

Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2025
Time: 1:03 PM – 3:00 PM

Members: Chair, Dr. Faris Sabbah, Sandy Brown, Diane Munoz, Kimberly Petersen, Johanna Schonfield, Dr. Raelene Walker; Sandy Brown

Absent: Jennifer Herrera, Sheree Storm

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum

2. Commission Member Remote Attendance Approval – Action Item

In accordance with AB 2449, Commissioners may participate in the Commission meeting remotely under the following conditions:

- Just Cause, or Emergency Circumstances
- Commission Approval

It is required that a Commission quorum be present in-person.

3. Review and Adopt Agenda – Action Item

M/S/P Motion passed unanimously.

4. Consent Agenda – Action Item

- A. Approved October 30, 2024 Commission Meeting Minutes
- B. Accepted Financial Report for the period ending December 2024
- C. Accepted First 5 Santa Cruz County Grant Application Tracker, 01/29/2025
- D. Accepted FY 24/25 First 5 Santa Cruz County Contracts Executed Under Executive Director Authority, 01/29/2025
- E. Accepted FY 24/25 First 5 Santa Cruz County Sponsorships report, 01/29/2025

M/S/P Motion passed unanimously.

5. Community Oral Communications

The community may address the Commission on items not listed on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of First 5 Santa Cruz County. If any member of the community wishes to address the Commission on any item that is listed on the agenda, they may do so when that item is called. Every item on the agenda welcomes public comment.

None.

6. Commissioner Oral Communications

Commissioner Peterson acknowledged the federal order to cut financial assistance to families. She shared that CalFresh and Medi-Cal are not included in the order and that the County is working on a communications plan to ensure that benefits will continue to families.

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Discussion continued while Commissioners Brown and Schonfield shared that the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution supporting a state bill to prevent ICE activity around schools, and Commissioner Schonfield reminded the Commission that law enforcement is barred by state law from working with ICE.

7. Strategic Planning Session – Information Item

Nicole Young from Optimal Solutions Consulting and Director Brody lead the Commission through the first of four strategic planning sessions scheduled between January and June of 2025. This first session focused on:

- Key themes from the Early Childhood Landscape Analysis
- Long-term Financial Plan
- 2025-2030 Strategic Results Framework
- Preparation for Strategic Planning Session 2

8. Supporting Immigrant Families with Young Children – Information Item

Staff lead a discussion with the Commission about local efforts to support immigrant families in Santa Cruz County and First 5 Santa Cruz County's role considering recent federal actions. An update was given on First 5's activities in this area including becoming part of the Santa Cruz County Immigration Coalition, supporting "Know Your Rights" red card distribution, and promoting local response websites including sudrechos.info, santacruzrapidresponse.org, and national websites like keepyourbenefits.org. Director Brody also emphasized that First 5 is also figuring out how it can help support families with young children complete Child Care Safety Plans.

9. 2024-2025 Budget Revision – Action Item

A. The Commission was asked to consider the Revised First 5 Santa Cruz County Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget in an amount not to exceed **\$4,319,718**.

B. The Commission found that the contracts listed below continue to meet the factors described in its sole source contracting policy section 1.b relating to the contractors' expertise being vital to the provision of services. The Commission delegated authority to the Executive Director to negotiate, execute, and amend contracts up to the amounts specified.

i. Operating Expenses – General Admin/Program Support/Evaluation

The Commission was asked to consider approving the contract with United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Administrative, Program Support, and Evaluation between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed **\$657,166**.

ii. Strategic Priority Investments

a. Commission was asked to consider approval of the contract with United Way of Santa Cruz County for First 5 Strategic Priority Investments between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed **\$1,807,240**.

b. The Commission was asked to consider approval of the FY 2024-2025 community grants and professional services contracts approved in amounts not to exceed:

Vendor	Priority Area	Program	10/30/2024 Authorization	Revised Authorization
Triple P America	Thriving Families	Triple P	\$162,000	\$326,395

M/S/P (Commissioners Petersen/Brown). Motion passed unanimously.

10. 2024-2025 Commission Meeting Calendar – Action Item

The Commission approved the revised 2024-2025 meeting calendar that adds an additional strategic planning meeting on May 14, 2025.

M/S/P: (Commissioners Walker/Munoz). Motion passed unanimously.

11. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM