

**Riverside County Children and Families Commission
1:30 p.m. - *Regular Meeting of the Commission*
Wednesday, May 27, 2009**

**Riverside County Children and Families Commission
Business Office
2002 Iowa Avenue, Suite 100
Riverside, California 92507**

Minutes

A. Call To Order:

The Regular Meeting of the Commission was called to order at 1:31 p.m. by Commissioner Vice-Chair Loew.

Commissioners Present:; Vice Chair, Susan Loew; Supervisor Jeff Stone (arrived at 1:45 pm); Connie Beasley; Yolanda Carrillo; Dr. Frykman; Jay Hoffman

Commissioners Absent: Chair, Jerry Wengerd, Vicki Oltean

Commission Vacancy: A representative of local government with a demonstrated focus on programs for prevention and early intervention for families at risk

Staff Present: Harry Freedman, Executive Director; Stella Smith, Deputy Director; Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant/Commission Secretary; Arrin Banks, Administrator, Grants & Contracts; Johnathan McDannell, Administrator, Outcomes Management; Laurie Schoenberg, Administrator, Early Care & Education; Michelle Burroughs, Administrator, Health & Community Programs; Sherry Watkins, Facilities & Operations Specialist; Cindy Brandon, Administrative Secretary; Carole Diskin, Contract Specialist, Grants & Contracts; Sonia Jizrawi, Program Specialist, Early Care & Education; Jean Alexander-Booth, Program Specialist II, Early Care & Education; Deborah DeForge, Program Specialist II, Outcomes Management; Maurice Rayford, Program Specialist Health & Community Programs; Uniqua Burgess, Program Specialist Health & Community Programs; Cassandra Adams Contract Specialist, Grants & Contracts; Shawn Burrell, Secretary, Grants & Contracts and Fiscal Services

Tiffany North, Deputy County Counsel was in attendance as legal counsel for the Commission

Board of Supervisors, Legislative Team Member to Supervisor Stone, Robin Reid

Consultant: Diane Mapes, First 5 Riverside

B. Commission Business – Commission Vice-Chair, Susan Loew

1. Chair and Commissioner Comments:

In the absence of Commission Chair Wengerd, Vice-Chair Loew presided over the meeting.

2. **Executive Director Comments – Harry Freedman**

Mr. Freedman informed the Commission that Measure 1D failed. The First 5 Association Executive Committee met after the election to discuss possible ways of assisting programs that are in jeopardy of receiving cuts due to economic conditions and/or state budget cuts. The meeting focus was to determine if needs can be best met locally or on a statewide level. During the discussion, it was recognized that the needs of children 0-5 will be significantly impacted. There is a preference of each individual county addressing these issues at a local level. The Association Executive Committee will encourage local EDs to work with local Board's of Supervisors (BOS) and executive offices to identify local needs and to identify how First 5 can help. The two statewide issues discussed were the poison control center and the Healthy Families program.

There is the possibility that Healthy Families Program will be eliminated in its entirety. F5 is looking at a state approach to assist. Mr. Freedman reminded the Commission that they had previously assisted with funds to the Healthy Families Program for FY 08/09 to avoid implementation of a waiting list on a statewide basis.

Commissioner Frykman noted there have been recurrent attempts to obtain First 5 funds and asked if there are other pending attempts to obtain the funds. Mr. Freedman replied that although First 5 funds cannot be taken without the vote of the people, F5 funds are certainly being looked at in Sacramento. There is a consensus with First 5's across the state to resolve the increased needs of children 0-5 with the state legislature and locally. There is a possibility that Senator Cox may attempt to introduce another bill.

4. **Approval of April 22, 2009 Commission Meeting Minutes**

a. **Approval of April 22, 2009 Commission Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Frykman moved to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2009 meeting of the Commission. Commissioner Hoffman seconded the motion. [Following is the vote of the Commission members present: Five (5) in favor (Loew, Beasley, Frykman, Hoffman, and Carrillo), Zero, (0) abstain, Three (3) absent (Wengerd, Supervisor Stone, Oltean), Zero (0) opposed, One (1) vacant]

b. **Approval of amended January 15, 2009 Special Commission Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Frykman moved to approve the amended minutes of the January 15, 2009 special meeting of the Commission. Commissioner Hoffman seconded the motion. [Following is the vote of the Commission members present: [Five (5) in favor (Loew, Beasley, Frykman, Hoffman, and Carrillo), Zero, (0) abstain, Three (3) absent (Wengerd, Supervisor Stone, Oltean), Zero (0) opposed, One (1) vacant]

C. **Resolution Report (Action) – Stella Smith, Deputy Director**

Ms. Smith facilitated action on the resolutions presented for approval.

