



February 29, 2016
Commission Meeting Minutes
Mendocino County Office of Education

Commission Members Present

Lucresha Rentería John Passalacqua Dan Hamburg
Ben Anderson Bryan Lowery

Public Present who signed in

ITEM 1 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Rentería called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and welcomed visitors. The Commission, staff and public made introductions.

ITEM 2 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED

Commissioner Rentería asked for public comment on non-agendized topics. None received.

ITEM 3 CONSENT CALENDAR (ACTION)

- A. Meeting Agenda
- B. Draft Minutes from January 25, 2016 Commission Meeting
- C. Memorandum of Agreement between FIRST 5 Mendocino and Raise & Shine

Correction to draft minutes from January 26, 2016 meeting: Commissioner Anderson clarified page two that clinic in Laytonville was struggling to HIRE health care providers.

Motion made to approve the Consent Calendar, including the minutes as edited.
Motion/Anderson, Second/Lowery, (all ayes, no nays). Motion Passed.

REDUCED SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND IMPROVED PARENTING

ITEM 4: THE RAISING OF AMERICA

Executive Director Molgaard introduced the trailer for the five part documentary series The Raising of America.

Executive Director Molgaard asked the Commissioners how we want to use this documentary because it is powerful to the business community that we have not reached out to very well. Staff does not see The Raising of America as an independent project, but rather within the context of all the other ACEs education and early childhood development outreach, we are doing. Commissioner Lowery added that once someone watches the episode and then talks about ACES, it makes more sense whereas if they watch the episode alone, they walk away not fully understanding the context of how that really affects the way we are living right now.

Menaka Olson, Communications Manager, announced that we will sponsor an event with Jane Stevens from the ACES Connection in San Diego in Ukiah on April 12 and in Fort Bragg on April 13. We will show "Paper Tigers" the night before in each location. "Paper Tigers" is about teenagers in a school that resembles South Valley, but takes place in Walla Walla, Washington, and how the teachers, principal and the school counselors are trauma-informed; they are able to better assist the teenagers get through their high school years.

Commissioner Anderson asked if there was a certain goal, we are hoping to get out of this other than just informing people. Menaka Olson stated that many of the people we come across do not know about ACES. We have one of the top counties in the state for adults who have experienced ACES so there is a possible connection that we can build upon. Townley Saye (staff) commented that there are resources/services in our community that the public and agencies are unaware of. Townley then added that Jane Stevens is going to discuss what other communities are doing and how other agencies are making changes within their agencies to affect the community. Executive Director Molgaard suggested getting locals registered in order to share the information widely. Commissioner Lowery added that exposing HHSA clients to the information would be effective.

Commissioner Rentería commented that the Mendocino Coast Clinic staff does not completely know and/or fully understand what Triple P is. She believes that if we can give time to someone to do a presentation about it, it would be more effective in getting the information to those who will be doing the referrals, not just the representatives. She would like to see us work at the agency level and provider level, anyone who would have influence on parents to refer to them to Triple P or anyone that is working in the family category, as well as medical providers. Commissioner Passalacqua asked why ACES is so high in this county. Executive Director Molgaard said the number one reason is poverty and the second is drug abuse, which leads to neglect, not abuse. Many people like to do their own thing and live on their own causing them to pull their kids away from the norm such as communities, church, preschool and other things that normally provide a rounded individual. Commissioner Hamburg stated that it is the whole state, not just the county. We as a state have dropped dramatically in academic status over the years. He also added that work causes so much stress in parents now because they do not have stability or help as we once did. Commissioner Lowery stated that we have many people who want to live and work here but are struggling to get affordable housing and jobs that provide security.

Commissioner Lowery wants to make sure that the Board of Supervisors understands that ACEs is part of a strategic training plan and it is very important to have those federal training dollars to support it. Commissioner Passalacqua said if we are educating people about ACES and they become more aware, ideally, there would be enough social workers to address the issues. Commissioner Anderson said voluntary services could help and MCHC has the staffing and funding to help parents. Commissioner Lowery gave an ideal example about having 30 workers that are doing ER, adoptions, etc. and 2-3 volunteers. However, in reality there should be 25 volunteers working with families and less of the continuing services. Executive Director Molgaard said that nationally we know there is a policy gap and if we want to have a local impact, do we (as FIRST 5 Mendocino) want to start education so that over the next couple of years, we start having an effect on the economy, affordable housing, and adequate Child Welfare staffing and services. Commissioner Lowery said that from his perspective he would need at least 26 social workers to make it happen, even though they are at full capacity, they are struggling and would probably need another 16.

Menaka Olson went over the outcomes from the inputs from the Commissioners: all agencies and schools become trauma informed with either quarterly/bi-annually meetings. Commissioner Anderson suggested to possibly doing a dinner for all those who cannot get out of their regular work schedule so they can actually attend, such as teachers, social workers, etc. Executive Director Molgaard summarized that number one is increase the cycle of information and learning about ACES and trauma informed strategies then map and increase the resiliencies strategies and then increase referrals to them.

MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS AND EVALUATION

ITEM 5: ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PUBLIC

First 5 California's State Report became available right before the meeting. Postponed until the next meeting so that Commissioners and the public have adequate time to review.

