

First 5 Tuolumne County Commission
Minutes of Meeting 1:00 p.m., August 12, 2009
Tuolumne County Health Department – Conference Room
20111 Cedar Road North, Sonora, CA 95370

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Commissioner Tuel, in the absence of Chair Branscum.

Attendees were welcomed by Commissioner Tuel and introductions were made.

Commissioners Present: Bass, Braia, Branscum, Denney, Tuel

Commissioners Absent: Alford, Kearns

Ex-Officio Members Present: Schroeter, Sells, Webster, Williams

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Thompson, Hoffman-Brady

Staff Present: Kruse, Cook

Members of the Public Present: none

Sheila Kruse presented a poem and gift to departing Commissioner Todd Stolp, Health Officer, in thanks for his years of service to the Commission. His designee Patricia Denney, PHN took his seat on the Commission beginning with this meeting.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Commissioner Tuel, in the absence of Chair Branscum, read the conflict of interest reminder to the Commission.

Action Items

1. Action on Approval of Minutes for June 10, 2009
Motion: to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2009 meeting.
Moved: Commissioner Bass
Seconded: Commissioner Braia
Motion carried: 4 ayes, Commissioners Alford, Branscum and Kearns being absent from the vote.
2. Consideration of approval of a contract agreement with First 5 CA for up to \$20,251.56 for new Healthy Families Insurance enrollment in FY 08-09

Chair Branscum entered the meeting.

Sheila Kruse reminded the Commission that in June 2009, the Commission directed the Executive Director to request that the draft contract language on the First 5 CA contract be changed to reflect a payment no larger than \$240.00 (the original estimated average cost) per newly enrolled child reported by MRMIB for the period of December 18, 2008 through June 30, 2009, not to exceed \$20,251.56. First 5 CA agreed to this change and this contract reflects the requested change in the language.

Motion: to approve the contract

Moved: Commissioner Bass

Seconded: Chair Branscum

Motion carried: 5 ayes, Commissioners Alford and Kearns being absent from the vote.

Commissioner Tuel turned the meeting over to Chair Branscum.

3. Consideration of approval of a contract agreement with Tuolumne Me Wuk Indian Health Clinic for up to \$2,000 for dental prevention services

Sheila noted that at the June meeting the Commission had directed her to discuss with Dr. Gune the provision of antibacterial mouthwash and Xylitol gum to parents who were at high risk of transmitting oral bacteria to their young children. The program will utilize \$2000.00 in unspent funds from the Dental Help Fund in FY 08-09. Sheila met with Dr. Gune and developed a strategy for a pilot project for this program, to begin immediately, as outlined in this contract under consideration.

Motion: to approve the contract

Moved: Commissioner Tuel

Seconded: Commissioner Bass

Motion carried: 5 ayes, Commissioners Alford and Kearns being absent from the vote.

Sheila noted that \$640.00 still remains in for FY 08-09 Dental Help Funds, and said she may return to the Commission with a request to carry it over for the fund for FY 09-10.

4. Consideration of a budget amendment for A-TCAA Family Learning Centers for FY 09-10
Sheila explained that A-TCAA became eligible to receive some unanticipated funds from Tuolumne County Department of Social Services, to be expended by the end of the fiscal year. Sheila directed the program to utilize the DSS funds for the final quarter of the year, with First 5 funds to be carried over to FY 09-10. As a result, the program came in significantly under budget in FY 08-09, and the program is asking to increase their 09-10 budget by \$15,000, primarily to support AmeriCorps members and to purchase a much-needed vehicle. The FLC program had budgeted for a vehicle in a previous year, but the funds were needed for personnel costs and were re-directed. Sheila explained that this budget request would result in no change to the 4-year grant contract amount, and the program states it has a \$5,000 match in other funds to also put toward the van purchase. She said there is no need for a contract amendment; this kind of budget revision is included in the current contract language. Marcia Williams responded to questions from the Commission.

Marcia Williams, Ex-Officio, left the room.

Motion: to approve the budget revision request

Moved: Commissioner Braia

Seconded: Commissioner Bass

Motion carried: 5 ayes, Commissioners Alford and Kearns being absent from the vote.

Marcia Williams re-entered the meeting.

Sheila Kruse left the room prior to the discussion and vote on Item 5.

5. Consideration of amending the professional services contract for Sheila Kruse to reflect a reduction in compensation for FY 09-10

Chair Branscum explained that, as recommended by the Staffing Committee, the Commission could freeze the Executive Director's compensation at the 08-09 rate, and reduce the travel allowance in the contract. County Counsel has recommended that a contract revision be approved to reflect any change adopted.

