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## Minutes: Children and Families Commission Meeting

735 East Carnegie Drive, Suite 150, San Bernardino, California 92408

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**Meeting Date, Time and Location**     April 1, 2015  
2:00 p.m.  
Chair Haugan called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

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**Pledge of Allegiance**                     The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Haugan

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**Special Presentation**                     Farewell to Regina Coleman, Commission Counsel

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**Conflict of Interest Disclosure**                     Commission members shall review agenda item contractors, subcontractors, and agents, which may require member abstentions due to conflict of interest and financial interests.

A Commission member with conflicts of interests shall state their conflict under the appropriate item. A Commission member may not participate in or influence the decision on a contract for which their abstention has been recorded.

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### Attendees

#### Commissioners Present

- Josie Gonzales
- Linda Haugan
- Margaret Hill
- Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D.
- Ron Powell
- Paul Vargas
- Elliot Weinstein, M.D.

#### Staff Present

- Karen E. Scott, Executive Director
- Cindy Faulkner, Operations Manager
- Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant
- Debora Dickerson-Sims, Administrative Supervisor II
- Staci Scranton, Supervising Office Assistant
- Mary Jaquish, Supervisor
- Scott McGrath, Supervisor
- Regina Coleman, Commission Counsel

- Bobbi Albano, Staff Analyst II
- Amanda Ferguson, Staff Analyst II
- Ruth Ann Martinez, Staff Analyst II
- Chrystina Smith-Rasshan, Staff Analyst II
- Ronnie Thomas, Staff Analyst II
- LuCretia Dowdy, Office Assistant-Public Relations
- Leslie Fountain, Media Specialist II
- William Kariuki, Staff Analyst II
- Ronnie Thomas, Staff Analyst II

**Report –  
Karen E. Scott  
Executive  
Director**

April is a big month for bringing awareness to issues that affect children.

April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Autism Awareness and includes the week of April 12-18 as Week of the Young Child.

There are many activities supporting these causes and you will find some of them in this month’s report.

Please “Save The Date” of Monday, May 11th at 10:00 a.m. here at First 5 for the annual Commissioners Program and Budget Workshop

Also, April 2nd is the date for the Children’s Network Breakfast at the National Orange Show. Ann has tickets for Commissioners interested in attending.

First 5 State and Association meetings will be held in Sacramento on April 22-23.

**Changes to  
the Agenda**

Ann Calkins, Commission Secretary, announced the following changes:

Agenda Item 13 I San Bernardino City Unified Contract EC010, Amendment A2 will be continued to the May 6<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting.

Due to this continuation, Agenda Item 13 will read as follows:

*Approved Early Care and Education (RFP 11-03) Contract Amendments for Fiscal Year 2015-16 in the amount of \$4,466,010 for a cumulative total amount from Fiscal Years 2012 through 2016 of \$22,437,896. The Fiscal Impact for this Agenda Item is \$4,466,010.*

**Consent**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve the Consent Items. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item No.	CONSENT
1	Approve minutes of March 4, 2015 Commission Meeting (Presenter: Ann M. Calkins, Executive Assistant, 252-4252)
2	Approve Employment Contracts, effective May 2, 2015, between the County of San Bernardino, Children and Families Commission, and: A. Deborah Forthun-Kitchen, Office Assistant II, for an annual cost of \$40,562 (\$26,749 Salary, \$13,813 Benefits); and B. Elizabeth Martinez, Office Assistant II, for an annual cost of \$40,562 (\$26,749 Salary, \$13,813 Benefits) (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 252-4252)

