



MINUTES May 6, 2010

1. Call to Order

This meeting of the Imperial County Children and Families First Commission was called to order at 1:18 p.m. by Commissioner Sigmond, Chair. The meeting was held at the County of Imperial County Administration Center, Room C/D, located at 940 W. Main Street in El Centro, California.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Karla Sigmond, Chair
James Semmes
Barbara Deol
Mike Colón, Jr.
Joe Maruca

Commissioners Absent:

Becky Green
Veronica Guerrero
Robin Hodgkin
Supervisor Kelly

Guests:

Wendy Prewitt, IVROP

3. Public Comment

Ms. Prewitt extended an invitation to Commissioners for the HIPPY Graduation of preschoolers to be held on June 10th at Kennedy School in El Centro.

4. Consent Calendar Items

Commissioner Deol moved that the Commission approve the consent calendar items as duly noted for the Agenda dated 05/06/10. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maruca and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the members present.

5. Administrative Report

5a. Agreement for Independent Contractor FY 2010-2011: As a result of the Commission's decision to extend the current funding cycle of grantees to a third year, a request was sought to approve of the standard Agreement for Independent Contractor FY 2010-2011. This document will serve as the contract between the Commission and the 14 grantees for a third year of funding. Commissioners reviewed the changes to the contract and specifically discussed the language regarding sustainability. A motion was made by Commissioner Semmes and it was seconded by Commissioner Deol to approve the Agreement for Independent Contractor FY 2010-2011 which will serve as the binding document entered into between the Commission and grantees for the third year of funding. No public comment was noted, the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the members present.

5b. Commission Funding Priorities: Commissioners discussed the results of the survey that was used to collect information on funding priorities. The survey focused on the three result areas as outlined in the Strategic Plan: family functioning, early care and education, and child health. The results of the survey summarized the 12 highest ranked: 1) prenatal care; 2) support for Family Resource Centers; 3) Comp. screening and assessment; 4) nutrition and fitness; 5) preschool for 4 year olds; 6) health access; 7-12)

targeted intensive parent education; general parent education; targeted services for children with special needs; comprehensive screening and assessment; kindergarten transition programs; and immunizations. Commissioners talked about local programs that have been impacted due to a lack of funding and whether the Commission can provide funding support so that those programs can continue offering their services. Discussion also continued regarding the difficulty in assessing the priority of the result areas; in the past the Commission has identified two priorities, family literacy and lactation support. Commissioners talked about the impact of the programs which have been funded and how they ranked in comparison to state data or similar data from other counties. The issue of supplantation was also discussed. The Director will bring back data and relevant information from programs that have been involved in those areas.

5c. Prop 10 Revenue Projection: According to an analysis done by the State Board of Equalization, Prop 10 revenues have decreased 11% from July to December 2009; tobacco tax revenue is decreasing more than anticipated. Revenue to Commissions has been affected by the Federal Children's Health Initiative, the decrease in tobacco sales and backfill provisions. Commissioners will need to work on a plan that addresses the total allocation for long-term support for projects. It was noted that negotiations to decrease administration funds for services provided by the State Board of Equalization are currently underway.

5d. Grantee 2nd Quarter Performance Reports: Grantee second quarter progress reports were reviewed by Commissioners. Due to the affects of the earthquake, 8 programs requested an extension for the submittal of their reports. It was noted that at least two of the grantees' facilities were red-flagged. Discussion was also held regarding the 'Leyendo con mi Familia' project; it was the general consensus of the Commission that whatever goals the program did not meet in the second year will be included in the third year of funding or the program may return the funding to the Commission and reject a contract for a third year. Provisions will be incorporated into third year contracts which are specific to each grantees' performance of goals.

5e. Commission Updates:

- As a result of state budget cuts, the state Commission will be producing less Kit for New Parents which will include a lesser distribution to each county Commission. Because the distribution is based on birth rates per county, it is anticipated that Imperial County will probably not get too much of a reduction.
- The Cox Bill did not get past the Committees; both the assembly and senate are not interested in developing a budget with initiatives that may not pass.
- The State Commission has authorized a new program called CARES Plus which is similar to the stipend program for early childcare providers that we are currently funding. Because the state recognizes that the majority of the early care providers are Spanish speakers they are asking as part of the provisions to accepting this funding that programs look into working with universities in an effort to provide bilingual programs to the early care providers.

6. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Sigmond acknowledged Commissioner Semmes outstanding work and the story written on the Commission's quarterly newsletter.

7. Adjournment

Commissioner Maruca moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Colón and approved by a unanimous vote of the members present. Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.