

**FIRST 5 SISKIYOU
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
COMMISSION MEETING
Behavioral Health Dept., 2060 Campus Dr., Yreka
Wednesday, April 23, 2008**

Commission Vice Chair Hunner opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Vice Chair Hunner, Commissioner Roselli, Commissioner Perlman and Commissioner Noda.

Commissioners Absent: Chair Walters, Commissioner Armstrong and Commissioner Rhoades

Also Present: Executive Director Karen Pautz and Administrative Services Coordinator Cheryl Sanchez

The Mission Statement was read by Commissioner Noda.

Public Information: Donna Burcher, Executive Director of the newly forming Butte Valley Community Resource Center introduced herself to the Commissioners. Michelle O’Gorman, Executive Director from Yreka and HUB Communities Resource Centers

Minutes Approval:

1. **Approval of minutes for the February 27, 2008 Meeting and April 2 Special Meeting/Retreat:** The minutes were reviewed and no corrections were noted.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Perlman and seconded by Commissioner Noda to approve the minutes of the February 27, 2008 Commission meeting and the April 2, 2008 Special Meeting/Retreat as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Director Report: A written report was previously distributed to the Commissioners.

- Ed Pautz reported that the walk/run event for Child Abuse Prevention Month drew over 120 people in Yreka. Happy Camp hosted a similar event which had an incredible turnout for that area. The highway was closed for the event and 41 runners registered including moms with strollers. The children were having a wonderful time and it is hoped that more communities will participate next year. She recognized Karen Derry and her team’s efforts in getting agencies and community members and organizations involved in offering this event in Happy Camp.
- **Site Visits:** She visited the Tulelake/Newell FRC and looked through sign-ins and tracking of non-migrant Even Start families they serve and the numbers were very low. At preliminary review they served about 20 non-migrant Even Start families with children 0-5. They had a high number of participants at their dinner theater. First 5 has withheld funds for the past three months. They are aware of the withholding of funds and need of local leadership to enhance services and engage community members. Carol Callaghan has been trying to get someone locally but the only qualified candidate did not accept the position because the center could not match salary requirements. They need to seriously evaluate what they are capable of accomplishing and get community input before applying for funds for next year.

- ED Pautz met with SCOE to resolve the fiscal year 06-07 School Readiness contract. SCOE agreed to accept First 5 Siskiyou's settlement agreement. She would suggest there be some discussion with Kermith Walters regarding SCOE's relationship with the Commission, as issues have been raised but not brought before the Commission. It is important that the Commission and SCOE to have open communication.
- SCOE has requested an amendment to the Payment Schedule portion of its contract for the administration of the CARES program to allow an advance in the amount of \$27,000.00 to cover the payment in June of stipends to child care providers who have qualified under the program. ED Pautz stated she believed this would be appropriate as the stipends can be determined fairly accurately.

Emergency Agenda Item: Due to the time sensitivity of this request, Vice Chair Hunner proposed it be added as an Emergency Action Item to today's agenda.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Roselli and seconded by Commissioner Perlman that the amendment to the Payment Schedule portion of SCOE's contract for the administration of the CARES program stipulating prepayment of the stipend amount be added as an emergency action item on today's agenda. Motion was unanimously approved.