Following is a record of action(s) taken by Commission on Resolutions 09-27 through 09-30: Resolutions 09-27 and 09-28 were presented as a block motion. Resolutions 09-29 and 09-30 were considered separately to provide detailed information and/or to disclose a declaration of conflicts.

09-27: Approving the Contract between the Riverside County Children and Family Commission and the YWCA of Riverside County to maintain Child Care Services

Summary:

- April 22, 2009: The Commission approved staff recommendation and granted the Executive Director or his designee to move forward with negotiating and finalizing a contract with the YWCA.
- May 27, 2009: This resolution formalizes the Commission action relative to the YWCA request.

Ms. Smith reported Resolution 09-27 is being pulled from today's agenda due to pending contract negotiations with the YWCA. The resolution will be re-submitted at the June commission meeting with a proposal for the contract to be ratified back to the date of the initial commission discussion to move forward with the action.

09-28: Approving the First Amendment to the Professional Services Contract between the Riverside County Children and Families Commission and the Child Care Planning Associates

Summary: Staff recommends amending the contract to:

- Amend the time for performance from February 26, 2009 through June 30, 2009 to January 15, 2009 through August 31, 2009 to allow for work that began at staff direction after the award of funds by the Commission and extending beyond the original June 30, 2009 date to allow for additional input from county departments and supervisorial districts into the planning guide.
- Increasing the contract total by \$8,011.22 for the purchase of an additional 350 copies of the guidelines (new contract total is \$77,666.22). There are sufficient funds from a child care conference event that did not take place in the current fiscal year to cover the increase in the contract amount.

Commissioner Hoffman moved to approve Resolution 09-28. Commissioner Beasley seconded the motion. *[Following is a vote of the Commission members present: [Five (5) in favor (Loew, Beasley, Frykman, Hoffman and Carrillo), Zero, (0) Abstain, Three (3) absent (Wengerd, Supervisor Stone, Oltean), Zero (0) opposed, One (1) vacant]*

2. Advisory Committee Update – Dr. Carla Lidner, Advisory Committee Chair

Dr. Carla Lidner provided an update on the special Advisory Committee meeting that took place earlier in the day. The meeting was an informal dialogue that provided the opportunity for questions and answers regarding the restructuring of the First 5 Riverside Commission and Advisory Committee. Dr. Lidner noted that most of the Advisory Committee members were willing to remain a member through the transition period and would be of any assistance necessary.

She offered congratulations to Dr. Hoffman on the grand opening of the Nuview Dental Clinic.

D. Presentations:

1. SCALAR Maura Harrington, Ph.D., Subcontractor to Davis Y. Ja and Associates

Mr. Freedman provided a brief overview of the SCALAR project. He reminded the Commission that SCALAR represents an effort by the 8 Southern California Commissions to develop and present results on a regional basis. Funding for the project comes from a combination of Regional TA funds and County Commission contributions. F5R serves as the fiscal lead for the project. Mr. McDannell, Administrator, Outcomes Management provided an introduction for Dr. Maura Harrington, Ph.D., Subcontractor to Davis Y. Ja and Associates.

(Supervisor Stone arrived at 1:45 p.m.)

Dr. Harrington provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding SCALAR Phase I Overview. Phase II begins July 1, 2009. The movement will be towards evaluation practices across the southern region counties. They will pursue the completion of data in a centralized repository that allows for information produced regionally as well as per each participating county. They are hoping to collaborate with the Bay Region counties that are working on a similar joint project.

Commissioner Carrillo asked if the data will be individualized per county. Dr. Harrington replied that users will be able to search for a particular county or program. Commissioner Beasley asked if the data will communicate to the community and families on the services First 5 Riverside provides. Dr. Harrington noted that a communication group working as a sub-committee of SCALAR is responsible for holding meetings to work on the best way to disseminate the data.

Mr. Freedman added that one of the primary goals of the SCALAR project is to demonstrate the results of Commission efforts to stakeholders and communities on a regional basis.

After a brief discussion regarding the intent and use of information obtained in the presentation, the Commission motioned to approve the Resolution as presented.

