



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, January 24, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

*First 5 Monterey County* ♦ 1125 Baldwin Street ♦ Salinas, CA

**Call to Order:** Chair Elliott Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chair Robinson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call:** A legal quorum was present. **Commissioners in attendance:** Elliott Robinson (Chair), Simón Salinas (Vice-chair), Jeanne Hori-Garcia (Secretary), Ray Bullick, Esther Rubio and Josefina Silva (arrived at 9:06 a.m.) Commissioner Robert Black was excused as absent.

**Staff in attendance:** Francine Rodd, Executive Director; Beth Reeves-Fortney, Sr. Program Officer; Kim Stemler, Policy, Advocacy & Communications Manager; David Dobrowski, Evaluation Officer; Ana González-Romo, Program Officer and Joanna Jensen, Administrative Manager (recorder).

**Addition and Corrections to Agenda:** None.

**Consent Agenda Items:** *Consent agenda items are considered to be routine and non-controversial by Commission Staff. Consent items will be considered first and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Commission or audience wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Commission concerning the item before action is taken. Staff recommendations are shown in capital letters.*

1. **December 6, 2010 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes – APPROVAL**
2. **Approve addition of new position classification of Administrative Support III at a range from \$48,947 - \$62,470.15 – APPROVAL**
3. **Finance Statement for July through September 2010 – APPROVAL**
4. **Authorize Executive Director to renew the current office lease with Magna Plantare, Inc in an amount not to exceed \$4,800 per month for the period September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012. - AUTHORIZE**

**ACTION:** The action was unanimously approved as stated. Commissioner Bullick made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Salinas.

**Public Comment Period:** *Members of the audience desiring to address the Commission may do so during this time. Public comments on items not already on the agenda will be accepted.*  
None.

**Action/Information Items:**

5. **First 5 Monterey County 2009/10 Annual Report to the Community – Kim Stemler, Policy, Advocacy & Communications Manager**  
K. Stemler presented.

ACTION: The action was unanimously approved as stated below. Commissioner Salinas made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Rubio.

- a. APPROVED the text of the FY 2009/10 Annual Report to the Community, with minor changes (change “chairman” to “chairperson” and correcting the spelling of Commissioner Josefina Silva’s name, as well as any other non-substantive changes as deemed necessary by staff);
- b. AUTHORIZED Executive Director and staff to proceed to final production after incorporating recommended changes; and
- c. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to provide the Annual Report to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors as is required by County Ordinance.

- 6. Contract Authorization: Persimmony as vendor for an Independent Database System for First 5 Monterey County evaluation and reporting systems for Funded Partners - David Dobrowski, Evaluation Officer**  
D. Dobrowski presented.

Public Comment: Noemy Burnside-Loveless, Director of Student & Family Services for North Monterey County Unified School District Castro Plaza Family Resource Center commented that her agency’s experience with Persimmony has been favorable and that she supported continuation of the contract.

ACTION: The action was unanimously approved as stated below. Commissioner Salinas made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Bullick.

AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute an agreement with Persimmony International, Inc. as vendor for an Independent Database System for a term of March 15, 2011 through March 14, 2014 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$190,000.00.

- 7. “The Wonder of Learning – The Hundred Languages of Children” Update –Beth Reeves-Fortney, Sr. Program Officer**  
The Commission, in collaboration with the North American Reggio Emilia Alliance and Reggio Children, will host *The Wonder of Learning –The Hundred Languages of Children* exhibition from June through December 2011 at the National Steinbeck Center. The hosting of the exhibition also requires participation in the multi-year national professional development series – “Dialogues for Quality in Education”.

B. Reeves-Fortney provided an update, which included the following areas: Contract Negotiations, Fundraising/support, Promotion, Spanish Interpretation, Coordination/Support with North American Reggio Emilia Alliance, Professional Development, Local Organization, and Evaluation.

Commissioners commended and offered ideas for local connections including:

- Consider Partnering with Migrant Education, Hartnell Community College and other local agencies.
- Coordinating with one of the major TV stations, Univision, and MCOE TV station, Radio Bilingue.

- 8. Update on the State Budget – Elliott Robinson, Chair; Ray Bullick, Commissioner; and Francine Rodd, Executive Director**

Chair Robinson offered highlights of the Governor’s proposed budget.

