



MINUTES –REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, December 1, 2004

1. **Call to Order, Establish Quorum, Public Comment**

Commission Chair Michele Dossey opened the meeting at 9:10 am. A legal quorum was present with Commissioners Lara Andersen, Julie Bear, Jean Dickinson, Michele Dossey, Jeff Griffiths, Martha Mendez, and Margaret Peterson in attendance. Also present were Kathy Peterson and Jackie Randall (First 5 Inyo County staff), Rich Watt (former First 5 Inyo Commissioner), Verna Sisk (Inyo County Office of Education-ICOE, Child Development, Program Administrator), and Margaret Bruce (ICOE-Office Manager/Representative for Inyo County Child Care Planning Council).

Commissioner Dossey opened the meeting for Public Comment. There was no Public Comment.

Commissioner Dossey closed the Public Comment period.

2. **Service Appreciation Presentations (Commissioner Julie Bear, and Ex-Commissioner Rich Watt)**

Commission Chair Dossey presented a plaque to ex-Commissioner Rich Watt, and a ceramic pitcher to outgoing Commissioner Julie Bear, for their work on behalf of children and families throughout Inyo County and the State of California. Kathy Peterson read testimonial notes received from First 5 Association of California, First 5 California, and other Commission Directors, addressed to Julie Bear. Each First 5 Inyo County Commissioner shared their thoughts and statements of appreciation. Verna Sisk made a presentation to both Rich Watt and Julie Bear on behalf of Inyo County Office of Education. Margaret Bruce presented Certificates of Appreciation to Rich Watt and Julie Bear from the Inyo County Child Care Planning Council, then presented a child's book to Rich Watt and to Julie Bear from the Child Care Connection staff.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

The Commission reviewed the minutes from March 2, 2004, August 25, 2004, and October 13, 2004.

Commissioner Dossey made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 2, 2004. Seconded by Commissioner Mendez. Motion approved unanimously.

Commissioner Dossey made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 25, 2004. Seconded by Commissioner Peterson. Motion approved unanimously.

Commissioner Dossey made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 13, 2004. Seconded by Commissioner Griffiths. Motion approved unanimously.

4. **School Readiness Program**

Verna Sisk, ICOE Child Development Administrator, gave a report and showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Statewide System of School Readiness Network program, then answered

questions from the Commissioners. This program covers only the Educational component for children ages 3-5, children with disabilities, and children who are English language learners.

5. Inyo County Child Abuse Report

Marilyn Mann, Inyo County Children's Social Services Supervisor, provided information on current child abuse statistics in Inyo County, and answered Commissioners' questions. She also provided an up-to-date copy of "The California Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting Law – Issues and Answers for Mandated Reporters" to each Commissioner.

Statistics: 1999 30-45 reports per month
 2003 40-50 reports per month
 Increase could be due to more public education on mandated reporting.

She discussed the difference between unsubstantiated and substantiated.; state minimum standards; impact of drugs and alcohol on the home environment, families, and on reporting. She also discussed loss of foster care resources in Inyo County over the past 5 years (fewer long-term care homes). Commissioner Griffiths asked if there was anything the Commission could do to help. Marilyn reported that the Commission has already initiated programs to help, including mini grants for foster care and home visiting. Commissioner Griffiths encouraged Marilyn to let the Commission know if they can help in the future.

6. IMACA Budget Modification Request

The Commission received a request dated November 24, 2004 from Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action (IMACA) requesting two budget modifications on line items:

1. School Readiness
 - a. Collapse Operating Budget line items F (Program Supplies & Materials) and G (Printing/Copying) into one F/G (Program Supplies, Materials and Printing/Copying).
 - b. Redistribute \$5000 from item K with \$500 added to B (Office Supplies), \$500 added to D (Telephone). \$500 added to H (Travel), \$1000 added to F/G (Program Supplies & Materials), and \$2500 added to Ia (Training).
2. Countywide Home Visiting
 - a. Collapse Operating Budget line items F (Program Supplies & Materials) and G (Printing/Copying) into one F/G (Program Supplies, Materials and Printing/Copying).
 - b. Redistribute \$1000 from item N (Other Advertising & Marketing and Evaluation) with \$200 added to B (Office Supplies), \$200 added to D (Telephone), and \$600 added to Ia (Training).

Commissioner Bear made a motion to approve the two budget modifications for each of the contracts with IMACA (School Readiness and Countywide Home Visiting) for collapsing line items and redistribution of line item amounts –Year 1 of the contracts) as outlined in the letter of request from IMACA dated November 24, 2004. Commissioner Mendez seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Commissioner Griffiths requested clarification of the 4 employee losses in the past 8 months. There was no IMACA representative present to answer questions. An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to discuss IMACA maintaining its integrity in the workforce as it related to First 5 Inyo County funded programs sustainability. Ad Hoc Committee members: Commissioners Griffiths and Dossey, with a possible third participant. The Ad Hoc committee will report back to the full Commission at a future meeting.

