



February 28, 2022
February Meeting Minutes
Zoom Conference Call

Commissioners Present

Paul Tichinin	Erica Baumker	Sandra Applegate
John Haschak	Jenine Miller	Ben Anderson

Commissioners Absent

Bekkie Emery	Jenine Miller	Lucresha Rentería

Public Present

Julie Fetherston	Bonnie Boek	Alex Rounds	Monica Galliani
Andres Alvarado	Jade Aldrich	Megan Carson	Marissa Daniel

ITEM 1 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Applegate called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and welcomed participants. The Commission and staff made introductions. Commissioner Applegate reminded Commissioners to turn in their Form 700 by April 1, 2022.

ITEM 2 PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

Commissioner Applegate called for public comment on non-agendized items and opened the public hearing. No public comment was received. Commissioner Applegate closed the public hearing.

ITEM 3 CONSENT CALENDAR (ACTION)

- Meeting Agenda
- DRAFT Minutes from January 2022
- Financial Reports for November and December 2021

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar.

Motion: Tichinin, Second: Haschak

Yes: Anderson, Applegate, Baumker, Haschak, Tichinin, Rentería

Abstain: None

Absent: Emery, Miller

Motion Passed

ITEM 4 MEETING LOCATIONS

ED Fetherston explained to the Commission that AB 361 requires a vote to determine whether future meetings will be held in person or virtually. The commission must also vote on the location of future meetings. Commissioner Applegate suggested holding hybrid meetings with both teleconferencing as well as in- person options. Discussion regarding scheduling options ensued.

Motion to continue to hold virtual meetings through March 2022.

Motion: Anderson, Second: Haschak

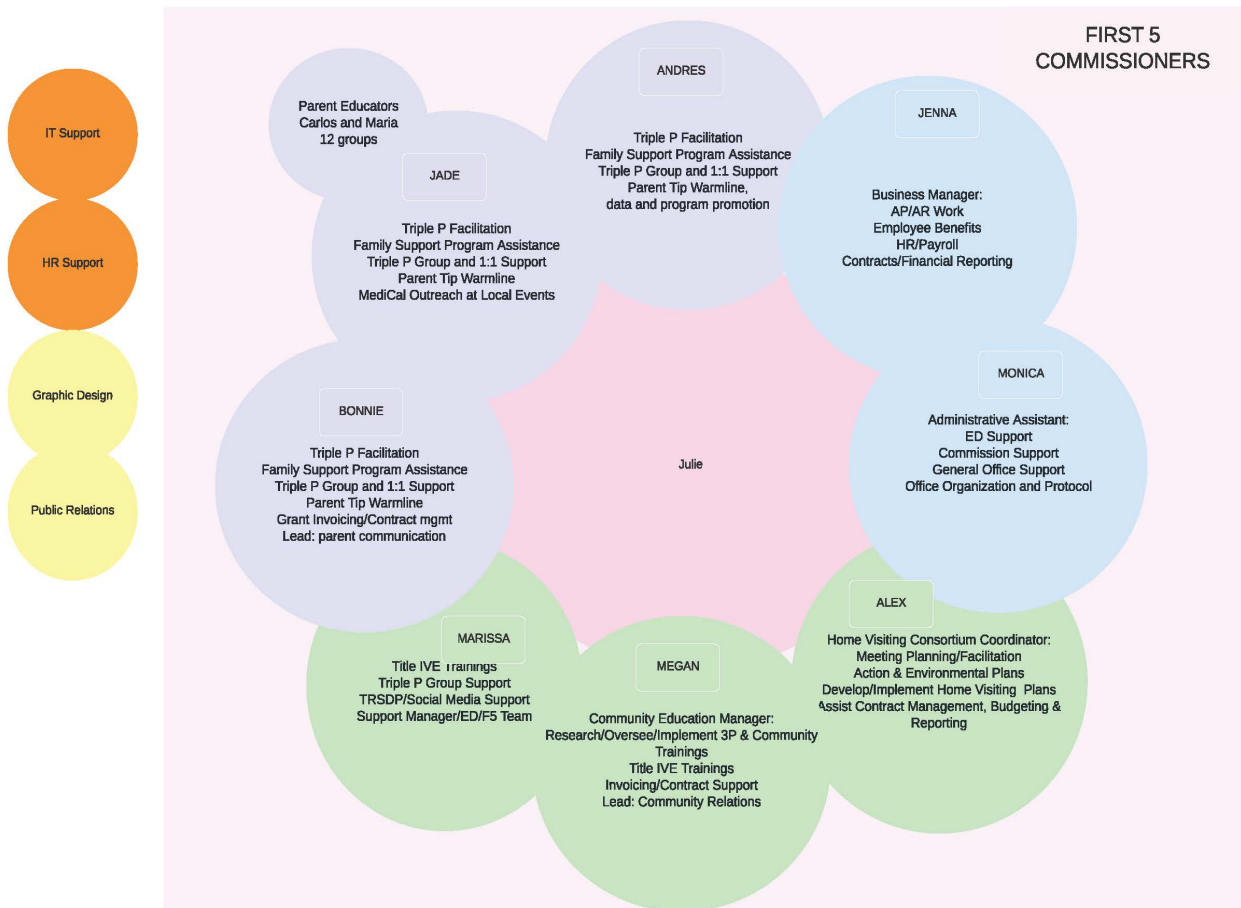
Yes: Applegate, Anderson, Baumker, Haschak, Rentería, Tichinin

No: none

Absent: Emery, Miller

Motion Passed.