- ED Pautz advised that the evaluation consultant that worked in Redding for CS&O was laid off because of lack of funds. Siskiyou contracts were too small to sustain having a person in Redding. Our new contact is based in Sacramento. We have a two-month period to see how the transition will work. He has some good skills but has not worked with rural counties.
- Our region has been awarded TA funds to bring training to the region. Based on a conversation with Suanne Thurman and county priorities, ED Pautz requested that the region consider funding a training related to the impact of meth on communities and individuals in Siskiyou County. The region agreed to fund the training in Siskiyou County. Further information will be shared with the Commission as the project develops in partnership with the California Endowment Grant Coordinator, Suanne Thurman. Vice Chair Hunner noted that CSC had applied for funding also – approximately \$15,000 – to do more than a one-time training.
- ED Pautz met with members of the Retired Teachers' Association – Delta Kappa Gamma – comprised of at least 40 women. Three individuals are interested in facilitating parenting classes or supporting classes and contributing time. They have committed to be a bridge between First 5 Siskiyou, the Family Resource Centers and the hospitals to distribute the New Parent Kits to new moms. ED Pautz reported that this group has incredible energy and is a great resource for our county. She hopes to work with them to perhaps start a new mothers' mentor program. One of the ladies in the group has published a children's book which she would like to provide at cost to the FRCs. ED Pautz will meet with her to further discuss this opportunity. The group needs help in purchasing books – "Read to Your Bunny" - in both English and Spanish. We should be able to provide these with School Readiness funds and include them in the Kit for New Parents.
- She submitted an article for publication entitled "Turn Off the TV".
- Because ED Pautz received the Training for Trainers from Dr. Bruce Perry, she participated in the last of the trainings offered in California from the "Safe From The Start" project. The

focus was on taking research to communities on the impact of trauma on communities. Even though she just completed a training with 17 people, she would like to work with the media consultant to get the message out on a regular basis and saturate communities with “trauma in the brain” in a way that is meaningful.

Consent Agenda:

1. **Out-of-County travel for Cheryl Sanchez – CARES Conference, Millbrae – April 28-29:**
2. **Out-of-County travel for Karen Pautz – Children’s Defense Fund advocacy Meeting – Washington, DC – 4/24-26/08 – approx. \$500.** ED Pautz was selected to participate in Policy and Advocacy gathering by the Children’s Defense Fund. She stated she was honored to be invited to participate and have the opportunity to meet with policymakers and with people who are at the research and evaluation level nationally. Only 15 people throughout the country were selected to meet with this group. Most of the expenses are covered by CDF with the exception of an airfare shortfall and pre-flight overnight accommodations. Immediately following this she was selected to present at the Parenting Conference in Eugene, Oregon. Approximately 30 people will attend the workshop. Karen Derry and Amy Conroy will co-present about the Siskiyou County model of successful collaborations.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Perlman and seconded by Commissioner Noda to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

Emergency Action Item

1. **Amendment to Payment Schedule/SCOE Contract for Administration of CARES Program for fiscal year 2007-2008:**

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Roselli and seconded by Commissioner Noda to amend the Payment Schedule on First 5 Siskiyou’s contract with Siskiyou Office of Education for administration of the CARES Program for fiscal year 2007-2008 to authorize advance payment in the amount of \$27,000.00 to cover payment of stipends to child care providers who have qualified to receive them. All other terms and conditions of the contract will remain as originally accepted. Motion was unanimously approved.

Action Items

1. **Budget report for March 2008:** The budget report was reviewed.
2. **Action:** It was moved by Commissioner Roselli and seconded by Vice Chair Hunner to approve the Budget Report for March 2008 as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.
3. **Approval of Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 08-09:** The Budget Advisory Group met with staff on April 18 to finalize the 2008-2009 budget to be submitted to the County Auditor.

Action: It was moved by Vice Chair Hunner and seconded by Commissioner Perlman to accept the Preliminary Budget recommended by the Budget Advisory Group as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

ED Pautz discussed FRC funding which is targeted at up to \$40,000 per site. It is her recommendation that the Proposal Advisory Group review the proposals to assure each site receives funding based on delivery of services as discussed at the Commission Retreat.

4. **State Annual Conference – who will attend?** Typically the Commission authorizes attendance at the State Annual Conference. Last year one Commissioner, one FRC Director and the Executive Director were approved to attend. ED Pautz will not be able to attend the pre-conference on May 21 this year and feels attendance at the next day and a half is not in the best financial interest of the Commission inasmuch as she attends the regional meetings where much of the content of the conference will be discussed. None of the Commissioners in attendance will be able to attend and staff was asked to poll those not in attendance to see if there was interest.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Roselli and seconded by Vice Chair Hunner that in compliance with Commission policy, three individuals are approved to attend the State Annual Conference on May 21-23, 2008. Motion was unanimously approved.

