



MINUTES
February 11, 2016

I. Call to Order

This Regular Meeting of the Imperial County Children and Families First Commission was called to order at 3:45 p.m. by Karla Sigmond, Commission Chair. The meeting was held at the County Administration Center, Conference Room C/D which is located at 940 West Main Street in El Centro, California, whereby a quorum was established.

II. Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Yurii Camacho
Ray Castillo
Barbara Deol
Becky Green
Robin Hodgkin
Joong Kim
Karla Sigmond

Commissioners Absent:

Peggy Price
Miguel Colón

Staff:

Julio C. Rodriguez, Exec. Director
Christian Hernandez
Bea Duran

III. Public Comment

None was noted.

IV. Adoption of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Hodgkin and it was seconded by Commissioner Deol approving the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2015; having noted no further discussion or public comment the motion carried with all in favor.

V. Consent Calendar Items

A motion was made by Commissioner Deol and it was seconded by Commissioner Green approving the Consent Calendar Items as presented; having noted no further discussion or public comment the motion carried with all in favor.

VI. Presentations (2)

Sombra Chaney from the El Centro Regional Medical Center provided a summary of activities that took place during the Imperial Valley Baby Expo held on January 23rd at the Imperial Valley Mall. 39 agencies participated in the event; these agencies provided resources and various materials to

participants. Approximately 400 women and families attended the event. Raffles and prizes were provided during the event. The events held included a baby crawling contest, a baby look-alike contest, a baby dance-off and a puppet presentation. Ms. Chaney wished to thank the Commission for sponsoring the event through funds awarded from the Community Outreach grant.

Aide Fulton, RN, BSN, PHN, Program Director for the El Centro Regional Medical Center's Asthma Program, provided an overview of the Imperial Valley Child Asthma Program. The goal of the program is to improve health outcomes, prevent hospital stays and to reduce emergency room visits through parent asthma awareness. The program incorporates a 4-prong approach in an effort to reach its goals, the program is mostly prevention-based. Asthma program staff work with the two local hospitals, and they work closely with the healthcare professionals. Ms. Fulton stated that they are partnering with preschool centers within the county but wish they could work closer with schools. She noted that lack of funds for staffing was the issue. Annual events which are coordinated by the program include the Asthma Awareness Walk and Go for the Goal Games, the Wheezy Coloring Contest, and the Stop and Listen Asthma forum. Program staff which consists of two Community Health Workers and herself (RN) also participate at community health fairs and community education panels. Ms. Fulton discussed hospitalization rates and ER visits as well as asthma care costs. Possible factors that contribute to the high asthma rates are bad air quality and environmental factors, hereditary factors, not enough public awareness about asthma and how to treat it, and various other challenges. She thanked the Commission for their continuous support of the Imperial Valley Child Asthma Program.

VII. Administrative Report (Julio C. Rodriguez, Executive Director)

1. Request to Approve the Release of the Community Development Mini-Grant Application FY 2016-2017: Commissioners reviewed the proposed guidelines for the Community Development Mini-Grant Application FY 2016-2017, and its proposed timeline. \$100,000 has been set aside for this grant cycle, with a maximum application of \$25,000 per mini-grant which will apply to the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Mr. Rodriguez advised that there are no major changes to the mini-grant application. Based on the timeline, Step 1 of the application is the submittal of the Statement of Interest to Apply which will be due on March 15th. Commissioners will review the Statements and extend an invitation to those projects they wish to invite to submit a mini-grant application. Step 2 is the submittal of the Mini-Grant application which is due on May 11th. Commissioners will make their final decision on June 2nd.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hodgkin and it was seconded by Commissioner Green to release the Community Development Mini-Grant FY 2016-2017; having noted no further discussion or public comment the motion carried with all in favor.