- The overall deficit is approximately \$26 billion. The proposed budget includes \$12 billion in cuts and \$12 billion in revenues.
- On the positive side, K-12 was spared from major cuts.
- Includes taking a billion dollars from First 5 to pay for MediCal for 0-5 and 50% of future allocations.
- Other issues that will cause challenges to social services. The changes to CalWorks are a substantial cut that would affect children 0-5.

Commissioner Bullick offered the following highlights:

- The proposed budget includes an attempt to realign EPSDT from being State funded to being local responsibility.
- Realignment of other State programs to local responsibility.
- Includes a 10% payment reductions for Medi-Cal. Many specialists will drop out of the network due to this reduction, which would make access more of a challenge. The change also requires limits on service use for Medi-Cal beneficiaries

F. Rodd – the proposal to take \$1 billion from First 5 would need to be approved by the voters.

**9. Early Learning Opportunities (ELO) Cycle II (FY2011/12-2014/2015):**

F. Rodd presented an overview of Cycle II to date.

The Commission originally planned to allocate \$4.3M per year, but increased the allocation to \$5.3 million in response to the potential effect of the economy on local needs.

Upon Commission approval a collaborative funding process was conducted for two of the funding areas; Vision 1 – Parenting Development Initiative and Vision 3b - Children Exposed to Trauma, Alcohol and Drugs.

**POSSIBLE ACTION:**

a. Vision 1: Parenting Development Initiative - Provide direction to staff and review committee

F. Rodd provided an update and shared specific challenges that have emerged from the regional group's recommendations for funding.

- North County and the Peninsula: Both Regional Workgroups reached consensus within the amount allocated for their regions.
- Salinas: The recommendation is approximately 2.8% over the regional allocation and the whole group has agreed to allow the Review Panel to make the final funding recommendation.
- South County: The recommendation is approximately 22% over the regional allocation and the whole group has agreed to allow the Review Panel to make the final funding recommendation.

On September 27, 2010 the Commission approved a model to allocate funds across regions. The South County Workgroup felt the methodology used to determine the regional allocations did not take into account the geographical area of South County.

Direction to the Review Panel was tabled until after the Study Session.

b. Vision 2: Workforce Development Initiative - APPROVE overall program approach and funding process

It is the policy of **F5MC** to avoid even the appearance of impropriety where conflict of interest issues are concerned.

Commissioner Robinson stated, "I am the Director of the Department of Social and Employment Services. Although, I would not personally gain from this contract, to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest, I am going to recuse myself from this matter. I have not participated in any discussions relating to this matter and will now leave the room while it is being considered."

Commissioner Hori-Garcia stated, "I am an Early Childhood Education Instructor with Hartnell Community College. Although, I would not personally gain from this contract, to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest, I am going to recuse myself from this matter. I have not

participated in any discussions relating to this matter and will now leave the room while it is being considered.”

Vice-Chair Salinas took over chairing the meeting.

B. Reeves-Fortney reviewed the briefer and provided an update.

- The proposed Workforce Development Incentive Program (WDIP) will support a variety of early care and education students to move up the Permit Matrix and/or achieve an Early Childhood Education degree through the provision of specialized counseling and access to resources.
- The WDIP Workgroup recommendations are: aligned with the needs of the early care and education workforce in Monterey County; the community identified desired outcome for Vision 2; best practice research; and the reality of new degree requirements for early education teachers.
- If approved, a Request for Application for an Outreach Agency will be released and F5MC hold four sole-source contracts to achieve the goals of the program.
- Sole-source contracts with the county’s two community colleges will allow for the provision of specialized Early Education (ECE)/Child Development Counselors.

Discussion points included:

Ensuring incentives are linked to movement up the permit matrix and includes bonuses for milestones.

Public Comment:

Noemy Burnside-Loveless, Director of Student & Family Services for North Monterey County Unified School District Castro Plaza expressed concerns about student eligibility, outreach amounts, and lack of incentives for milestones.

Reyna Navarrete, CARES Coordinator with the Department of Social and Employment Services, stressed the importance of students attending other schools also being able to access incentives.

Staff will follow-up will Commissioners Bullick and Rubio before issuing the Request for Applications to address the discussion points.

**ACTION:** The action was unanimously approved as stated below. Commissioner Bullick made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Rubio.

- a. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Hartnell Community College for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$320,000.
- b. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Monterey Peninsula College for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$404,000.
- c. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Hartnell Community College Foundation for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$667,000.
- d. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Monterey Peninsula College Foundation for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$391,000.

