



**FIRST 5 MARIN**

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## **A G E N D A**

### **Marin Children and Families Commission Regular Meeting**

**Wednesday, June 11, 2025**

**4:00-6:00 pm**

**Health & Wellness Center, 3240 Kerner Blvd. Room 109, San Rafael**

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83195103798?pwd=FUw5HxVG22E602ScbgvCH1jaiJTOaU.1>

**Meeting ID: 831 9510 3798      Passcode: 570088**

Public Comment – Members of the public may comment on any item on the agenda during consideration of the item. Each speaker will be given 3 minutes for comment. A respectful dialogue that supports freedom of speech and values diversity of opinion is encouraged.

- I. Call to Order & Roll Call (4:00 pm)**
- II. Approval of minutes of the meeting of May 14, 2025 & May 23, 2025 (4:03) - (Action)**
- III. Public Comment (4:05)** This is an opportunity for members of the public to provide comments on issues that are not on the Agenda. Three (3) minutes per speaker maximum.
- IV. Funded Partners Project Update - (4:15) - (Information)**
  1. Performing Stars of Marin
  2. Family Child Care Training Project - Marin Child Care Council
- V. Executive Director/Staff Report (4:50)**
  1. CalPERS Reconciliation Legal Recommendation by Olson Remcho (Action)
  2. Request to Approve Agreement with Cameron Hunter for evaluation of services and analysis of performance metrics pertaining to the reporting/assessment of funded partner projects in the amount of \$20,000, effective June 6, 2025 (Action)
  3. Request to Approve Agreement with Partnership Health Plan, effective March 1, 2025, authorizing and reimbursing Help Me Grow Marin for delivering Community Health Worker services to eligible Medi-Cal beneficiaries (Action)
- VI. Commissioner Items (5:20)**
  1. Request to Approve Contracts for the Continuation of Project Services for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, totaling \$1,011,526 (Action)
  2. Request to Approve A Resolution of the Marin County Children And Families Commission Approving the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget, Establishing an Administrative Cost Cap, and Affirming Fund Balance Allocations (Action)
  3. Summary of F5M Retreat of May 23, 2025 by Megan Joseph (Info)
- VII. Commission announcements & final comments (5:50) - (Info)**
- VIII. Adjournment (6:00pm) - (Action)**

**NEXT MEETING - September 10, 2025**

Copies of documents used in this meeting are available in accessible formats upon written request. The agenda is available online at [www.first5marin.org](http://www.first5marin.org). In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance (i.e. auxiliary aids or services) in order to participate in this public meeting, please contact First 5 Marin by calling (415) 257-8555 or email [Michelle@first5marin.org](mailto:Michelle@first5marin.org) at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.



## **Marin County Children and Families Commission**

### **MINUTES**

### **June 11, 2025**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by the Commissioner Chair, Dr. Jessica Hollman. The meeting was held at 3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 109 in San Rafael, California.

**Commissioners Present:** Kari Beuerman, Angie Evans, Dr. Jessica Hollman, Supervisor Eric Lucan, Lisa Raffel and Sandra Rosenblum.

Dave Bonfilio, Commissioner Emeritus

**Commissioners Excused:** Aideen Gaidmore, Itoco Garcia, Kelly McKinley

**Staff:** Maria Niggle, Michelle Fadelli and Susanne Kreuzer

**Guests/Public:** Emily Bugos (North Marin Community Services), Daphne Cummings (Marin Promise Partnership), Perla de los Santos (Parent Services Project), Dennise Enriquez (Marin Child Care Council), Felecia Gaston (Performing Stars of Marin), Rachel Greve (Museum of the American Indian), Ivana Jagodic (Postpartum Support Center), Anna Jay (Performing Stars of Marin), Iris Marin (Marin County Office of Education) Christina Rosado (family child care provider), Isabel Shaw (Marin County Office of Education), Michele Tyler (Marin Child Care Council). **Guests online:** Beatriz Duran, Monica Espitia, Megan Joseph (Impact Launch), Anna Myles-Primakoff (Olsen Remcho), Laura Szabados (Bay Area Discovery Museum), Tanya Taylor (Marin County Office of Education), LaTanya Wiggins (Wiggins Daycare)

#### **II. MINUTES**

The Minutes from the commission meeting held on May 14, 2025 were reviewed for approval. The **motion to approve** was made by Commissioner Beuerman; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans. The motion was unanimously approved and the Minutes for May 14, 2025 were adopted.

The Minutes from the commission retreat held on May 23, 2025 were reviewed for approval. The **motion to approve** was made by Commissioner Evans; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucan. The motion was unanimously approved and the Minutes for May 23, 2025 were adopted.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Michele Tyler announced that the Marin Child Care Council held their 11<sup>th</sup> annual provider dinner, with 250 guests. Also, the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Infant/Toddler Conference was scheduled for June 14<sup>th</sup>, with 81 registrants.

### IV. FUNDED PARTNER PROJECT UPDATES

- **Felecia Gaston** reported for **Performing Stars of Marin**: she said that they have been operating for 35 years with 3500 served, offering programs for low-income, multi-cultural residents. With the grant from First 5 Marin, they have been able to bring their programs to child care centers over the past year. The programs include music, dance, garden art and gymnastics.  
**Commissioner Lucan** asked if the classes also provide some break time for the teachers and child care providers; **Commissioner Evans** said the adults are always needed to support the presenter.  
**Felecia** said the classes also help teachers identify a child's strengths and interests.  
**Commissioner Evans** added that they can say to a parent, "Your child is a singer!"
- **Michele Tyler reported the Marin Child Care Council (MC3)**: she said they have been teaching the ASQ (Ages and Stages Questionnaire) to family child care providers, in English and Spanish; they are working with Help Me Grow Marin on that. They have also been working on the Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP), the primary entry point for child care providers, designed to improve quality and capacity; CCIP offers technical assistance with licensing, training and educational opportunities, business and marketing strategies and ongoing support (one-on-one or in a cohort).