Item No.	DISCUSSION
3	<p>Conduct Public Hearing on California Children and Families Commission Annual Report Fiscal Year 2013-14. (Presenter: Cindy Faulkner, Operations Manager, 909 252-4253)</p> <p>The Public Hearing was conducted highlighting the support and work of the State First 5 Commission related to Developmental Screenings and Services, Race To The Top Early Learning Challenge, CARES Plus, and Tobacco Cessation. Commissioners were directed to Appendix A of the report to find a complete description of the services of First 5 California by result areas (child development child health, family functioning, and systems of care). Commission was also informed evaluation results show that First 5 California and the county commissions seek to provide families most in need with services that prepare children to enter school ready to learn and thrive.</p> <p>No public comments were presented on this item.</p>
4	<p>Approve Contract IC028 in the amount of \$149,200 with Matrix Outcomes Model LLC for implementation of and access to the Family Development Matrix (FDM), a complementary assessment, case management and evaluation tool to be used by agencies awarded contracts under the Family and Community Support and Partnerships – Family Support Services (FCSP-FSS) Initiative. (Presenter: Scott McGrath, Supervisor, 252-4259)</p> <p><b>Discussion</b> Commissioner Gonzales asked what “on-going training” actually means. Mr. McGrath explained once indicators are developed and in use, the agencies will be convened to collect and review the data and train them on best practices. This is an on-line database. This contract pays for the use of the database, training and technical support.</p> <p><b>Public Comment</b> None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve Agenda Item 3. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
5	<p>Approve Health Services (RFP 11-02) Contract Amendments for Fiscal Year 2015-16 in the amount of \$1,753,659 for a cumulative total amount from Fiscal Years 2012 through 2016 of \$6,940,632 with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. American Lung Association, Contract HW034 A2 in the amount of \$127,393</li> <li>B. County of San Bernardino Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, Contract HW043 A1 in the amount of \$222,038</li> <li>C. County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health, Contract HW032 A2 in the total amount of \$720,102</li> <li>D. Loma Linda University Medical Center, Contract HW036 A1 in the amount of \$204,882</li> <li>E. Social Science Services Inc., Contract HW037 A2 in the amount of \$479,244</li> </ul> <p>(Presenter: Scott McGrath, Supervisor, 252-4259) <b>Continued from March 4, 2015 Commission Meeting</b></p>

	<p><b><u>Discussion</u></b>                  Commissioner Gonzales asked if other agencies, such as South Coast Air Quality Management, have been contacted for opportunities to partnership and to seek matching funds, and is this something we could consider. Karen Scott, Executive Director stated this topic will be discussed at the upcoming Program and Budget Workshop on May 11<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstained from Item 5C due to his position as San Bernardino County Public Health Officer.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b>                  None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve Agenda Item 5. With Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstaining from Item 5C and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Approve Contract HW054 with San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (DPH) in the amount of \$1,490,423 to implement the BONUS (<b>B</b>abies <b>O</b>ptimal <b>N</b>utrition with <b>U</b>ltimate <b>S</b>upport) program to provide lactation support services countywide for Fiscal Years 2015-2018.                  (Presenter: Scott McGrath, Supervisor, 252-4259)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b>                  Commissioner Weinstein asked if this information will be given to all new mothers in the County. Mr. McGrath stated the reach of this program will be determined within the first six months and that the goal is to give this information to as many people as possible. Commissioner Weinstein asked if it's possible to work with the hospitals so that when patients are discharged this information will be included in their discharge packet. Mr. McGrath answered yes, that is the plan, along with giving information to pre-natal providers.</p> <p>Commissioner Hill stated she serves on the board of Community Hospital of San Bernardino and one of the concerns was the limited number of women who were breastfeeding. Commissioner Hill commented she is glad this issue is being addressed and that staff will be working with local hospitals in the area.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales asked that the 24-hr hotline be connected to 2-1-1 in some way. Commissioner Gonzales asked what the following statement means: "Program can provide lactation support services." Mr. McGrath explained the program is to educate and get people to support women in continuing lactation upon their release from the hospital. Commissioner Gonzales asked if these programs are not already in place at the hospitals. Mr. McGrath stated that a service gap has been identified that needs to be addressed. Commissioner Gonzales stated she recommends finding existing resources or programs that are already being funded by someone other than First 5. Ideally, a collection of all the different program information that's already in place and then coordinate a "directory" which could be given to any mom. Staff should reach out to Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and La Leche League. Commissioner Gonzales asked for more information on what this item is going to do that's different than what's already being done.</p> <p>Karen Scott stated staff has spent the last three years researching and identifying the gaps and have worked very closely with entities who might receive funding and are responsible for what happens to those babies upon discharge from the hospital. Ms. Scott stated that in a report published two years ago by the State and Hospital Association, San Bernardino County ranked 51<sup>st</sup> out of 58 counties in exclusive</p>

breastfeeding. The Department of Public Health will continue to identify resources and develop partnerships with the hospitals. Everything currently being done in the County is not enough to bring the County up to an acceptable level of support for mothers to continue breastfeeding.

