commission Meeting at First 5 San Bernardino**

December 3, 2014  
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**NO MEETING WILL BE HELD IN NOVEMBER**

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**Attest**

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Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D., Vice-Chair

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Ann M. Calkins, Commission Secretary

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