

**FIRST 5 SISKIYOU
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMISSION MEETING
Behavioral Health Dept., 2060 Campus Dr., Yreka
Wednesday, May 28, 2008**

PUBLIC HEARING:

Commissioners Present: Chair Walters, Commissioner Noda, Commissioner Perlman and Commissioner Rhoades.

Commissioners Absent: Vice Chair Hunner, Commissioner Armstrong and Commissioner Roselli

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

The Public Hearing was held pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 130140, 130150 and 130151 governing First 5 Commissions to provide an opportunity for the public to review and respond to:

1. The First 5 California Children & Families Commission Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2006-2007
2. First 5 Siskiyou Children & Families Commission's revisions to its Strategic Plan and long-term financial plan for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

Commission Chair Walters opened the Public Hearing at 8:35 a.m.

No members of the public were present.

Action Items:

1. **Acceptance of "First 5 California Children & Families Commission Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2006-2007:**

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Rhoades and seconded by Commissioner Perlman to accept the First 5 California Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Approval of revisions to First 5 Siskiyou Children & Families Commission's Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2008-2009:**

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Noda and seconded by Commissioner Perlman to accept the revisions to First 5 Siskiyou's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. Motion passed unanimously.

The Public Hearing was closed at 8:40 a.m.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

The meeting was opened by Chair Walters at 8:45 a.m.

The Mission Statement was read by Commissioner Noda.

Public Information: Leslie Finch, Regional Director for Remi Vista, introduced herself to the Commission. She is presently working with Remi Vista and was previously with NVCSS and worked closely with Shasta First 5 Commission. Her purpose in Siskiyou County is to find out what is needed for children 0-5 years old and to make sure Remi Vista is responding to the needs of the community.

Minutes Approval:

1. **Approval of minutes for the April 23, 2008 Meeting:** 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 April 23, 2008 Commission meeting as presented. Motion was approved with Chair Walters and Commissioner Rhoades abstaining as they were not present at that meeting.

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

- Chair Walters requested an update on situations involving both the Tulelake/Newell and Scott Valley FOCUS situations addressed at the last meeting. ED Pautz explained that Vice Chair Hunner, Commissioner Perlman and she had visited Scott Valley FRC three weeks ago. Basically timing was a little off because by the time they met a new director had been hired and the director seemed to be very comfortable in having an open relationship with the board, who in the past had challenging relationships with EDs. Their question thus was they did not understand the point of our visit because they are meeting and exceeding the goals outlined in their grant. Their biggest challenge is with MHSA and the staff person who is no longer with them. ED Pautz reported that the FRC is serving more communities than intended and getting the numbers, but because of a number of changes in the last year, the service systems have lagged. However the board and the new Executive Director believe they can get it together. They have very particular board members and shared with the visiting team that they are not interested in offering a board position to just anyone and have a plan to invite new board members who would be a “good fit” for the site.
- Regarding Tulelake, ED Pautz had an onsite follow-up meeting to help the new designated staff learn about PEDS data and assist in data entry. Due to staff changes and a transition year they have not been able to provide services at the level they should. They need a director and need to provide more outreach activities to build “buy in” from the community. Based on site reports the highest number of participation at a Family Fun Night was their dinner theatre with nearly 80 in attendance. Generally the Family Fun Night had minimal (one to 7) or no participation. Although the center has tried to recruit AmeriCorps and Vista, according to reports they have had no outcome. They have not had the level of staff to promote events. Their parenting program has attracted some community members who are not currently involved in Even Start or other programs. ED Pautz reminded the commission that as per guidelines First 5 has withheld funding since February. The plan is for the community to submit a report reflective of activities provided to date and a final bill based on outcomes they have been able to accomplish. Regarding the upcoming proposal for fiscal year 08-09, ED Pautz would recommend they form a community advisory group to make decisions on what is to happen in that community. This was the intent of this years' proposed plan, but because of the many transitions it has not occurred. Ed Pautz shared that Carol Callaghan has actively participated in Network activities and meetings, and has done the