Commissioner Gonzales asked why not support those systems already in place since they are using their staff and their resources. Especially in light of the fact that First 5 has dwindling resources. If we want to promote this, why not enable those existing agencies (hospitals, clinics, etc.) to expand their services. Our role could be to bring existing agencies together and encourage and fund them versus First 5 funding the County Public Health Department.

Commissioner Weinstein commented that one of the problems facing hospitals is that some have very good programs while others do not. Often times, mothers give birth in one county and live in another and do not know where to go or have not heard about these resources. Having this kind of program will be a great resource. Instead of hearing that mothers have to quit breastfeeding because they don't know what to do, Commissioner Weinstein stated that he would now be able to give them information on who to contact. Commissioner Weinstein stated this is something that is definitely missing and in his experience he sees this as a great opportunity to reach out to many new mothers.

**Public Comment**

Daniel Perez, Division Chief, Department of Public Health stated his office spent the last year visiting clinics and hospitals to assess where gaps existed. The gaps were systemic with various disparity throughout the County. This project would enable a Community Liaison to gather a collection of services available and resources into the 2-1-1 system. A lactation consultant would also serve as a conduit for resources and services. With this program, there would be access to licensed consultants at all hours of the night when crises may occur. New mothers would receive help and also obtain referrals for other services. Also included in this program's budget, are Health Education Service Specialists who will help support success by enabling new mothers to continue breastfeeding for three, six, and nine months, or more.

Mr. Perez explained there is on-going collaboration with various coalitions throughout the County (Inland Empire Breastfeeding Coalition, St. Mary's Medical Center, Inland Empire's Baby Friendly hospital network, and San Bernardino County Breastfeeding Collaborative). His department is also working with the San Bernardino County Maternal Health Task Force which is addressing the issue of post-partum depression. A lactation consultant will also conduct a maternal health screening for post-partum depression. Mr. Perez stated his office is also working with the Inland Empire Perinatal Maternal Health Collaborative. This is a systems approach in terms of coordinating and allocating resources for new mothers.

Commissioner Gonzales asked what the \$1,490,423 pays for. Mr. Perez answered it pays for the coordinating of services and lactation support. Mr. Perez stated his department will sub-contract with 2-1-1 who will hire the consultants with guidance from Public Health to ensure quality of service.

Karen Scott commented that new mothers will also have the chance to use Skype in this program. Such resources as breast pumps and breast feeding bras will also be included in this budget.

Commissioner Powell asked for clarification regarding what area this program covers; is it Regional or County-wide? Mr. Perez answered it covers the whole

	<p>County. The term “Regional Breastfeeding Liaison” is a title the State WIC Department uses and Public Health is modeling this program after the State’s. Chair Haugan abstained due to her position as Appointing Authority over the Department of Public Health. Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstained due to his position as San Bernardino County Public Health Officer.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve Agenda Item 6. With Chair Haugan and Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstaining and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
7	<p>Approve Amendment A2 to Contract SI016 with Children’s Network in the amount of \$185,474 for a cumulative total amount of \$541,087 for the coordination of the services provided by the <u>S</u>creening, <u>A</u>ssessment, <u>R</u>eferral and <u>T</u>reatment (SART) Coordinator for Fiscal Year 2015-16. (Presenter: Amanda Ferguson, Staff Analyst II, 252-4256) <b><i>Continued from March 4, 2015 Commission Meeting</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b> Commissioner Gonzales stated she thought this item was for a one-year alignment so they would end simultaneously. Cindy Faulkner, Operations Manager clarified this is a one-year contract amendment that is in alignment with the Department of Behavioral Health for SART services.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> None</p> <p>Chair Haugan abstained due to her position as Appointing Authority over Children’s Network.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve Agenda Item 7. With Chair Haugan abstaining and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
8	<p>Approve Amendment A5 to Contract CE009 with the County of San Bernardino on behalf of Children’s Network extending and increasing the contract for one year for \$390,165 for FY 2015-16 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,070,503 to continue implementation of countywide educational campaigns and community events addressing child abuse prevention. (Presenter: Bobbi Albano, Staff Analyst II, 252-4266) <b><i>Continued from March 4, 2015 Commission Meeting</i></b></p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b> None</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> None</p> <p>Chair Haugan abstained due to her position as Appointing Authority over Children’s Network.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Weinstein and seconded by Commissioner Gonzales to approve Agenda Item 8. With Chair Haugan’s abstention and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
9	<p>Approve Contract SI020 with Children’s Fund for the Emergency Needs Program for Fiscal Years 2015-18 in an amount not to exceed \$552,990 per year for a total amount of \$1,658,970. (Presenter: Bobbi Albano, Staff Analyst II, 252-4266)</p>