09-29: Approving the First Amendment to the Professional Services Contract between the Riverside County Children and Families Commission and Davis Y. Ja and Associates for Implementation of First 5 Southern California Alliance for Learning and Results (SCALAR)

Recommended Action: That the Commission approve the Phase II contract to continue SCALAR efforts between the Riverside County Children and Families Commission serving as the fiscal agent, the successful SCALAR contractor (Davis Y. Ja and Associates) and authorize the Executive Director or his designee to execute the necessary documents and actions to effectuate this resolution.

Commissioner Frykman moved to approve Resolution 09-29; Commissioner Stone, seconded the motion. *[Following is a vote of the Commission members present: Six (6) in favor (Loew, Beasley, Frykman, Hoffman, Supervisor Stone and Carrillo), Zero, (0) abstain, Two (2) absent (Wengerd, Oltean), Zero (0) opposed, One (1) vacant]*

(A copy of Davis Y. Ja and Associates report presented by Dr. Harrington is on file at the Commission's business office).

2. Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Budget Recommendations – Sandy Duncan, Administrator, Fiscal Services

Ms. Duncan provided a summary on the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Budget. She noted the budget was prepared prior to the April financials being closed out and prior to her returning from

leave. Due to this, the projected numbers and year-to-date actual numbers in the budget will be slightly different than those presented in the April financial statement.

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 will be 28.3 million dollars. The presented reflects revenue reductions due to the impact of additional tobacco tax imposed to fund the Federal State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP); reduction in interest income and the sunset of some of the State Initiatives such as school readiness, CARES and Special Needs projects. Ms. Duncan pointed out that FY 08/09 actuals were under budget due to several factors including the Mental Health Initiative contract not being granted and under spending in other contracts. There will be \$2.3 million in surplus to put in reserves at the end of 2009/2010.

Ms. Duncan referred to the notes for the proposed budget and provided greater detail on the proposed revenue, expenditures and fund balance. There was further discussion and responses to Commissioner questions regarding fund balance and funds previously set aside to respond to state initiatives.

Mr. Freedman noted that there are additional funds available for services. He recommended that over the next few months the Commission assess the increased needs for children 0-5 resulting from economic conditions, and determine how to utilize funds to address these needs. Staff will work to prepare recommendations on how to allocate additional funds based on local needs for the birth through age 5 population.

He deferred to County Counsel regarding the appropriateness of the Commission taking formal action to reduce the Sustainability Fund by 10 million dollars as he previously recommended. Ms. North indicated that it was acceptable to take the requested action.

Commissioner Frykman moved to reduce the Sustainability Fund by 10 million dollars and the adoption of the budget as presented. Supervisor Stone seconded the motion.

Commission Vice-Chair Loew questioned whether the continuation of funding for state initiatives was considered in the current proposal. Ms. Duncan explained that the Budget includes the commission approved backfill for CARES and Mental Health Initiative funds. There is money available for in the Fund Balance to backfill additional state initiatives funding if needed. The State is continuing to fund portions of School Readiness which has three programs that will have state initiative dollars until 2012.

Mr. Freedman noted the special needs item is later in the agenda. Healthy Families' staff recommendation regarding IEHP initially recommended not to backfill the state portion so these monies are not in the numbers presented. Mr. Freedman noted all state initiatives could be funded out of Fund Balance if the Commission chooses to backfill them.

Staff's recommendation would be to discuss backfilling the state portion of the initiatives through Fund Balance.

Commissioner Hoffman commented in support of Commissioner Frykman's motion. He added that it would be wise to reserve some of the money instead of committing all of it until the results of the state crisis are clear. He suggested the continuance the support of some of the programs currently, supporting and identifying some of the changes going on in the environment and using some of the funding for new services that might assist the county.

Commissioner Vice-Chair Loew recapped the motion; to approve the budget as presented and reduce the Sustainability Fund by 10 million for redirection. A decision of how it is to be redirected is not part of the motion at this time.

Commissioner Beasley requested that Commissioner Hoffman restate his position.

Commissioner Hoffman restated that the Commission should consider allocating funds to:

1. Support current programs that are at risk based on the state financial issue.
2. Explore ways to address needs and current priorities through the development of new initiatives based on changing needs.