best she can in a community that has very diverse groups. She shared that Carol has been very open about the challenges she has had to deal with during this transition year. She has had limited staff, after multiple months of attempting to recruit a new director, she has restructured job duties and has offered a coordinator position to an existing staff person. ED Pautz reported that she has regular conversations with Carol Callaghan who is open to accepting support and working in partnership with First 5. They discussed the possibility of local leadership, buy-in and promotion of the FRC. A community needs assessment, that was part of this years' plan that has not occurred, could be a great benefit to include in the new proposal. Also, a local advisory group could assist in creating the vision of a community resource center. Tulelake appears to be a disconnected community from feedback from the FRC staff and some other providers. Ed Pautz suggested that the Commission representative(s) and Carol meet prior to the next Commission meeting to discuss the plans for fiscal year 08-09.

- Last week ED Pautz requested a letter of support from our funding partners opposing Senator Cox's proposal to divert funds from First 5. One letter has been received from an AmeriCorps which shows the level of this person's growth. Six more letters were received and will be in the Commission packets next month.
- One of the priorities in the next couple of months is to look at having a system in place for early childhood mental health. During the advocacy meeting in Washington DC, ED Pautz met with a colleague from Minnesota who has developed and piloted a model ECMH program which will become a state model. She has sent the program information to ED Pautz and has offered her expertise and support to us as we work with our partners to create an ECMH system. The packet of information has been received and ED Pautz will review and determine if this could be a template for creating a system in Siskiyou County. More attention will be given to this after the 08-09 RFP reviews in June.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Budget Report for April 2008:** The budget report was reviewed.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Rhoades and seconded by Commissioner Noda to approve the budget report for April 2008 as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. **Discussion and possible action on renewal of Executive Director's contract:** The Advisory Group discussed the contract for fiscal year 08-09 and recommended approval to the Commissioners. Some changes were made in the Scope of Work. As suggested by ED Pautz, the ED's role in the upcoming year is to pursue and implement opportunities to diversify funding for county wide projects and mini-grants because our present stand-alones are not system based. This is a good time for the Commission to look at ways to diversify partnerships to be system based. Added items included working with the newly forming Butte Valley CRC, increased participation at the state level, and coordinating monthly presentations with the FRCs, which she is currently doing but the item was not in the previous SOW. First 5 Siskiyou will continue to use the PEDS evaluation system but will look for a new contractor, hopefully by January 2009. ED Pautz will work closely with the current contractor to develop a qualitative evaluation system to make sure each FRC and county wide project has a consistent system for collecting data.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Perlman and seconded by Commissioner Rhoades to approve the contract with Shasta Training and Consulting for Executive Director services for fiscal year 2008-2009 in the amount of \$76,400.00, which includes \$5,000.00 to cover in-county travel expenses. Motion was approved unanimously.

3. **Discussion and possible action on renewal of contract with Klamath Health Services for administrative staff:** The Advisory Group met on the renewal of this contract which reduces the number of hours from .75 FTE to .65 FTE. ED Pautz stated she felt this time would be adequate for First 5 and allow for more staff time needed by KHSI. KHSI's ED had questions regarding the Commission's dictating the person who would provide the administrative services and the scope of work under the contract. Cheryl Sanchez is a KHSI employee and this was a valid point, however KHSI is willing to work with the Commission in this instance. ED Pautz asked KHSI for an adequate level of pay and position and they have committed to balance the salary so that it doesn't adversely affect Cheryl. Chair Walters noted the contract was in line with last year's and recommended for approval.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Rhoades and seconded by Commissioner Perlman to approve the contract with Klamath Health Services in the amount \$38,329.20 representing 1,352 hours of service (.65 FTE) for administrative services of Cheryl Sanchez, a KHSI employee, for fiscal year 2008-2009. Motion was approved unanimously.

4. **Request for funding for FRC dinner theater presentations from Shadow Box Players and Mt. Shasta Senior Theater:** Sandra Winslow, Joan Lucas and Jason Gigliotti were in attendance representing the two entities. Jason explained that this is a new partnership that wishes to partner with First 5 and FRCs this coming fiscal year and provide theatrical performances in conjunction with their family fun events. He believes their cadre of performers are outstanding and they look forward to having a presence in the various communities. Jason grew up in community theatre, writing and directing programs in elementary and high schools.