Motion: to approve the contract revision

Moved: Commissioner Tuel

Seconded: Commissioner Bass

Motion carried: 5 ayes, Commissioners Alford and Kearns being absent from the vote.

Sheila Kruse re-entered the meeting.

6. Consideration of re-opening the community grant cycle for granting in FY 09-10

8. California budget and local impacts

Sheila asked the Commission to jointly consider Agenda Items 6 and 8. She explained that the total amount set aside for FY 08-09 in community grants funds was awarded to the Public Health Department for the nurse home visiting program, and the grant category was closed, without a Fall funding option for the remainder of the fiscal year. The year end figures for 08-09 show a balance of \$25,547, from higher than anticipated tax revenues, lower than expected operating expenses, and a few small grants that came in under budget. Sheila said that another factor to consider in planning for a new community grant cycle, is that there has been discussion at the state level that county commissions would be expected to assist with state programs whose funding has been affected, such as AIM.

Commissioner Denney recused herself from the discussion and vote and left the room, since the Health Department may consider applying for a community grant.

The Commission discussed the need for assistance with local programs and services affected by the current economic conditions, as well as whether the Commission should set aside funds in the event that the State of CA asked for local support of state programs. The Commission came to consensus that they would like to act on the known facts, which were that local programs needed assistance at this time. They discussed that they would like a mechanism to give extra points to applicants who were directly negatively affected by the current economic situation.

Motion: to reopen the Community Grants cycle for FY 09-10 with funds in the amount of \$25,550, with bonus points awarded for those programs impacted by the current economy.

Moved: Commissioner Tuel

Seconded: Commissioner Bass

Motion carried: 4 ayes, Commissioners Alford, Kearns and Denney being absent from the vote.

Sheila said the grant documents will be released August 18, and applications will be due September 25. The Scoring Committee will meet the first week in October, so that the Commission can consider the applications in the October 14 meeting.

7. Nomination of Commission officers for election on October 14, 2009

Sheila explained that officers are elected annually. She reviewed the duties of each position, and listed those who are eligible to serve. Nominations were received as follows: Chair, Joan Alford, Jan Kearns; Vice Chair, Liz Bass; Treasurer, Emily Branscum. Other nominations may be made prior to or during the October meeting.

Discussion Items, Information Items and Reports

9. Update on State Commission actions: Project Legacy, Small County Augmentation, Healthy Families insurance support

Sheila reported on recent State Commission actions in these areas.

10. Strategic Planning discussion of next granting cycle (FY 11-12)

Sheila said that funds for the next grant cycle will be greatly reduced (likely to half the current amount), and asked the Commission to begin thinking about potential changes to the way funds are allocated.. She put forward the idea of approaching funding from a non-competitive process for the next round. As examples, she noted that the Commission could choose to continue funding to existing programs, at a reduced level, or a certain amount of funds could be designated to address specific services. Sheila noted that the decisions should be made this fiscal year, in respect for the planning and operational requirements of current grantees. The Commission recommended setting aside a separate time for further discussion. Sheila will begin Strategic Planning in December, and will ask the Commission in October what needs to be considered in terms of committee work or research.

11. Financial Reports May 2009, June 2009

Sheila said the Annual Audit went well, with no surprises or audit findings. She noted that although the annual revenues were higher than anticipated, that the overall revenue trend is still downward.

12. Commission Reports

Commissioner Tuel reported that she will retire in October, prior to the next Commission meeting. She will ensure HSA Director Ann Connolly appoints another designee for the Commission seat.

Chair Branscum attended a collaborative meeting of Regional Centers, SELPA and Mental Health.

Commissioner Bass said that the County received a \$700,000 grant to improve roads and access to schools.

13. Ex-Officio Reports

Adrienne Webster said that Columbia College has seen many programs cut or had their funding reduced, but the Child Development construction program, which was funded by a bond measure, is still continuing.

The Commission had a general discussion of the status of after-school programs.

Susan Sells reported that the Mental Health Service Act is supporting the expansion of ongoing community services, not new programs. They are offering a 2-day training for suicide prevention, September 22-23, \$40.00 registration, CEUs available. A bilingual consultant is providing parent education through life skills classes and one-on-one counseling. Also offered are foster parent support and consultations with teachers and parents. Susan can be contacted for more information on these programs.

Marcia Williams said that Eric Nelson is coming to do an *Outdoor Classroom* presentation on August 18 at the Church of the 49ers Preschool.

14. Secretary Report

Janet Cook complimented Sheila on her hard work and organization for the annual audit.

15. Executive Director Report

No report.

Time and location for next meeting: 1:00 p.m., October 14, 2009, Tuolumne County Health Department Conference Room.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.