



## MINUTES

September 3, 2009

### 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 Imperial County Public Health Department, Training Center, located at 935 Broadway in El Centro, California.

### 2. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Karla Sigmond, Chair  
James Semmes  
Rebecca Green  
Joe Maruca  
Supervisor Jack Terrazas (Alternate to  
Supervisor Mike Kelley)  
Veronica Guerrero (arrived after roll call)

Commissioners Absent:

Supervisor Mike Kelley  
Barbara Deol  
Mike Colón, Jr.  
Robin Hodgkin

### 3. Public Comment

None were noted.

At this moment, Commissioners moved on to review informational items until a quorum could be established. The order of items reviewed was modified.

### 4. Administrative Report (item 5 of the Agenda)

1. School Readiness Update (item 5c of the Agenda): Dr. Galindo provided a summary of the School Readiness activities held during Fiscal Year 2008-2009. He reported that summer Kinder Academies were held in 9 schools; Community Resource Health Fairs were also held in 9 schools with over 4,000 attendees and with an average of 25 agencies who participated and provided resources; parent trainings were also provided in 7 of the School Readiness schools; and through canvassing efforts over 244 children were identified.
2. PACES Program (item 5d of the Agenda): The Professional Advancement for Childhood Educators (PACES) program has come to an end of its three year cycle as approved by the Commission starting in the 2006-2007 fiscal year. A summary of the findings will be provided to Commissioners as soon as the data is gathered and analyzed; at that time Commissioners may want to consider implementing some changes and provide other alternatives. \$60,000 has been set aside in this year's budget for this endeavor. Some discussion continued regarding increasing the stipend award to those providers who may be closer to reaching their educational goals.
3. MRMIB/Healthy Families (item 5e of the Agenda): The State Commission approved a significant contribution to fund premiums and related enrollment expenses for the Healthy Families program to children 0-5 years of age for fiscal year 2009-2010. The contribution will help cover a portion

of the \$194 million deficit that has resulted from the State Budget. Local Commissions may be approached by MRMIB seeking similar funding assistance for the Healthy Families program.

4. First 5 California Project Legacy (item 5f of the Agenda): The First 5 California Commission will be establishing a new focus of funding known as "Project Legacy." Due to declining revenue, the First 5 Commission will no longer be funding programs at their current levels; rather, through Project Legacy two to three signature programs and innovative pilot projects designed to improve the lives of children 0-5 will carry on. This new "Roadmap to the Future" will take effect in 2010. Further updates will be provided as new developments occur.
5. Grantee Performance Report - 4th Quarter (item 5g of the Agenda): Commission staff has begun a comprehensive review of information submitted by 15 grantees. Enclosed with the packet are expense summaries and reports generated for funded programs at an aggregate level through the Proposition 10 Evaluation Data System (PEDS).
6. Other Commission Updates (item 5h of the Agenda): Commissioners were introduced to the new reporting style for future meetings; Commissioners will go paperless starting with the next meeting. Kids Data information was provided to the Commission on a statewide data base that will incorporate information from 35 sources.

Commissioner Guerrero arrived at this time and a quorum was established; Commissioners proceeded with action items.

7. Community Development Mini-Grant 2009-2010 (item 5a of the Agenda): Commissioners first established Conflicts of Interest regarding the Community Development Mini-Grant; only 1 conflict was declared, Commissioner Green. Commissioners discussed the possibility of canceling the mini-grant due to the unforeseen economic impact to local programs and the state's fiscal cuts; Commissioners may need to prioritize funding. Commissioner Maruca moved to cancel the mini-grant funding process indefinitely. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Semmes, and as no further comment was noted the motion was approved with 1 abstain (Green).
8. Request For Proposal 2010-2012 (item 5b of the Agenda): The Commission is currently on its second year (final year) of funding major grantees through the 2008-2010 RFP; a new RFP process needs to be established for the upcoming years. Three options were brought up at this time: 1) Continue the new RFP as planned, with a designation of \$1.8 million in line with the Commission's long-term plan. 2) Increase the RFP to \$500,000 per year (sustainability funds) for those programs who won't be applying for federal stimulus funds. 3) Continue the RFP with \$1.8 million designation plus develop another application for projects who plan to apply for the federal stimulus funds. The federal stimulus funds will require matching funds; Commission funds may be used for this purpose to keep projects like Head Start, TANF, etc. sustained. Commissioner Semmes talked about the uncertainty of the federal stimulus funds, he also noted that the match could be an in-kind match. Commissioner Green is suggesting they conduct a new needs assessment and prioritize funds. It was the consensus of the Commission to not take action at this time. A motion to table the RFP process was made by Commissioner Green and it was seconded by Commissioner Maruca; the motion passed with 1 abstain (J. Semmes).

**5. Consent Calendar Items** (item 4 of the Agenda)

Commissioner Green moved that the Commission approve the consent calendar items as duly noted for the Agenda dated 9/3/09. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Semmes. No public comment was noted. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the members present.

**6. Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Semmes proposed that they amend the Bylaws to include alternates with voting privileges; to be included as an agenda item for a future meeting.

**7. Adjournment**

Commissioner Guerrero moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Green and approved by a unanimous vote of the members present. Meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.