2. First 5 IMPACT RFA: Mr. Rodriguez provided a brief summary of the First 5 IMPACT Program, and he further explained the steps (3) of the program. Funding for this program will be utilized to develop a continuous quality improvement model for a minimum of 68 childcare sites in the County. This process will include professional development and capacity building for childcare providers. Elements from the California Quality Improvement Rating Matrix (CA-QRIS) must be

incorporated, which may include a rating system. He further explained that initially the Commission intended to submit an application for Phase 2 that would address Step 2 funding and services; however, First 5 California asked the Commission to reconsider applying for Step 3. Step 3 of the program incorporates a rating system for childcare providers. For this reason, a revised RFA was proposed, and is needing Commission approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Deol and it was seconded by Commissioner Green to accept and approve the First 5 IMPACT RFA as proposed; having noted no further discussion or public comment the motion carried with all in favor.

3. Request to Transition Commission Brand to First 5 Imperial: Mr. Rodriguez explained that the Commission is known as the Imperial County Children and Families First Commission; however, it is commonly referred to as First 5 Imperial. The majority of the County Commissions are known as "First 5s"; he is suggesting that the Commission consider rebranding its name. Further discussion continued regarding the timing and the request to transition. Commissioners voiced no opposition; however, they would like to do a gradual transition before arriving to a final decision. Direction was given to staff to include a study with options for a new Logo/rebranding the Commission name.

A motion was made by Commissioner Castillo and it was seconded by Commissioner Deol to start the process aimed toward the rebranding, incorporate options and return to the Commission for final approval; having noted no further discussion or public comment the motion carried with all in favor.

4. Request to Approve Salary Increase for Commission Staff: Mr. Rodriguez is requesting that the Commission consider granting staff a salary adjustment similar to the one approved of by the County Board of Supervisors for County employees which would consist of a one-time bonus effective March 2016 equivalent to 2.5% of one (1) year of the employee's base compensation as well as a 2.5% salary adjustment retroactive to July 1, 2015 and a 2.5% salary wage adjustment effective the last full pay period in June 2016. He further explained that because our financial trend is steady, and based on the fact that Commission employees did not receive a salary adjustment during the previous year, he feels comfortable presenting this request. Commissioner Hodgkin is recommending that salary adjustments should be based on performance of employees versus an automatic process; she feels they need to address this procedure and not be locked into cost of living increases. Commissioner Green is recommending that they come back and review the 2.5% salary adjustment for 2016-17 at another time. Brief discussion continued regarding comparison of positions consistent with those of the County, and cost of living adjustments versus work performance adjustments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Castillo and it was seconded by Commissioner Deol approving the request for a one-time bonus effective March 2016 equivalent to 2.5% of one (1) year of the employee's base compensation as well as a 2.5% salary adjustment retroactive to July 1, 2015; salary adjustments for 2016-17 will be reviewed at another time. Having noted no further discussion or public comment the motion carried with all in favor.

5. Grantee Quarterly Performance Report Update: A brief review of the progress reports for 11 of the 12 grantees was provided. The reports included information provided by major grantees through their submittal of their Performance Evaluation Charts, Activity Summary Sheets, Budget Reporting Forms, and other data collection tools. This report reflects activities by grantees during the First Quarter, July 1, 2015 up through September 30, 2015.
6. Special Program Family Health and Community Resource Fairs: Special Programs staff will be working with local elementary schools as well as community agencies/programs in an effort to offer Family Health and Community Resource Fairs. This year, nine health fairs will be provided. The schools that will participate include: Dool Elementary School from Calexico, Dogwood Elementary School from Heber, Westmorland Elementary School, Jefferson Elementary School from Calexico, Meadows Union School from El Centro, Seeley Elementary School, Finley Elementary School from Holtville, Phil Swing Elementary School from Brawley, and Fremont Elementary School from Calipatria. Commissioners received a schedule and were invited to attend.

VIII. Commissioner Comments

No comments were made at this time.

IX. Adjournment

A motion adjourning the Commission meeting was made by Commissioner Deol and it was seconded by Commissioner Camacho. Having noted no further comments and by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for April 7, 2016.