Ms. Duncan noted that reducing the Sustainability Fund by 10 million dollars, will necessitate moving this amount into an undesignated category until the Commission determines how to use it

At the conclusion of the discussion the Commission took formal action as follows:

09-30: Adopting the Annual Budget of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission for Fiscal Year 2009/2010

Original Recommended Action: That the Commission adopts the budget for FY 09/10 as proposed and attached to the resolution and authorize the Executive Director or designee to execute documents and coordinate appropriate actions to expend funds in accordance with established Commission policy and as set forth in the attached budget.

Action: Commissioner Hoffman moved to approve Resolution 09-30 and reduction of the Sustainability Fund by 10 million dollars for future determination, Commissioner Beasley seconded the motion. *[Following is a vote of the Commission members present Six (6) in favor (Loew, Beasley, Frykman, Hoffman, Supervisor Stone and Carrillo), Zero, (0) abstain, Two (2) absent (Wengerd, Oltean), Zero (0) opposed, One (1) vacant]*

Commission Vice-Chair Loew summarized that the budget as presented and the reduction of the Sustainability Fund by 10 million was approved.

Ms. Duncan summarized F5R has 26.7 million undesignated of which 10 million is newly released from the Sustainability Fund, plus an undesignated amount of 16.7 million and 5.8 million designated and/or expected to be designated but not directed towards a specific program to be spent over a period of time to be determined.

Additional direction will be sought from the Commission at a future time on how to specifically designate the funds.

Commissioner Carrillo noted that given the status of child care in Riverside County, she would like the 5.8 million be moved to help with the child care crisis. Ms. Duncan noted that the 5.8 million is currently split between child care, health and education.

Commission Vice-Chair Loew noted she is looking forward to the report from the Advancement Project to help the Commission determine how to best address child care needs in the county.

Ms. Schoenberg noted the Advancement Project will be providing a presentation and recommendations at the June Commission meeting.

Commissioner Carrillo informed the Commission that the Local Planning Council has done a study on the needs in Riverside County. They are reporting to the state. Mr. Freedman noted they are involved with the Advancement Project work.

(A copy of Ms. Duncan's report is on file at the Commission's business office).

E. Discussion/Action:

1. Commission Re-Structure – Susan Loew, Commission Vice-Chair

Commission Vice-Chair Loew reported that she participated in a meeting with the Advisory Committee earlier in the day to provide the status of the restructure and to address questions and comments that the committee shared. She shared a draft of the revised Ordinance and Form 11 scheduled for Board of Supervisors action on Tuesday, June 2. Deputy County Counsel Tiffany North is working on minor revisions to the draft. The revisions to the Ordinance reflect the Board of Supervisor's decision to restructure the representation of the Commission, Advisory Committed and the expanded role of the Advisory Committee.

The Commission will continue with nine members; the BOS, Public Health Officer, and one person from a County department instead of two. In addition, each BOS member will have one appointment and one at-large member appointed by the collective BOS. Each appointed member (with the exception of the BOS member and Health Officer) will have an alternate that would attend all Commission meetings and act on behalf of the appointed member in case of an absence or conflict. These alternate members will also serve as the Advisory Committee.

The Bylaws will be amended to reflect the changes and will contain more detail relative to allow for effective implementation of the changes. Ms. Loew noted the expanded responsibility of the Advisory Committee including the increased time commitment with the expectation that advisory members attend each Commission meeting.

The expectation is the current Commission and Advisory Committee will remain in tact until the new Commission and alternates/Advisory Committee is appointed.

Commission Vice-Chair Susan Loew noted the technical modification realigning F5R under DPSS will be taken to the BOS on June 2. There will be classification changes in the reporting relationship of Mr. Freedman and Ms. Smith.

To address the Auditor's findings from the Fiscal Year 2007/2008 audit report for F5R, budget and Bylaws will also be on Board of Supervisors agenda for review and comment as required by the current local ordinance. The budget adopted today will also be submitted for review and comment to the Board of Supervisors.

2. Contract Extensions – Arrin Banks, Administrator, Grants & Contracts/Harry Freedman, Executive Director

Ms. Banks reviewed the contract extension report. Staff is making progress on the extension of contracts. Three agency contracts remain in negotiations. Staff will return in June with recommendations on these remaining contracts including:

1. Riverside Child Care Consortium requested to have their operational contract and CARES contracts combined into one contract.

2. Riverside Community Hospital. There have been some inconsistencies with staffing and non-compliance with administering the breastfeeding pre and post surveys. Staff is working with this agency to resolve the issues. A recommendation regarding whether or not to continue funding the contract will be brought forward.