5. **Discussion and possible action on support for Fatherhood Conference – 08-09 - \$500:** ED Pautz explained that Shasta Head Start is leading efforts to host a Fatherhood Conference in Siskiyou County. Early Head Start and some of the FRCs are providing support and financial assistance towards the Conference which has been rescheduled to September. Funding is needed to bring the keynote speaker. Her recommendation, based on the budget, is to consider funding them for \$500 to support the conference. She has encouraged the FRCs to help with promotion and find ways to support dads' participation in this event. Last year the conference was held in Shasta County but because of a high number of dads wanting the conference in Siskiyou County it will be held in Yreka.

Action: It was moved by Vice Chair Hunner and seconded by Commissioner Perlman to authorize up to \$500 to support the Fatherhood Conference in Siskiyou County. Motion was unanimously approved.

6. **Discussion and possible action on potential funding for dinner theatre performances – 08-09:** ED Pautz brought two draft proposals for review. If the Commissioners are interested, she will work with the proponents on a program for fiscal year 2008-2009. The Senior Theatre is proposing 20 performances - \$800 per show for three shows. Shadow Box Players have proposed two performances. ED Pautz was concerned about the appropriateness of the content for our age group and asked that they provide a clip to see if suitable for ages 0-5. She was informed it was interactive and "fun" and they felt it would be well received. The Senior play is called "The Crooked Town" and is geared toward preschoolers. If there is interest they will come to the next Commission meeting and submit a proposal to visit all 10 communities. ED Pautz would like to connect with the FRCs and request they pay a portion of the cost associated as part of their Family Fun Nights.

Outcome: No action taken at this time.

6. **Discussion and possible action on Susan Hayes Meredith art project for the Resource Centers:** Commissioner Roselli commented on Vice Chair Hunner's previously advanced idea to do something as part of an art project in the FRCs in the name of the late Susan Hayes Meredith. The Commission could oversee a project for FRCs to have an artisan who has experience teaching kids provide an activity at a Family Fun Night or other event, specifically in Susan's name, and distribute the booklets – both those appropriate for 3-5 year olds and the one for older children. If the Commission is interested, Commissioner Roselli would request a proposal directly from someone whose work she is familiar with. Vice Chair Hunner suggested the Commission budget \$10,000 for fiscal year 08-09 for the Susan Hayes Meredith art project and get word out to local artisans to work with the FRCs. ED Pautz stated this could be a long-term commitment, making the upcoming year a pilot project and work with one artisan who could then be instrumental in creating the system for the art project. Commissioner Roselli volunteered to work with the artisan in coordinating with the FRCs. This could be a year-long project. The books would be donated.

Action: It was moved by Vice Chair Hunner and seconded by Commissioner Roselli to approve a budget set-aside up to \$10,000 for fiscal year 2008-2009 to support the Susan Hayes Meredith Memorial Art Project. Motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioners Reports

Vice Chair Hunner announced that Behavioral Health Services is sponsoring its first event for community education around mental health and drug and alcohol. It will be held at Mt. Shasta City Park on May 19, 2008.

Commissioner Perlman previously reported on his visit to Scott Valley FRC. He suggested that everyone should visit Yreka CRC which he described as very impressive – reaching out to all aspects of the community. They provide a library of resources for adults and children, Remi Vista is located there and they are preparing to expand into the upstairs which now features career fashions for men and women and a teen center. He also commented on the great staff, good team of volunteers and the cooking class in the kitchen!

He was equally impressed with the HUB site and described the staff and board members as warm and enthusiastic and like a family – a community that is drawn together and so happy with their new facility. People from all through the community visited during the day. They need more help but are doing a great job. ED Pautz recognized and thanked Michelle O'Gorman who agreed to take on the directorship of the HUB two years ago. The results of her business savvy are evident from the donations and collaborations she has been able to negotiate which have provided the means to offer more services.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Lauri Hunner, Commission Vic Chair

Attest: _____
Cheryl E. Sanchez, Recording Secretary