ITEM 6: INTRODUCTION OF NEW VISTA MEMBER

Cheryl DeFriez introduced herself as the newest VISTA member who will be located at The Sandbox childcare center. She explained that she was an engineer by training and then become a teacher. She is passionate about children and looks forward to serving children and families in a new way.

ITEM 7: STRATEGIC PLAN AFTER JULY 2016 (ACTION)

The Executive Committee recommended to the full Commission that it continue with the current Strategic Plan 2013-16 because we have not yet solved improved parenting and decreasing substance abuse. Rather than switching it up and coming up with a new plan, we would continue with this plan and look carefully at the end of the year meeting that we have in May at our desired outcomes and metrics and see if we need to narrow those any further. If the full commission does not want to revise, we will do a new plan. Commissioner Anderson suggested changing the current Strategic Plan to “To continue to improve parenting and decrease substance abuse”.

Motion made to approve the change and extend the current Strategic Plan to “To continue to improve parenting and decrease substance abuse among parents of young children.”

Motion/Anderson, Second/Passalacqua. (all ayes, no nays). Motion passed.

ITEM 8: FISCAL REPORT

Executive Director Molgaard let the Commission know that we are right on target with the budget.

Commissioner Anderson asked if we are off on some areas, do we know why. Executive Director Molgaard responded that yes we do know (less fundraising for Imagination Library and the ARC FRC than budgeted).

Motion made to approve the fiscal report.

Motion/Lowery, Second/Hamburg. (all ayes, no nays). Motion passed.

ITEM 9: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Molgaard brought up the safety issue with the Supervised Visitation contract that F5 runs out of the ARC FRC located at the Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center on the Grace Hudson Elementary School campus. Staff met with the family law judge and the family court facilitator but no alternative location is available. There is no room in the courthouse even though that would be a safe place because of having the bailiffs and metal detectors. The ARRC board informed us that due to a second incident, they will no longer permit us to perform Supervised Visitation at the site. March 31st is the last day of the contract. The difficulty is that we need to have two people there to walk the parents separately and we might need to use two staff members for that so it is not ideal. Until we hear otherwise, we are still doing the PAW workshops both in English and Spanish and in Ukiah and Fort Bragg. Allegedly, every family is to attend those before they get divorced. It does not always happen but many are glad they attended. This helps cut budget at the ARC by \$30,000. Commissioner Passalacqua asked if our target is to be done by March 31, the last day of the contract. Executive Director Molgaard clarified that there is no termination clause in the contract but she will provide written notice to the court the following day.

Executive Director Molgaard gave an update on the Home Visiting (HV) program. We already did the introductory meeting with Public Health, FIRST 5 and many other partners. Commissioner Lowery has organized a meeting with HV and Child Welfare; they are trying to tie it all together so it is all done at one time without duplication.

FIRST 5 Mendocino is extending our current Triple P into the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) CW by incorporating Triple P into CW's family empowerment series which is when a family gets involved with CW, they are placed with a Family Resource Center (FRC) either public or private. There they do a series of parenting, anger management, etc. So what we want to do is weave Triple P through these services, primarily because Triple P is an evidence based practice, we know if we do it right, we will have good results and better community saturation. Townley Saye has been working with CW staff so Townley will speak on it in next month's meeting.

Executive Director Molgaard gave an update on Pediatric Dental Initiative (PDI). They have served a total 14,487 children. They have served 2,769 children in Mendocino. Most referrals come from the FQHC clinics. PDI now has a new reimbursement agreement with the Partnership Health Plan. Executive Director is in the process of looking for a Dentist to take her position on the board because she feels it would be better and more effective. SAVE THE DATE: Make Kids Smile Event is on Thursday, October 6 at the John Ash center in Sonoma.

Executive Director Molgaard confirmed that the California Health Care Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax 2016 are on the ballot. It is a \$2 tobacco tax. We finessed a back fill for Prop 10 and it includes e-cigarettes.

Oral Health always shows up and we are lucky to have strong dental programs in our county. Commissioner Rentería commented that they have a fair amount of no shows for children at their dental clinic, especially for their prevention services and they are trying to figure out a way in the community to do some parental education on why baby teeth are so important. Discussion ensued.

Executive Director Molgaard explained that our primary partner on the quality childcare program is Mendocino County Office of Education (MCOE) and the person who was running the Child Care Planning Council resigned.

A couple days ago, we received the new contract for 2-1-1. The difference in the contract is rather than San Bernardino hiring an individual in the county to do the database and the quarterly meetings, they are hiring FIRST 5 to do that. We hired Maritza Villa-Castillo from the FIRST 5 Mendocino office to do that. We are adding this to her job because as FIRST 5 shrinks, we want to shrink our admin as well.

Reminders for the Commissioners: renew and turn in Form 700.

Next Commission meetings are on March 28 at MCOE and April 25 in Anderson Valley.

ITEM 9: COMMISSIONER REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Commissioner Rentería asked for any announcements or Commissioner Reports.

Commissioner Lowery stated that Stacey Cryer, Director of HHSA, is retiring. The position is open for two weeks. Interviews will be in March, and official hire in April. He has met with CEO Carmel Angelo and he is there to make the transition easier.

Commissioner Rentería stated that the Executive Committee did deliver the evaluation to Executive Director Molgaard but still needs to provide it in print for her.

Commissioner Rentería closed the meeting at 3:30 p.m.