	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Karen Scott mentioned that further information about this item will be shared at the upcoming Program and Budget Workshop in May.</p> <p>Commissioner Weinstein suggested contacting the “Medical Reserve Corps” of the San Bernardino Medical Society. The Corps addresses medical emergencies, such as in a disaster, earthquake, etc., and they may be a good resource to add into this program since they also deal with children’s needs.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales asked for the definition of hard goods. Ms. Albano explained, for example, if a child needs a bed then Children’s Fund would be able to provide one. Other assistance may come in the form of paying utility bills or rent.</p> <p>Karen Scott offered that Children’s Fund may be able to share in their report at the upcoming Program and Budget Workshop what types of hard goods First 5 has supported in the past.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales would like to know next steps for this program. Are there other County programs or agencies doing this same thing?</p> <p>Commissioner Hill commented that when she saw these families in need while working for the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, the first resource called was Community Action Partnership and Children’s Fund was the last resort.</p> <p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <p>Stacy Iverson, Chief Operating Officer for Children’s Fund stated Children’s Fund is the last resort for some families, however, Children’s Fund works with various other agencies and has provided service (beds, clothing, hygiene items, etc.) for children in the County for nearly 29 years. Families are also asked “who else have you checked with”, for example, Community Action Partnership, Catholic Charities, etc. Children’s Fund has partnerships with case managers who help see families through to a place of self-sufficiency. For example, if rental assistance is provided to keep a family from being homeless, the end goal is to help the family become more stabilized and not just offer a “band-aid” solution. Children’s Fund is one intervention in partnership with numerous other organizations to help families become self-sufficient. Children’s Fund has policies and documentation in place to ensure that funds from First 5 are solely used for children up to five years of age.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve Agenda Item 9. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Approve the Healthy Communities Initiative (HCI) Request for Proposals (RFP 15-02) under the Systems and Networks Strategic Priority Area in the amount of \$1 million per year for a total amount of \$3 million for Fiscal Years 2015 through 2018. (Presenter: Bobbi Albano, Staff Analyst II, 252-4266)</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales asked what this item is about and what does it pay for. Commission Counsel Regina Coleman explained that the Healthy Communities Initiative is to change the focus within a community, such as apples in schools, build more playgrounds; to restructure the community so that there’s walking paths, and that citizens begin a lifestyle of healthier living. The RFP is to bring in providers and cities to collaborate and continue to build on that initiative.</p>