Ms. Banks referred the Commission to the comment section of the report for notes on those agencies who are not receiving the five percent increase or who have significant changes in their scope of work.

Ms. Banks noted money has been put aside for some agencies that have not been granted their full amount and may request these funds within a six month period if they are able to demonstrate they are able to meet the expected service levels.

Commissioner Vice-Chair Loew requested that as contract negotiations are finalized, that staff highlight the funds that have not been contracted so the Commission can redirect the funds as appropriate.

(A copy of Ms. Banks' complete Report is on file at the Commission's business office.)

3. Operational Contracts Allocation– Sandy Duncan, Administrator Fiscal Services / Stella Smith, Deputy Director

Ms. Smith reminded the Commission that this information is being provided based on a previous request from the Commission. At the previous meeting the Commission requested detail on the differences between the amount approved by the Commission for funding, the amount actually contracted and the amount expended by funded agencies. There are two primary reasons for the variance; contracting for less funds than available and agency under expenditure of contracted funds. Ms. Duncan reviewed the operational contract allocation analysis. She noted the biggest difference is the unused 3.8 million designated for the Mental Health Initiative. It is anticipated that 74 percent of the contracted dollars being spent to the budget including the 3.8 million for the Mental Health Initiative. Many agencies with one time only contracts have not completed their projects and it is anticipated extensions will be requested. One agency is pending the outcome of their probationary status before funds can be expended.

(A copy of Ms. Duncan's complete Report is on file at the Commission's business office.)

4. Staff Recommendations Concerning the Special Needs Project – Laurie Schoenberg, Administrator, Early Care & Education

Ms. Schoenberg provided background information on the Special Needs Assistance Project and highlighted areas on her executive summary.

Staff Recommendation:

Maintain full funding (\$500,000 per year) for the Special Needs Assistance Project through June 2011 by backfilling the State funding of \$250,000 per year in addition to the \$250,000 in local funds already committed. The additional \$250,000 per year will be taken from the F5R fund balance. In addition, staff recommends that in the event the Mental Health Initiative moves forward and the Lake Elsinore community receives services through the Mental Health Initiative, the Special Needs contract be reduced by the appropriate amount.

Commissioner Stone moved to approve the staff recommendation as presented. Commissioners Frykman and Hoffman simultaneously seconded. The motion was carried. [Following is a vote of the Commission members present: [Six (6) in favor (Loew, Stone, Beasley, Frykman, Hoffman, and Carrillo), Zero, (0) abstain, Two (2) absent (Wengerd, Oltean), Zero (0) opposed, One (1) vacant]

(A copy of Ms. Schoenberg's complete Report is on file at the Commission's business office.)

5. Family Service Association Request for Contract Modification – Harry Freedman, Executive Director

Mr. Freedman provided an update on the Family Service Association's child care status in Hemet.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recognizes the critical need for child care services throughout all of Riverside County and the importance of funding sustainable child care programs. As a result of full information not being available at the April Commission meeting, staff is bringing this matter back to the Commission as a discussion item in order to consider the additional information now available.

At the April meeting, the Commission adopted the staff recommendation to approve FSA's request to place the modular units at the Riverside YWCA site instead of the Hemet site described in the contract in an effort to increase the likelihood of sustainability of the YWCA program. Staff continues to support this recommendation.

Supervisor Stone asked if we will be losing child care slots in Hemet by shifting modular's to Riverside. Mr. Freedman replied that Family Service Association has indicated a strong commitment to expand in Hemet even without F5R funding.

Mr. Supervisor Stone stated that he is not in support of taking away child care in Hemet in order to revive an area that has difficulties in Riverside.

He suggested getting a memo to clarify the issues of the Family Service Association that may be of concern to the Commission.

Mr. Freedman noted the request was originally to increase in Hemet and Alvord. The expansion at the Hemet site is not possible at this time due to a pending licensing issue awaiting a hearing with State Community Care Licensing.

Supervisor Stone noted that the Family Service Association should use their own resources to expand the site that can be expanded at this time. He further stated that at such time that FSA resolves the issues at the Hemet site, F5R can entertain continuing the present funding and that there should be a time table and if it is not resolved in a timely fashion, F5R should consider another provider to increase capacity in Hemet. Mr. Freedman noted that Licensing indicated it could take up to two years to resolve the issues.