Commissioner Hori-Garcia returned to the dais.

- c. Vision 3b: Children Exposed to Trauma, Alcohol and Drugs - Provide direction to staff and review committee

It is the policy of *F5MC* to avoid even the appearance of impropriety where conflict of interest issues are concerned.

Commissioner Bullick stated, "I am the Director of the Department of Health. Although, I would not personally gain from this contract, to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest, I am going to recuse myself from this matter. I have not participated in any discussions relating to this matter and will now leave the room while it is being considered."

Commissioner Robinson stated, "I am the Director of the Department of Social and Employment Services. Although, I would not personally gain from this contract, to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest, I am going to recuse myself from this matter. I have not participated in any discussions relating to this matter and will now leave the room while it is being considered."

B. Reeves-Fortney proved an update. The final Workgroup recommendation is approximately 6.9% over the allocated amount for this Vision. Direction will need to be provided for the Review Panel to know whether or not their recommendation should stay within the allocation or may exceed the allocation and if so, by how much.

Direction to the Review Panel was tabled until after the Study Session.

Commissioners Robinson and Bullick returned to the dais.

- d. Vision 3c: Oral Health - Discuss possible next steps for Vision 3c: Oral Health Education and Mobile Dental Services  
Discussion and action on this item will take place at a future meeting.

**10. Contract Authorization: Vision 2, Workforce Development Incentive Project - Beth Reeves-Fortney, Sr. Program Officer**

ACTION: The action was unanimously approved as stated below. Commissioner Bullick made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Rubio.

- e. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Hartnell Community College for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$320,000.
- f. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Monterey Peninsula College for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$404,000.
- g. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Hartnell Community College Foundation for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$667,000.
- h. AUTHORIZED Executive Director to execute a sole source agreement with Monterey Peninsula College Foundation for a term of July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2015 for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$391,000.

**11. Study Session on Compelling Issues that Significantly and Substantially Impact Service Delivery Unique to Each Region – Elliott Robinson, Chair**

It is the policy of *F5MC* to avoid even the appearance of impropriety where conflict of interest issues are concerned.

Commissioner Bullick stated, “I am the Director of the Department of Health. Although, I would not personally gain from this item, to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest, I am going to recuse myself from this matter. I have not participated in any discussions relating to this matter and will now leave the room while it is being considered. ”

Commissioner Rubio stated, “I am the Head Start Director for the Monterey County Office of Education. Although, I would not personally gain from this item, to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest, I am going to recues myself from this matter. I have not participated in any discussions relating to this matter and will now leave the room while it is being considered. ”

Commissioners Bullick and Rubio left the meeting.

F. Rodd introduced the item. The Executive Committee recommended a study session to consider compelling issues that substantially and substantively impact service delivery in all regions as a result of the South County Workgroup’s concern that the methodology used to determine the regional allocations did not take into account the geographical area of South County.

The following people presented for their agency:

- Hector Mandujano and John Ward, King City Family Resource Center
- Cristina Sotelo, Soledad Adult School
- Leoncio Vasquez, Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño, Inc.
- Annabelle Rodriguez, Alisal Family Resource Center
- Noemy Burnside-Loveless and North Monterey County USD Castro Plaza
- Alberto Cornejo, Monterey County Office of Education, Dad’s in Action  
Rosemary Hernandez, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, Healthy Start

## **12. POSSIBLE ACTION Based Upon Study Session for Cycle II and ELO Cycle II Update:**

The Commissioners discussed and considered the issues raised.

**ACTION:** The action was unanimously approved as stated below. Commissioner Salinas made the motion, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Hori-Garcia.

The Commission gave the following direction to the review panel on both Vision 1 and Vision 3b:

- Recommendations for funding may be for up to 10% beyond the allocated amounts
- The intent of increasing the funding amounts is to help maintain program capacity. “Capacity” is defined as service delivery and outcome specific. It does not refer to a specific agency or staffing levels.
- If there are significant unanticipated issues left unaddressed, they may come back to the Commission for further direction.

**Adjournment:** Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting 12:32 p.m.

**Upcoming Commission Meetings:** *Unless otherwise noted, Meetings take place at: First 5 Monterey County; 1125 Baldwin Street; Salinas*

- **Regular Commission Meeting:** Annual Commission Advance - February 28, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- **Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting:** February 4, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.
- **Executive Committee Meeting:** February 9, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.
- **Evaluation Advisory Committee Meeting:** TBD