Sandra stated that she and Jason had founded Shadow Box Theater seven years ago. They are proposing a 40-minute production entitled "Half Hour Hamlet". Jason helped write it and directs it both locally and on tour. They feel this proposal provides an opportunity for them to get involved with the county and partner with other theatre groups to get the communities involved. Questions were raised on the appropriateness of this production for preschoolers. Jason stated it was written and presented in such a way that they don't really have to understand it. It has had good success when presented in the parks.

Joan Lucas represented the Mt. Shasta Senior Theatre. She said she attended a Senior Theatre conference and decided to form a senior theatre group – there are over 700 in the U.S. alone. Joan stated the "Hamlet" production is very funny. They have done two shows at COS and work in conjunction with COS' lifelong learning program. She teaches at COS for its first semester and spends the second semester in rehearsal for the shows. She described a play titled "The Crooked Town" - one act – 20 minutes long. This can be tailored to the FRCs' wishes – 20 minutes to an hour. Another production called "Duetto" is

a musical sung by cats entirely with “meows”. This can be interactive where the children sing along. In response to a question from Commissioner Rhoades, Joan stated there are two separate shows depending on when the performances will be ready and times for the communities. ED Pautz reported that the FRCs are excited because these performances bring in new people. The proposal is for up to \$16,000.00. ED Pautz, in partnership with CSC ED, met with Premier West Bank and CSC and requested \$4,000 to help with the cost of the event. If that happens, then First 5 would only spend up to \$12,000.00. Funding would begin July 1, 2008.

Also discussed was a “preview” night for the Commissioners. Sandra stated they are working on a show previewing in October but would need to be careful not to schedule anything before September. She will talk with ED Pautz to discuss the possibility of this idea.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Rhoades and seconded by Commissioner Noda to approve the proposal by Shadow Box Players and Mt. Shasta Senior Theatre in an amount up to \$16,000.00 to provide 20 theatrical performances in the Siskiyou County Family and Community Resource Centers in fiscal year 2008-2009. Motion was approved unanimously.

5. **Letter from Commission to Senator Cox on impact of proposed legislation to cut First 5 funding. Request letter from Board of Supervisors:** The Commission was presented a letter from Kris Perry, First 5 California Executive Director, citing that Senator David Cox is proposing a bill to redirect First 5 funds to the State for controlled spending. ED Pautz recommended the Commission present a letter to Senator Cox opposing this move. Staff was directed to draft the letter for Commission approval. A copy of the letter will be sent to Senator Aanestad's office as well as the First 5 Commission. ED Pautz asked the Commission to consider requesting a letter of support from the Board of Supervisors. The letters would focus on what our county is doing and has done and our basic strategy. The Commission provided a similar letter to Senator Cox's last attempt to raid First 5 funding. Commissioner Rhoades noted that the county commissions were advised to stockpile some funds during the first few years of development so there would be funds to carry out the programs later when revenues were predicted to decline.

Action: It was moved by Commissioner Noda and seconded by Commissioner Rhoades to send a letter to Senator Cox addressing our specific county's First 5 Commission's concerns and additionally request a letter of support from the Board of Supervisors. Motion was approved unanimously.

TEAM/PROGRAM REPORTS

1. **CARES Program Report:** A PowerPoint presentation was made by Emily Lacroix, LPC Director for SCOE and Director of the CARES program. The presentation will be posted on the First 5 Siskiyou website. ED Pautz stated that the level of work and quality of systems on this program are the result of Emily's leadership.

Emily stated that she would be presenting a proposal to the Commission in June for the next and potentially last year of this program. A proposal for this extension year has been submitted to the State Commission and approval is expected by mid-June.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

1. **Report on First 5 State Annual Meeting:** Commissioner Rhoades requested to present this report at the June meeting.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Kermith Walters, Commission Chair

Attest: _____
Cheryl E. Sanchez, Recording Secretary