7. Mini Grants

- a. The Commission discussed disposition of the Dramatic Play Equipment returned by Shooting Star Preschool when they ceased operations. Staff reported that the Health Clinic in Shoshone was unable to take the equipment due to space issues. Verna Sisk stated that the

Round Valley Preschool had been approached by Shooting Star before their closing and had expressed an interest in receiving the equipment. Ms. Sisk was unsure of their current interest and need.

Commissioner Bear made a motion directing staff to contact Round Valley Preschool to see if they are still interested in the Dramatic Play Equipment, and if they are, to arrange pickup/delivery. Commissioner Dossey seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Commission staff will contact Ms. Aguilera, Director, Round Valley Preschool.

- b. The Commission received correspondence dated November 12, 2004 from Jennifer Viereck representing the Board of Directors of the Hummingbird Family Resource Center (HFRC) regarding closure of the their facility (see attachment). She sent a reimbursement check in the amount of \$325 for the FY 2004/2005 Mini Grant award they received, and asked for direction on disposition of furnishings purchased with FY 2003/2004 Mini Grant funding (prior funding round). HFRC suggested disposition to the Tecopa Community Center (rug and table) and the Death Valley Unified School District (remainder of the items), the only two local entities providing direct access for children in that area.

Commissioner Mendez made a motion to approve transfer of furnishings purchased with FY2003/2004 Mini Grant funding to the Tecopa Community Center and/or the Death Valley Unified School District. Commissioner Andersen seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Commission staff will contact Ms. Viereck regarding transfer of the furnishings.

8. Oral Health Initiative

- a. Staff showed short PowerPoint on the Dental Health Fairs and Sealant programs held at Big Pine Elementary and Lo-Inyo Elementary in November. Staff reported that Dr. Nancy Reifel, UCLA School of Dentistry, did a site visit during the Lo Inyo Elementary Sealant Days as part of their professional consultation; she reported that the program was running smoothly and efficiently, and she plans to return in about 6 months to check sealant retentions.
- b. Staff announced they will be working on our first annual (second interim) Oral Health Report due to The California Endowment at the end of December.

9. Child Care Retention Incentives (Professional Development Program) for Fiscal Year 2003/2004

The Commission considered taking action to approved the Child Care Retention Incentives (Professional Development Program) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2003/2004.

Commissioner Mendez made a motion to approve the Child Care Retention Incentives (Professional Development Program) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2003/2004 as submitted to the State for the October 15, 2004 deadline. Commissioner Bear seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

10. Sponsorship Request Program

Staff reported that no new requests for the Sponsorship Program have been received. An Inyo County Probation final report on the Anti-Bullying Symposium held September 24, 2004 in Bishop was received and is on file in the Commission office.

11. Staff Report & Discussion Items

Staff did not have any new items to discuss.

12. Commissioner Updates

- a. Commissioner Dickinson reported that the residents of the Tecopa/Shoshone area attended the recent community meeting and were interested to know when the “Miles of Smiles” oral health program will be offered to their families and children. There is a Community Health Fair planned for February 26, 2005. The Southeast Inyo Children’s Council has some funding towards the cost of Oral Health screenings, and has contacted a dental provider from Pahrump Nevada who could provide Oral Health screenings at a cost of \$50/child. Death Valley Unified School District would donate bus transportation for the children to the dental office in Nevada. Commissioner Dickinson will be attending the next quarterly meeting February 25th and could provide them with Commission feedback. Staff reported that services are planned for those children within the Inyo County Oral Health Program funded by The California Endowment. Staff is working with Verna Sisk (ICOE) to develop a plan. The Commission is willing to consider additional support for on-site services, if that is what is needed. Staff will place an agenda item for the next regular Commission meeting for further discussion.
- b. Commissioner Griffiths reported that the Orange County Register had an article on dangerous lead levels in Mexican candy and chili, and posters are available to download on their website. Staff will obtain posters in both English and Spanish to be posted at the Commission office location. Staff will also forward the website link to the Commissioners.
- c. Commissioner Griffiths announced that he is accepting donations for a fund-raising yard sale on December 12, 2004, to be held at his residence. Proceeds will go to Wild Iris (Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault non-profit in Inyo/Mono County). Anyone wishing to make a donation can either contact him or drop the items at his home.
- d. Staff provided each Commissioner with the letter from Rob Reiner sent to Commission Chair Dossey.

13. Commission Meeting Dates

The Commission discussed setting meeting dates for **2005**. Staff will prepare a proposed calendar for the Commissioners’ review with meetings continuing to be set on the fourth Wednesday of each month, normally with a 9:00 am start time. (Note: two meetings annually in southern Inyo communities, two evening meetings annually (one in the north area, one in the south area. Subject to change.)

Meeting adjourned at 12:00

NOTICE: The next Regular Commission Meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 26, 2005, at 9:00 am. The location will be at the Health & Human Services Conference Room, 1351 Rocking W Drive, Bishop, CA 93514