



LASSEN COUNTY
CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION

Minutes, January 5, 2006, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
1345 Paul Bunyan Road, Suite B
Susanville, California

PRESENT: Doug McCoy, Jim Chapman, Sheral Thorlaksson, Barbara Malone, Janice Irvin, and Mae Sherman. Staff: Laura Roberts, and Dennis Wilkes. Visitors: Janet Lasick, Barbara Tiner, and Gunnar Sherman.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Doug McCoy called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Commissioner Sherman and seconded by Commissioner Irvin that the agenda be approved as presented. There was no discussion, the motion carried.

INFORMATION/CONSENT CALENDAR: (These matters are routine in nature and usually approved by a single vote. Prior to action of the Commission, the public will be given the opportunity to comment on any consent item.) Commissioner Malone moved that the items on the consent calendar be approved as submitted. Commissioner Sherman seconded the motion. The motion passed. The items passed are:

- 4a. SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes LCCFC Meeting of December 1, 2005
- 4b. SUBJECT: Approval of Fiscal Report
- 4c. SUBJECT: Approve withdrawal from Trust for payment of Monthly Expenses for January/February expenses as follows: Social Entrepreneurs \$5,000 January contract; \$5,000 to Pathways for January BHI Contract; \$12,500 to ComPAC for February Home Visiting; \$7,800 for Diversified Management for February contract payment; \$500 for copies and postage; CARES Administration One-Half, Diversified Management \$9,000.

SCHOOL READINESS EVALUATION CERTIFICATION: Chairman McCoy explained that the evaluation criteria for the School Readiness Project is changing and that State Children and Families Commission is requesting that the local commission certify that they will implement the new criteria by July 1, 2006, and that a report of local progress on the School Readiness Project will be provided to the State by January 17, 2006. The Executive Director explained that a report would consist of a collection of data and information from PEDS. Concern was expressed that it would be difficult to prepare a comprehensive report prior to the end of the project term on June 30, 2006. It was also expressed that what the State Commission is after are outcomes and performance measures and the local program was not structured that way in the first 3 years, but was modified during the later part of the third year to allow data to be collected to measure outcomes. There was no further discussion. It was moved by Commissioner Irvin and seconded by Commissioner Sherman that the certification be signed. The motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION OF COMMISSION REGARDING VACANT POSITION: Chairman read letter of resignation of Patsy Jimenez. The vacancy has been posted through the County Clerk. One application was received by Clerk's Office. Melody Brawley is the applicant. The membership statute was read from the legislation indicating that the position is to be filled by management of an HHS department or the health officer. It was suggested that we have a health-oriented person on the commission. After extensive discussion it was moved by commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Irvin that Melody Brawley be recommended for appointment to the commission. Laura is to send a letter indicating the recommendation to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors by tomorrow.

BYLAW AMENDMENT: The Commission's Bylaws need to be amended so that the membership categories will match the legislation. Consensus is that the changes should be made to the Bylaws.

AUTHORIZATION TO COMPLETE NEGOTIATIONS WITH COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH:

Barbara Malone explained the collaborative development of a full time mental health clinician position between the Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI) and County Mental Health. She indicated that the collaboration has been excellent and outcomes have been very positive in the development of the collaborative position. Prop 10 has .4 FTE funding available and Lassen County Mental Health has a full time vacant position. A full time position would afford better recruitment possibilities for BHI than the .4 FTE position. Between the BHI funds and County Mental Health Funds, a full time position can be recruited. Different funding streams and billable types of licensure were discussed as the Commission expressed that whoever is hired needs to be a billable person to Medi-Cal, EPSDT, etc. It was moved by Commissioner Malone and seconded by Commissioner Chapman that negotiations be completed. The motion carried. After the negotiations are completed, the matter is to come back to the Commission for consideration of how best to structure the agreement with County Mental Health, whether as a subcontract of Pathways or directly between the Commission and Lassen County Mental Health.

MINI GRANT EVALUATION MODEL REVIEW: This item was rescheduled for the February meeting, as the reporting template testing process has not been completed.

FOCUS GROUP: Progress on the needs assessment was discussion. A focus group was conducted, as most of the Commissioner's present had not had a chance to complete the on-line survey. The information gathered is to be forwarded to Sarah Boxx at Social Entrepreneurs.

REPORTS: Needs Assessment and report on expanded collaboration: The contract to request funding for the expanded portion of the needs assessment will go before the Board of Supervisors on the 17th. HHS will request permission to move funds to a different line item in order to pay for a portion of the expanded process. **Quarterly Reports for Oral Health, FRCs, Home Visiting** were included in the packet. These are in the new format and based on the new data collection and evaluation processes. **CARES Project implementation** has begun as final approval was received. Applications have been sent to all prior year participants and outreach to potential new participants has begun. The eligibility criteria are different this year and may impact the level of participation. **School Readiness Reapplication** is due in March. The new RFA is due out mid-January. **Evaluation** and data collection in the new format is progressing. Transition and training support continues to be provided by Sarah Boxx and Kellie Bates.

Chairman McCoy presented Patsy Jimenez with a plaque and a gift commending her for her excellent service to the Commission, and the children and families of Lassen County. The Chairman also noted that Janet Lasick is now retired from Northeastern Rural Health and is also to be commended for her service to the citizens of Lassen County. The Chairman invited everyone to stay after the meeting for refreshments.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura J. Roberts
Executive Director