ITEM 5 Staff Updates – ED Fetherston introduced Marissa Daniel, F5M’s new program assistant, and presented the employee organization chart. The chart gave an overview of each employee’s duties at F5M. Commissioners thanked staff for their work.



ITEM 6 Early Start Updates

Family Support Manager Boek presented the Early Start Update. She gave a brief overview of the history of the ARC and what is now the Pearl. Historically, Early Start has referred families to ARC FRC groups, signed parents up for Triple P classes, and referred parents to other organizations for specific needs. She described that the Pearl has seen a lot of growth and expansion after moving away from the ARRC and experiencing some staff turnover. She explained that the Family Resource Centers Network of California (FRCNCA) is a

connection to resources and services available at California’s 48 Early Start Family Resource Centers, and that staff attends trainings to learn about more resources for families as well as how to improve our FRC. She then described how the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) funds these services through a contract of \$43,543 over three years.




DDS Staff is currently in phase III of the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) a multi-year plan dedicated to improving the social and economic development of infants and toddlers in the Early Start Program. This is done through parent and provider education, professional development, and interagency collaboration.

Family Support Advocate Jade Aldrich joined the coastal expansion of the Pearl Team following the closure of the Safe Passage Family Resource Center. Family Support Advocate Aldrich described her recent work on the coast and gave examples of families and mothers who have sought help through the program.

COASTAL EXPANSION

- Jade Aldrich joined The Pearl Team.
- Due to safe passage closing RCRC asked if they could send coastal referrals to The Pearl.
- DDS asked FIRST 5/The Pearl to take over the contract from Safe Passage to serve coast.



Boek then highlighted goals for the upcoming years, which included parent to parent support, information dissemination, public awareness, transition assistance for families, and staff development. Commissioner Tichinin commented on the importance of following up with unresponsive parents. Commissioner Baumker commented that the CDC has a new goal of increasing early referrals for primary care. Commissioner Haschak asked if there is any funding for FEC's, to which Boek said the best use of available funds would be to hire on 1 to 2 knowledgeable people for assistance.



MOVING FORWARD (2022-24)

- Parent to Parent Support- Parent Mentor Programs, Playgroups, Library Reading Time, Wellness check ins
- Information dissemination – Information to caregivers regarding children's diagnosis, system navigation, referrals to other agencies
- Public Awareness – social media, health fairs, drive thru events, presentations to other agencies about Early Start services (RC, LEA or SELPA, FRCN, Behavioral/Mental Health, Public Health, **Pediatrics**, Child Find activities,
- Transition assistance for families- Part C to Part B/Lanterman (Lanterman Act- CA law passed to give people services they need to live a more independent life) 3-5yrs and up.
- Staff Development- Trainings

ITEM 7 First 5 Brand Refresh *(ACTION)*

ED Fetherston presented the most recent branding options by DG Creative and shared staff and public preferences. Options were presented to staff and posted on social media. Commissioners took turns voting for their top choices:



FIRST 5 MENDOCINO REBRAND - V1



FIRST 5 MENDOCINO REBRAND - V2



FIRST 5 MENDOCINO REBRAND - V3



FIRST 5 MENDOCINO REBRAND - V4



FIRST 5 MENDOCINO REBRAND - V5



FIRST 5 MENDOCINO REBRAND - V6

DG CREATIVE BRANDING • FIRST 5 MENDOCINO REBRAND • V1-6

Applegate: 1 and 3

Anderson: 1 and 3

Baumker: 3 and 6

Haschak: 1 and 2

Tichinin: 1 and 6, but with preference for a bigger heart shape.

ED Fetherston and the Commission decided to take the votes back to DG Creative to work with more options. Commissioners deferred to staff to seek further information and make the final decision.

ITEM 8 First 5 Car (ACTION)

ED Fetherston explained to the Commission that the Mendocino Coast Children’s Fund would like to obtain the title to the First 5 car and presented their Request for Assistance letter. The car was purchased using money from the county and was used for the Differential Response (DR) program. The car is no longer in use now that DR is no longer running. Commissioners Anderson and Tichinin advised staff to check for any legal obligations and/or liabilities before releasing the title to another party. Commissioners deferred to staff to seek further information and return to the Commission in April with additional information for the Commission to make a decision.

**ITEM 9 COMMISSIONER REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, QUORUM CHECKAND
ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

- *Commissioner Baumker* – Announced that she is on the Board of Directors for the Alex

Rorabaugh Center. The pediatrics center is now signed up for the program “Prescription for Play,” through Lego. The program supplies building blocks to pediatric centers for children 18 months old to 36 months old.

- *Commissioner Tichinin* – Thanked staff for all their great work.

Quorum Check for Next Meeting:

Executive Committee Meeting: March 7, 2022 from 3:00-4:00 pm via Zoom.

Commission Meeting: March 21, 2022 at 1:00-4:00 pm. Quorum will be checked and reported via email. Commissioners Applegate, Anderson, Tichinin, and Haschak are available. Those absent will be polled and reported via email.

COMMISSIONER APPLGATE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 2:13 P.M.