Commissioner Vice-Chair Loew added that when the Commission reviewed the request last month, she was under the impression that there could possibly be another request to expand in Hemet, that it was being evaluated. It was clear that funding was being moved from Hemet to Riverside to ensure capacity was sustained in Riverside. It was not going to come at the expense of ensuring capacity was expanded in Hemet. The Commission was under the

impression they were leaving open the possibility there might still be a request that came back to the Commission that ensured capacity in Hemet.

It was indicated at the last meeting that by not moving forward with the request, there would be slots that would be lost in Riverside. She noted the additional information that was received by Mr. Freedman after the last Commission meeting, and transmitted to the Executive Committee of the Commission. She wanted to make sure the Hemet issue would not hamper the Commission's ability to sustain the Riverside site. F5R contracts now has a clause that requires agencies to notify the Commission of licensing issues. Commission Vice-Chair Loew felt it was important to bring the new information back to the Commission.

Mr. Freedman added there are no allegations at the Riverside site. Supervisor Stone commented that there could be problems that flow from Hemet to Riverside. He indicated that the Commission should look at alternate providers if it is going to take years to resolve the issues in Hemet.

At this time, Commission Vice-Chair Loew opened the floor for public comment from Dom Betro.

Public comment:

Mr. Dom Betro, CEO of Family Service Association, provided an overview of the handout he presented to the Commission. He referred to his handout noting detailed problems causing providers difficulty with provision of child care in the county. He noted he has been unable to resolve these issues in his many years of providing child care.

Mr. Betro requests the YWCA in Riverside program stand on its own merit. He responded to Supervisor Stone's comments and stated that FSA is fully committed to expanding services in Hemet regardless of what happens to this issue. FSA has the ability to do so at three possible sites in Hemet. He listed five different options of FSA's ability to expand in Hemet at FSA's facilities. He noted the Hemet accusation was made by licensing over a year ago and not a finding. He stated that FSA is exercising its due process rights concerning the accusation and FSA is still waiting for the State. He noted he is prepared to assert he will open up two more classrooms in Hemet. He noted they have complied with the contract with F5R and also sought to increase child care at two sites. Their only goal is to expand care to families in need. FSA saw the opportunity to provide care in two sites and not only one. He noted the child care needs should be taken on as a county.

Commissioner Carrillo asked Mr. Betro if he was going to preserve slots that are currently licensed at the YWCA. Mr. Betro noted he has applied to Child Care Licensing to take over the existing YWCA program. They are currently licensed for 47 children but only have 16 children using it. FSA has funding to fill those slots and they want to use the modulars from Hemet to expand to a larger facility at the YWCA. He is entering into an escrow agreement to take over the responsibility and the costs of the building and lease back space to the YWCA.

Commissioner Frykman then stated that if the Commission chooses to do nothing then the decision of the Commission of last month would stand. Mr. Freedman confirmed Commissioner Frykman's statement. Commissioner Frykman stated that, with regard to last month's action, FSA could move the modulars and then FSA would continue to plan on expanding in Hemet and possibly talk to F5R about helping them expand in the future but that is not something that is in the details at this point. Mr. Freedman again replied that Commissioner Frykman's statement was correct. Commissioner Frykman then stated that alternatively, the Commission could do something different at this point.

Mr. Betro addressed Supervisor Stone and noted he would be willing to amend the contract to specify that they would be willing to open two more classes in Hemet.

Mr. Freedman noted the one time only funds were scheduled to be expended by June 2009. At the Commission's discretion, it could be extended. Mr. Freedman stated that F5R would be happy to extend the timeline as F5R has taken a month to evaluate FSA's request.

Commissioner Beasley noted the YWCA has been here 150 years and they serve people in real need and that the YWCA facility is a fine child care facility. Riverside County needs the YWCA and the programs they offer. She supported saving the YWCA first and then looking at what to do with the other programs.

Commissioner Carrillo suggested funding FSA an additional \$200,000 more to expand in Hemet and shift modulars to Riverside. Mr. Freedman pointed out that FSA has already committed to expanding at Hemet regardless of F5R funds. Supervisor Stone wanted to make sure that the Commission does not jeopardize the expansion in Hemet by providing services in Riverside.

Mr. Betro noted he is exploring three options for locations of the two new classrooms as noted in his handout. He guaranteed he could open two more child care classrooms in Hemet. At this time, he could not provide confirmation of what site. They will be opened at another site in Hemet if he cannot add to the original site specified in the application.