	<p>Commissioner Gonzales asked what does three million dollars pay for in that system? Counsel answered we don't know yet as this is an RFP and proposals have yet to be received.</p> <p>Karen Scott stated that this RFP was brought before the Commission last month and the outcomes were listed.</p> <p>Commissioner Powell stated that additional information would be appreciated on this item especially in light of First 5 declining funds and the expectation being that, once this item is approved, that the Commission, in good faith, will be called upon to fund those agencies deemed viable for this project.</p> <p><b>Public Comment</b> Frances Rodriguez, Healthy Big Bear Coalition</p> <p>Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstained since the Department of Public Health is responsible for obtaining Healthy Communities certifications and Dr. Ohikhuare is Public Health Officer for the department.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Weinstein and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve Agenda Item 10. With Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstaining and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Approve Contract SI019 with Loma Linda University Research Affairs for the Autism Assessment Center of Excellence (AACE) in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 per year (for the remainder of FY 2014-15 and FY 2015-16) for a cumulative total of \$300,000. (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 252-4252) <b>Continued from March 4, 2015 Commission Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Discussion</b> Commissioner Powell questioned how a center located in Loma Linda would help anyone in his area.</p> <p><b>Public Comment</b> Roger Uminski, IEHP, stated there are SART centers to help with these assessments and this program is designed to supplement the programs already in place in the community. With the generous support of First 5 San Bernardino, First 5 Riverside and IEHP to provide start-up funding, this center should be self-sustaining in 24 months. The insurance companies involved such as IEHP, Kaiser, Molina Healthcare have the responsibility and obligation to provide autism services for these children. IEHP has committed to pre-pay for these services due to the demand.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales abstained due to her position on the IEHP Board.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Ohikhuare to approve Agenda Item 11. With Commissioner Gonzales's abstention and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Approve Family Literacy Development Services (RFP 13-03) Contract Amendments for Fiscal Year 2015-16 in the amount of \$726,785 for a cumulative total amount of \$2,333,152 for Fiscal Years 2013 through 2016 with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Child Care Resource Center, Contract EC021 A1 in the amount of \$97,433</li> <li>B. Chino Valley Unified School District, Contract EC022 A1 in the amount of \$118,870</li> <li>C. County Service Area 20 Joshua Tree, Special Districts Department, Contract EC024 A1 in the amount of \$20,701</li> </ul>

	<p>D. Rim Family Services Inc., Contract EC025 A1 in the amount of \$211,122                  E. Save the Children Federation, Inc., Contract EC027 A1 in the amount of \$278,659                  (Presenter: Ruth Ann Martinez, Staff Analyst II, 252-4264)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b>                  None</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b>                  None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales and seconded by Commissioner Hill to approve Agenda Item 12. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Approve Early Care and Education (RFP 11-03) Contract Amendments for Fiscal Year 2015-16 in the amount of \$5,136,658 for a cumulative total amount from Fiscal Years 2012 through 2016 of \$23,108,544 with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Barstow Unified School District EC012 A2 in the amount of \$513,086</li> <li>B. County of San Bernardino Preschool Services Department EC007A2 in the amount of \$397,543</li> <li>C. Easter Seals of California EC005 A2 (Infant Toddler) in the amount of \$242,143</li> <li>D. Fontana Unified School District EC009 A2 in the amount of \$1,077,461</li> <li>E. Hesperia Unified School District EC013 A2 in the amount of \$747,781</li> <li>F. Lucerne Valley Unified School District EC014 A2 in the amount of \$91,083</li> <li>G. Lucerne Valley Unified School District EC015 A1 in the amount of \$250,722</li> <li>H. Rialto Unified School District EC016 A2 in the amount of \$1,053,038</li> <li>I. San Bernardino City Unified EC010 A2 in the amount of \$670,648  <b>Item 13 I continued to May 6, 2015 Commission Meeting</b></li> <li>J. San Bernardino City Unified Adult School District EC011 A2 in the amount of \$93,153</li> </ul> <p>(Presenter: Chrystina Smith-Rasshan, Staff Analyst II, 252-4267)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b>                  Commissioner Gonzales stated she shared this information with County Superintendent of Schools and believes it is important to stop working in a vacuum. Commissioner Gonzales stated she asked Ted Alejandre if he was aware how much money First 5 is investing in education. Mr. Alejandre is vested in this effort and Commissioner Gonzales believes all appropriate parties should meet, listen and share information with no stone unturned when it comes to this size of investment for the future of our young children.</p> <p>Commissioner Powell noted exploratory learning that is common to quality education is far different from what teachers have been accustomed to. The way we write these requirements is to take into consideration not only what we expect of the program but perhaps cast a broader net and train those around us to be able to accept these programs.</p> <p>Chair Haugan abstained on Item 13B due to her position as the appointing authority for Preschool Services Department.</p> <p>Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstained on Item 13B due to his position on the Shared Governing Board for Preschool Services Department.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales abstained on Item 13B due to her position on the Shared Governing Board for Preschool Services Department.</p>

