

FIRST 5 COMMISSION OF SAN DIEGO
CAC Board Chambers, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 310
San Diego, CA 92101
(858) 285-7710

Members Present:

Monica Montgomery Steppe, Chair
Sandra McBrayer, Vice-Chair
Rick Richardson, Secretary
Dr. Kelly Motadel, Commissioner

Members Absent:

Dr. Kimberly Giardina, Commissioner

Staff Present:

Alethea Arguilez, Executive Director
Martin Cherry, Operations Manager
Lenette Javier, Program & Evaluations Administrator
Katherine Hart, Sr. Deputy County Counsel
Hunter Watson, Communications & Community Outreach
Karen Hays, Executive Secretary

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

February 18, 2025

Call to Order

Chair Montgomery Steppe called the meeting of the First 5 Commission of San Diego to order at 10:01am.

Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes from December 17, 2024

ON MOTION OF Secretary Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Motadel, the Commission approved the minutes for the December 17, 2024 meeting.

AYES: Montgomery Steppe, McBrayer, Richardson, Motadel
ABSENT: Giardina,
ABSTAIN: None
NOES: None

Opportunity for Public Comments

The Commission received (3) public comments:

1. Justine Sitterly, parent, speaking in favor of HDS
2. Courtney Baltiyskyy, YMCA CRS, speaking in favor of HDS
3. Jose Fino, parent, speaking in favor of HDS

Commissioner Recusal Reminder

Chair Montgomery Steppe reminded all Commissioners to recuse themselves from voting on any agenda item(s) that have a real or perceived conflict of interest.

Consent Calendar

None

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Item 1: ACTION - Annual Appointment of Commission Officers

ON MOTION OF Secretary Richardson, seconded by Vice Chair McBrayer, the Commission approved the nominations for Sandy McBrayer Vice-Chair and Dr. Motadel as Secretary for calendar year 2025.

AYES: Montgomery Steppe, McBrayer, Richardson, Motadel

ABSENT: Giardina

ABSTAIN: None

NOES: None

Item 2: ACTION - Sole Source Request for Persimmony International CMEDS Data System

(This item was heard after Item #5.)

ON MOTION OF Vice-Chair McBrayer, seconded by Commissioner Motadel, the Commission approved the Sole Source Contract Request with Persimmony International for the CMEDS Data System. This will be for FY 2025-30.

AYES: Montgomery Steppe, McBrayer, Richardson, Motadel

ABSENT: Giardina

ABSTAIN: None

NOES: None

Item 3: ACTION - Sole Source Request for SDCOE Learn Well Initiative

This item was not heard and will be discussed at the April 16, 2025 meeting.

Item 4: INFORMATION - Finance Committee Report

Ricardo Macedo, Finance Committee Chair, reported on the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2024, and the 2nd Quarter Budget Projection for FY 2024-25.

Item 5: DISCUSSION - Funding Reductions FY 2025-2030

The Commission engaged in a robust discussion about the proposed funding reductions by strategic area for FY 2025-2030. The Commission decided to schedule a follow-up meeting in March 2025 to discuss program level data to support the funding reduction that is pending for the upcoming five-year spending plan.

Item 6: PRESENTATION - SDSU STEPS Family Child Care Program

The Commission received a presentation by Dr. Sarah Garrity, SDSU College of Education and Dr Saralyn Miller, SDSU Research Foundation, which highlighted the accomplishments of the SDSU STEPS program to improve economic self-sufficiency and the quality of care to Family Child Care providers within refugee and immigrant communities.

Item 7: INFORMATION - Healthy Development Services (HDS) Lessons Learned Report

The Commission received the report "*Lessons Learned from Building the HDS System of Care*" which was developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics in collaboration with the Regional Service Network Lead Organizations and Harder + Co.

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Item 8: INFORMATION - Executive Director Report

Executive Director Arguilez provided an update on the activities of the Commission that included the following:

- Reports that were shared included a sustainability playbook from F5CA and the Doula pilot program report
- The MCCYN program has launched in partnership with SDQPI. The program will enlist more child care providers into the MCCYN program and give them access to a stipend and also provide a subsidy for military connected families.
- A local provider submitted a letter of appreciation to the Commissioners on behalf of the SDQPI work they have benefited from over the years.

Item 9: Future Agenda Items

March 2025

- Special meeting to be convened in March that will be a continued discussion on the funding reduction that is focused on an equity data driven decision making process.

April 2025

- Approval of the Annual Operating Budget for FY 25-26
- 5-year Financial Spending Plan FY 25-30
- Contract Extension Approvals for FY 25-26
- Strategic Plan FY 20-25 Review and Closeout
- Presentation from 2-1-1 San Diego on the First 5 Warm Line
- Sunset review of applicable Commission policies

Chair Montgomery Steppe adjourned the meeting at 11:51am to reconvene on March 25, 2025.

Respectfully submitted for your review and approval:

Dr. Kelly Motadel

March 25, 2025
Date

Notes by Karen Hays