Supervisor Stone suggested the Commission grant an extension to the contract for \$200,000 anticipated for the Hemet site to hold in a capital improvement plan for expansion. In the event that Mr. Betro can provide his own funding to expand in Hemet the funds will be drawn back into the general funds for another entity to use for child care in Hemet. Supervisor Stone wants to ensure that some entity, whether it be FSA which he hopes that it is or some other entity, that the Commission get the expansion in Hemet that has been promised.

Mr. Freedman suggested adopting Supervisor Stone's concept but reverse the timing to allow the previous action of the Commission from last month for FSA to shift the two modulars awarded from Hemet to Riverside YWCA stay as is. Commission will accept Mr. Betro's offer to commit to contractually obligate FSA to expand child care by two more classrooms in Hemet, without F5R funds.

F5R will reserve \$200,000 to expand child care in Hemet if FSA is unable to do so. If there is an application from another agency that is able to provide expansion in Hemet, someone other than FSA, the funds will be available.

Supervisor Stone acknowledged he would be satisfied with Mr. Freedman's scenario. At this time Commissioner Frykman moved to approved to approve the recommendation as Mr. Freedman presented. Supervisor Stone seconded Commissioner Frykman's motion.

Mr. Freedman noted action only needs to be taken to reserve approximately \$200,000 to be used for expansion in Hemet in the event that Family Service Association is not able to expand. Supervisor Stone expressed full support of preserving the YWCA facility for the benefit of for the children.

Commissioner Frykman added he would go so far as to amend the motion to even if FSA can expand, why not further expansion. If the Hemet area is in that much need, and if there is a way for FSA to expand further, the Commission should put the funds out there. He would not want to restrict the motion of expanding in Hemet to only if FSA can expand.

In the event that FSA can provide their own funding to expand in Hemet the funds will be drawn back into the general funds for another entity to use for child care in Hemet.

Commissioner Frykman moved to approve the recommendation presented by Supervisor Stone and to reserve \$200,000 in funds to be used to provide expansion in Hemet. FSA's contract will be amended to include a commitment by FSA to expand child care services in Hemet by two modulars at its own expense or with funds other than Riverside County Children and Families Commission funds. \$200,000 will be reserved to ensure the expansion in Hemet by another entity if FSA is unable to do so, or further increase capacity in Hemet if FSA successfully fulfills the revised contract terms. The motion will not be restricted to expanding in Hemet to only if FSA can not expand. Commissioner Stone seconded. The following motion was carried. [Following is a vote of the Commission members present: [Six (6) in favor (Loew, Stone, Beasley, Frykman, Hoffman, and Carrillo), Zero, (0) abstain, Two (2) absent (Wengerd, Oltean), Zero (0) opposed, One (1) vacant]

Commissioner Hoffman suggested having conversations with Community Care Licensing to gain a better understanding of policies and penalties so that the Commission can understand and support staff recommendations as appropriate. Commissioner Beasley suggested having Consultant, Gary Andary assist with the child care licensing issues. Mr. Freedman noted that staff will put the item on the agenda for next month. Staff will move forward with requesting a representative from State Licensing presentation.

(A copy of Mr. Freedman's complete Report is on file at the Commission's business office.)

6. Murrieta Valley Unified School District Request – Harry Freedman, Executive Director

Mr. Freedman reported that this item was pulled from the agenda. It will be presented at the June Commission meeting.

(Supervisor Stone left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.)

7. Mental Health Initiative Appeal – Sub-Committee Report, Yolanda Carrillo & Vicki Oltean

Ms. Carrillo reported there will be a recommendation at the June Commission meeting.

F. Information Items

1. April 2009 Financial Statement – Sandy Duncan, Administrator Fiscal

Ms. Duncan provided a summary of the April financial statement. She noted that due to new governmental accounting regulations, the fund balance will be reported differently in the next fiscal year.

(A copy of Ms. Duncan's complete Report is on file at the Commission's business office.)