	<p>Commissioner Hill abstained on Item 13J due to her position on the Superintendent of School Board.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> Dr. Pat Krizek, Rialto Unified School District</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Weinstein and seconded by Commissioner Powell to approve Agenda Item 13. With the abstentions noted above and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
14	<p>Approve Amendment A1 to Contract EC028 with the County of San Bernardino Preschool Services Department (PSD) in the amount of \$176,000 per year in support of the Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP), for a cumulative total amount of \$792,000 for Fiscal Years 2014 through 2019. (Presenter: Chrystina Smith-Rasshan, Staff Analyst II, 252-4267)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b> Commissioner Gonzales commented that she liked the item, however, the actual agenda document was poorly written.</p> <p>Chair Haugan abstained due to her position as Appointing Authority over Preschool Services Department.</p> <p>Vice-Chair Ohikhuare abstained due to his position on the Shared Governing Board for Preschool Services Department.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales abstained on due to her position on the Shared Governing Board for Preschool Services Department.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Vargas and seconded by Commissioner Weinstein to approve Agenda Item 14. With the abstentions noted above and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
15	<p>Approve Contract IC027 with VIVA Strategy + Communications in the amount of \$150,255 for Fiscal Years 2014-15 and 2015-16 to support Quality Rating Improvement Systems. (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 252-4252)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b> Commissioner Powell was unsure what the final product is supposed to look like. Nicole Tanner was called to the podium.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> Nicole O. Tanner, Ph.D., Managing Partner, VIVA Strategy + Communications</p> <p>Dr. Tanner explained that the final product will be a strategic plan for education for the quality rating improvement system. With VIVA’s assistance First 5 will also be prepared to submit for future QRIS block grants. At this time, F5SB is not eligible to apply for them due to a lack of an operational QRIS. VIVA’s support will help position First 5 to apply for those resources.</p> <p>First 5 California has recently made a shift to align their quality improvement and early learning programs around the quality rating improvement systems. Nationally, this is the direction that states are going. The goal is to put in place a quality rating improvement system and a strategic plan and be in a position to apply for much</p>

	<p>needed additional funding. First 5 will be working with an implementation team to have an operational system in place and be able to rate programs.</p> <p>At each county level, you can design your system based on your assets but across the state in California you must use the same quality matrix that establishes the quality standards. Within those quality standards, the use of ERS – (environmental rating scales), CLASS, ASQ and/or DRDP are required elements. There is discussion occurring throughout the State as to whether to continue the rating tools based on the cost (reliable assessors). VIVA will work with the Commission to understand and take action through what it takes to put the system in place and make the Statewide requirements.</p> <p>Commissioner Powell asked if this was First 5 responsibility to give oversight to this process because the providers for early education programs all have to be responsible for complying with ERS. Dr. Tanner stated yes, however, they do not have to meet the same levels of reliability or standards as established by the State QRIS. They can do ERS but they have to have reliable assessors.</p> <p>Karen Scott stated we are not giving oversight; our approach is supporting our Strategic Priority Area 2, we are a convener and we would like to fund the organization and not the assessments.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales asked if there is buy-in from our partners since they will be paying to have access and is this a one-time expense? Are there any on-going operating costs? Are assessors an additional cost?</p> <p>Karen Scott stated First 5 staff met with partners in December 2014 and there is definitely buy-in, even to the point where a regional collaborative is being discussed. The reason behind First 5’s support of this program is that our partners can apply for funding to pay for the assessors. This is a capacity building effort.</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Gonzales to approve Agenda Item 15. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>Establish an ad hoc committee to address strategic vision and the development of a policy agenda platform for the Commission related to local and global issues that affect children and families. (Presenter: Karen E. Scott, Executive Director, 252-4252)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b> Chair Haugan asked Commissioners Gonzales and Vargas if they would like to chair and formulate a vision for this committee. Commissioner Vargas stated his vision was to put together some policies and objectives and goals. Chair Haugan suggested the two Commissioners come up with a framework and notify the other Commissioners if additional input is needed. Commissioner Weinstein stated he would like to be part of the committee.</p> <p>Karen Scott mentioned this will be discussed at the upcoming Program Workshop and the Commission agreed to not make any decisions yet and address this topic at the workshop.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> None</p>

