

First 5 Tuolumne County Commission  
Minutes of Meeting 1:00 p.m., November 10, 2010  
Tuolumne County Health Department – Conference Room  
20111 Cedar Road North, Sonora, CA 95370

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Commissioner Ashton.

Attendees were welcomed by Commissioner Ashton.

Commissioners Present: Alford, Ashton, Bass, Denney, Sells

Commissioners Absent: Kearns

Ex-Officio Members Present: Thompson, Williams

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Seegers

Staff Present: Kruse

Members of the Public Present: (see Item #7)

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Commissioner Ashton notified the Commission that an item had arisen subsequent to the posting of the agenda and was of sufficient urgency to add to the agenda. This item was the First 5 California's Request for Applications (RFA) for CARES Plus, which was released on November 4, 2010. She noted that there was a December 13, 2010 deadline for the intent to apply response, which falls prior to the next First 5 meeting, so that the item must be discussed today.

Motion: to add a discussion of the CARES Plus RFA to the agenda

Moved: Commissioner Bass

Seconded: Commissioner Denney

Motion carried: 5 ayes (Alford, Ashton, Bass, Braia, Denney), Commissioner Kearns and Sells being absent from the vote.

The item was assigned to discussion item #3, with all other agenda item numbers moved back accordingly.

Commissioner Ashton reminded the Commission of conflict of interest issues.

Action Items

1. Action on Approval of Minutes for October 13, 2010.

Motion: to accept the minutes

Moved: Commissioner Bass

Seconded: Commissioner Denney

Motion carried: 4 ayes (Alford, Ashton, Bass, Denney), Commissioner Braia abstaining, Commissioners Kearns and Sells being absent from the vote.

Commissioner Sells entered the meeting.

2. Consideration of termination of the contract with the Tuolumne County Health Department for Commission Operations Support.

Sheila Kruse reviewed the discussion from the October meeting and reviewed the recommendations from county counsel, to terminate the contract. Commissioner Ashton noted that freeing up these funds makes them available for direct service.

Commissioner Denney recused herself.

**Motion:** To terminate the contact with Tuolumne County Public Health Department for Operations Support.

Moved: Commissioner Alford

Seconded: Commissioner Bass

Motion carried: 5 ayes (Alford, Ashton, Bass, Braia, Sells), Commissioner Denney recused from the vote, Commissioners Kearns being absent from the vote.

### Discussion Items, Reports, and Information Items

#### 3. Discussion of CARES Plus RFA from First 5 CA.

Sheila Kruse reviewed the key RFA elements. She acknowledged that the community planning team had not prioritized CARES for the next round of funding. However, she noted that she wanted to bring forward the information to the Commission for discussion, due to the fact that it might be a good fit with the prioritized CSEFEL training, and that the match requirements had changed. The new match would be \$10,000 local and \$20,000 state funds for a program budget of \$30,000. This program would be half the size of the last round of CARES. There is \$20 thousand available for planning activities between February and June 2011. The state is encouraging regional applications. She noted the changes in the program, primarily training elements, participant eligibility, and links to CDE competencies. Local First 5 Commissions have first right of refusal, then a government-based agency could apply. Sheila Kruse asked if the Commission would like her to convene interested community partners to discuss the feasibility of a First 5 application, or to assess interest by other partners. Marcia Williams noted that Head Start is encouraging teachers to receive CLASS training, that it was a good training for preschool teachers, and that she would be interested to learn which levels were required. She noted that she would participate in a discussion, and that the college should also be involved. Commissioner Ashton noted that the matching dollars were attractive if it was a good fit with what the Commission was already planning to fund. Evelyn Thompson noted that teacher training and child care training are part of the Local Child Care Planning Council, and she would participate in a planning meeting. She noted, however, her concern that the funds available may not be sufficient for all the new administrative and supportive requirements, as well as stipends. Chris McKenzie discussed how AB212 funds were now used and Sheila Kruse noted that CARES Plus participants could not receive AB212 funds under the RFA requirements. The Commission directed Sheila Kruse to convene a meeting of key community partners, and authorized her to submit an Intent to Apply if the committee recommended that the Commission do so.

4. Report on the outcome of the Emergency Repayable Grant Program.

Sheila Kruse reported that both grantees received checks from the State of California on the day she had a warrant ready to bring to the auditor's office for the first Emergency Repayable Grant payment. She noted that having the First 5 option reduced the level of anxiety to the organizations that were waiting for State funds.

Sheila Kruse and Evelyn Thompson updated the Commission on the Stage 3 funding situation. A lawsuit has been filed, and the result is that CDD has been instructed to continue paying for Stage 3 childcare into December. The lawsuit had to do with due process and whether parents had been given due notification and the right to appeal. ICES will not have to use the First 5 funds until they are notified that the stay is no longer in effect.

5. Collaborative planning update and timeline

Sheila Kruse noted that she wanted to check in with the Commission about the process and timeline of the community planning discussions. She noted that there would be some issues ready to be decided in December, but there would be other details that would need more work. She asked the Commissioners to consider how they were feeling about the progress of the planning, and at what point they were ready to bring the decision making back to the Commission level. Commissioner Ashton noted that it today's discussion on budget figures would help make the planning more tangible and, at that point, she would be comfortable bringing it back to the Commissioners for further work.

6. Reports from Executive Director, Commissioners and Ex-Officios

Executive Director Report:

Sheila Kruse she has been invited to meet with the Sonora Area Foundation board in November and will bring forward a request for a funding partnership for \$100,000/year for four years. She referred to the written materials provided for the packets, which were available for review at the meeting. The Commission recommended having Commissioner Alford also attend. Sheila noted that she had also provided information to Tracie Riggs and Susan Sells at Tuolumne County Behavioral Health regarding leveraging opportunities for future PEI funding, had attended a recent community planning meeting for future PEI funding, and would stay engaged in that process. She noted that she had attended a recent Brown Act training put on by the County Counsel's office, and noted that the Commission was in compliance. She distributed an updated list of Commissioners contact information.

Susan Sells reviewed the community planning meeting that had taken place to direct PEI funding for the next 3 years. She noted that there would be decisions made by January regarding future funding decisions, and invited Commissioners to contact her with any ideas or information to help guide the planning process.

No other Commissioners had reports.

2:30 pm

7. Collaborative community working session for First 5 future initiatives

Additional Community Members Present: Tara Parker, Nancy Andrade, Chris McKenzie, Bette Axiak, Liz Bryun, Donna Meiss, Lisa Edwards, Mark Gee, Kathy Amos, Erika Hagstrom-Dossi, Laurie Perry

Sheila Kruse reviewed the information she had learned about the First 5 Alameda consulting models, (1) Partners in Collaboration (a dyad training model) and (2) ECE consultation to child care sites. Discussion followed, a summary is provided in the attachments to the Dec 15<sup>th</sup> meeting packet.

The group collaboratively assigned tentative available funding (\$350,000) to seven funding strategies. It was discussed that this was a broad-brush approach, and that more specific amounts would be assigned as the work went forward.

- Home visiting and parent education \$105,000
- Nurse home visiting \$25,000
- Social-Emotional Consultation \$90,000
- Dental Screening, Fluoride Varnish, Parent Education \$25,500
- Family Learning Centers \$94,500
- CARES \$10,000 – pending committee work

The group discussed that if additional funds were leveraged, that one good strategy would be to equally divide them among all services. It was agreed to revisit this if funds become available.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.