2. Quarterly Target Report (July, 1 2008-March 31, 2009) – Johnathan McDannell, Administrator, Outcomes Management

Mr. McDannell reviewed the quarterly target report. Staff anticipates that three agencies will not fulfill meet their targets. Palo Verde USD has experienced lower numbers relating to children 0-5 and parents being assisted with health insurance enrollment. Another reason numbers were significantly lower is that there is a large population that is eligible for Medi-Cal but are unwilling to be transported out of the area for dental services not available in their community; transportation for dental appointments and the number of children receiving oral

health treatment are currently not on target. For the new fiscal year, F5R reduced the agency's health access numbers and requested that district staff review children's charts to identify insurance status and provide needed follow-up. The agency budget was reduced to correlate to the reduction in service.

The Commission was referred back to the information provided on Riverside Community Hospital in the report made by Arrin Banks earlier in the meeting.

The Carolyn Wylie Center has eliminated the parent fee and will only be able to serve 12 rather than 26 children. Their contract has been adjusted for next year and their budget has been reduced to reflect these changes in services. 70% of the funded agencies are on target.

Mr. McDannell shared the quarterly One Time Only report. Four agencies are waiting on permit or planning approvals. San Geronio Child Care Consortium is having difficulty in securing trainers which has caused a challenge for trainings/workshops to be scheduled prior to 6/30/09. F5R is unable to determine service accomplishments at this time. An extension was granted to the Department of Public Health for training child care providers on the Sesame Healthy Habits for Life; it is unclear if they will be able to reach their targets by December 31, 2009. Thousand Palms has two contracts currently on hold status.

Facilities Assistance Funds (FAF) report will be provided in June by Kristi Van Heule as part of her Child Care Capacity Initiative.

3. Public Relations Information – Jamie Ayala, Public Information Specialist

Ms. Ayala highlighted several areas in the report. She noted the joint campaign with San Bernardino has been implemented. Ms. Ayala distributed brochures with Lil Kid Tips. Commissioners commented that they were pleased with the First 5 billboards and the Lil Kid Tips. Ms. Ayala requested the Commission attend the First 5 Kid Fit event at Ramona High School on Friday beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Commissioner Beasley shared that a parent from The Wylie Center wrote a letter to the editor that was published in the Press Enterprise.

(A copy of Ms. Ayala's complete Report is on file at the Commission's business office.)

4. Executive Director Report – Harry Freedman, Executive Director

Mr. Freedman reviewed sections of his written report. F5R is beginning to receive more unsolicited requests for funding. In June, staff will bring the request from Murrieta School District with a recommendation. Staff will also bring a recommendation for general criteria for the Commission to evaluate future requests for funding.

Mr. Freedman reported at the NuView Dental Clinic grand opening, the clinic was named after Dr. Hoffman.

The local F5R Annual report will be distributed at the June Commission meeting.

Commissioner Beasley requested any First 5 materials to display at The Wylie Center. At The Wylie Center there is a counter that displays brochures for agencies' available services.

(A copy of Mr. Freedman's complete Report is on file at the Commission's business office.)

G. Funded Agency Public Comments

Commissioner Vice-Chair Loew noted she was handed requests to speak from the LEUSD SNAP staff. Ms. Schoenberg informed Vice-Chair Loew the SNAP staff had to leave but they were happy with the funding decision.

Dr. Carla Lidner noted she has hundreds of children on her dental waiting list waiting for dental treatment that do not have any other option for services. Dr. Lidner volunteers to run the countywide grant that screens children at preschools. She asked the Commission to keep in mind that children are in urgent need. They have dentists willing to take the Medi-Cal rates.

Commissioner Carrillo suggested Dr. Lidner submit a formal proposal to Mr. Freedman so he can provide it to the Commission for consideration.

H. Public Comments

None

I. Future Agenda Items

J. Commission Adjournment at 3:50 p.m. to the Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission on Wednesday, June 24, 2009, beginning at 1:30 p.m. at:

**Riverside County Children and Families Commission Office
2002 Iowa Avenue, Suite 100 – Conference Room A,
Riverside, California 92507**

Conflict of Interest: Any person, or group of persons present at this meeting, who wish (es) to speak on a matter may be required to State for the record any contributions, in excess of \$250.00 made in the past (12) twelve months, made to any Commission member, the Commission member receiving the contribution, and the matter of consideration with which they are involved.

Agenda Posting: Agendas will be posted at the Clerk of the Board of Riverside County and the Commission Business Office.

All public record documents for matters on the open session of the Agenda are available for inspection at the meeting listed in this Agenda, and at the following location beginning three (3) working days prior to the meeting date:

**Riverside County Children and Families Commission
2002 Iowa Avenue, Suite 100
Riverside, CA 92507**