	<p>A motion was made by Commissioner Gonzales and seconded by Commissioner Vargas to approve Agenda Item 16. Without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Approve an increase of \$500,000 per year in funding for the Family and Community Support and Partnerships - Family Services Support (FCSP-FSS), Request for Proposals (RFP) 14-02 for FY 2015-18, from \$3.5 million per year to \$4 million per year for a total of \$12 million for the three-year funding cycle. (Presenter: Cindy Faulkner, Operations Manager, 252-4253)</p> <p><b><u>Discussion</u></b></p> <p>Chair Haugan asked what would happen if we don't give the funding; will fewer families be served or will there be enough money to do anything? Cindy Faulkner stated if the item is not approved, staff will re-enter into negotiations and either the number of families will need to be reduced or reduce the number of funded contractors. Either way, it will impact the number of families being served.</p> <p>Commissioner Hill asked if this item is not approved, what is the criteria on who will not receive funding? Ms. Faulkner answered that careful review of geographical areas being covered will be examined, the capacity of the organization, and the numbers that are slated to be served. There are many variables to take into consideration.</p> <p>Vice-Chair Ohikhare asked how did we get to the point today where we are being asked to give more money? Ms. Faulkner answered originally based on dwindling First 5 monies, an investment of \$10.5 million was recommended for three years. Based on the proposals received and the re-assessment of available funds slated for the next three years, it was determined \$500,000 should be added to this effort to serve more families in need based on proposals submitted.</p> <p>Karen Scott stated that in this funding cycle, which is reduced by nearly \$6 million for Family Support, we are using a new model and it's not apples to apples. The Executive Staff made a recommendation as to how much should be put aside for the Family Support initiative. That suggestion was \$10.5 million and later determined not quite enough. The new program/system process is a little more costly, but the outcomes are measurable and likely to be more consistent and positive, than in our previous funding cycle.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales asked if the \$500,000 has a timeline by which we need to spend it? Ms. Faulkner answered no and when the Commission meets on May 11th for the Program Workshop we will be reviewing next year's budget and long-term financial plan and from there we can make the adjustments accordingly. Ms. Faulkner stated First 5 is within its allocation.</p> <p>Commissioner Powell noted that this commitment represents about 20 percent of First 5 revenue received. Does this commitment represent one/fifth of the total interest for First 5? A pie chart would be helpful that shows everything First 5 funds.</p> <p>Ms. Faulkner answered that reference materials will be available to the Commissioners on May 11<sup>th</sup>. In the new Strategic Plan, First 5 did not commit to such a structured allocation, like a pie chart, in order to give the Commission flexibility to utilize funds in multiple areas without restricting funding in any particular area.</p> <p>Debora Dickerson-Sims commented that in the five-year plan there is an allocation for \$27 million for programs. The items staff have asked the Commission to approve</p>

	<p>are still within the \$27 million. We are keeping track of what has been allocated in the five-year plan which will be reviewed with the Commission on May 11<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Chair Haugan commented it is not unusual for agency requests to come in at a higher dollar amount than the RFP intended to fund.</p> <p>Commissioner Gonzales stated she asked about the timeline to determine if there were any time constraints. Commissioner Gonzales asked if there were identified measured results and also, what kind of quality deliverables are we getting up to this point? Are there any changes we would like to consider and not just allocate more money because we have it? Commissioner Gonzales would like to see data-based results – are these contractors living up to their obligations? Are they the quality standards that we want?</p> <p>It was explained to Commissioner Gonzales that this is a Request for Proposals of which no proposals have yet been received by staff.</p> <p>Commissioner Hill commented that she strongly recommends to have faith in First 5 staff, in that, they have done their due diligence, saved every dollar possible and are using funds in the best possible way and hopes the Commission entertains a motion to accept this recommendation.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b> None</p> <p>A motion was made by Commissioner Hill and seconded by Commissioner Ohikhuare to approve Agenda Item 17. With Commissioners Gonzales and Vargas opposed and without further comment or objection, motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
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Item No.	INFORMATION
18	Receive Information about University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) program. (Presenter: Scott McGrath, Supervisor, 252-4259)

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**Public Comment**      None

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**Commissioner Roundtable**      None

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**Adjournment**      Without further comment or objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

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Meetings at  
First 5 San  
Bernardino

May 6, 2015  
Commission Meeting  
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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May 11, 2015  
Program and Budget Workshop  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Attest

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Linda Haugan, Chair

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Ann M. Calkins, Commission Secretary

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