Support from MC3 in 2024-25 has included: 240 home visits, 4800 phone calls, 9500 emails, and 24 meetings. They have welcomed 19 new providers (for about 114 new child care slots), and 9 are pending; 8 providers have grown from small (6 kids or less; no license required) to large providers (offering 46 child care slots).

Christina Rosado (a child care provider) said she was very grateful for the support from MC3. LaTanya Wiggins submitted a written statement with her appreciation for the resources, training and guidance from MC3.

### V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. **CalPERS Reconciliation/Legal Recommendation from Olson Remcho** – At this time it was noted that Maria Niggle and Michelle Fadelli stepped out of the meeting room. Anna Myles-Primakoff from Olson Remcho summarized the issue of improper deductions for CalPERS and medical coverage in past staff payroll; this applies to some current and former staff members. She described several options for repayment.

**A motion was made to authorize the commission chair (or her designee) to work with Olsen Remcho to offer a repayment plan to affected employees over a finite period of time.** The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Lucan; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans. The motion was unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – *the commission agreed to allow additional guests time to speak.*

**Emily Bugos from North Marin Community Services** reported that the playgroup funding from First 5 Marin has allowed them to hire a new development specialist, a Spanish-speaking Latina. She said it was important to have a Spanish speaker on the leadership team, and valuable for family support efforts.

**Isobel Shaw from the Marin County Office of Education** reported on the “Evidence-Based Data Exchange Project,” which connects preschool teachers with kindergarten and transitional kindergarten (TK) teachers. She said that 91% of families report feeling more comfortable approaching the new teacher; for 45% of parents, it was the first time meeting with a new teacher. They worked with 46 TK and kindergarten teachers at 21 elementary schools in 7 districts.

**Rachel Greve from Museum of the American Indian** reported that their summer playgroup had launched the day before for 24 children. She added that they have a new board and that the staffing structure was reorganized because of this educational program.

**Ivana Jagodic from the Postpartum Support Center** said that First 5 Marin helped them find their new home. Moving from a storage facility to real office space helped them build community trust, and they have tripled the number of families served. They now have four full-time and four part-time employees. They serve 1000 people every month.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (continued)**

- 2. Request to Approve Agreement with Cameron Hunter** – for evaluation of services and analysis of performance metrics for funded partner projects; for \$20,000, effective June 6, 2025. **A motion was made to approve the contract with Cameron Hunter.** The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Raffel; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucan. The motion was unanimously approved.
- 3. Request to Approve Agreement with Partnership Health, effective March 1, 2025** – authorizing and reimbursing Help Me Grow Marin for community health worker services (to be eligible for Medi-Cal beneficiaries). **A motion was made to approve the agreement with Partnership Health.** The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Beuerman; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Rosenblum. The motion was unanimously approved.

## VI. COMMISSIONER ITEMS

1. **Request to Approve Contracts for the Continuation of Project Services** (for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026) totaling \$1,011,526. **A motion was made to approve contracts for the continuation of project services.** The motion to approve was made by **Commissioner Evans**; the motion was seconded by **Commissioner Beuerman**. The motion was unanimously approved.
2. **Request to Adopt a Resolution of the Marin County Children and Families Commission Approving the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget** (Establishing an Administrative Cost Cap and Affirming Fund Balance Allocations)

**Maria Niggle** noted that grants are declining, ARPA funding is ending and home visiting is closing. She added that, with the assistance of (Commissioner Emeritus) **Dave Bonfilio** interest earnings were clarified to be \$92,000. A “reserve policy” was added to encumber six months of operating costs; the fund would cover our projects if we faced a significant loss of revenues.

**Dave Bonfilio** said we assumed a COLA (cost of living adjustment) of 3% and increased expenses of 5%. We used Department of Finance numbers for Proposition 10; Proposition 56 funding was down. Interest earnings are down because we have less cash. He noted that by the fourth year of this budget we will be spending more than we will be receiving.

**A motion was made to adopt the resolution approving First 5 Marin’s budget for fiscal year 2025-26.** The motion to approve was made by **Commissioner Lucan**; the motion was seconded by **Commissioner Raffel**. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. **Summary of First 5 Marin Retreat of May 23, 2025**

Megan Joseph from Impact Launch summarized several items from the retreat:

- Meeting norms/agreements – include on meeting agendas
- The work of the commission comes first. Ask “What can I do for the commission?”
- Speaking with “I” statements. (*connection to highlighted item below?*)
- Owning the impact of our words and actions.
- In these times, we are a critical component to community goals; we should go to the forefront (as a partner, convener, leader, funder, truth-teller and a bridge)
- We should speak as a body/commission, not as individuals.
- Commission culture: we should conduct a self-assessment of our role and commitment
- Commission Charter: consensus-building (information gathering, complete discussion, then a vote) + accountability (use yellow cards to indicate an issue with meeting agreements; use name tent cards when you want to speak.)

Commissioner Hollman noted that we already neglected the meeting norms. It was agreed that it's important for the September meeting that we add the meeting norms to the (top of the) agenda and have the commission chair review the norms at the beginning of the meeting (as an agenda item).

Megan continued reviewing the retreat discussion about First 5 Marin roles:

**Origins and purpose:** we are an “independent government agency” and not a non-profit. We are commissioners (serving on a commission), and not board members (serving on a board of directors). We need a chart comparing commissioner and board member roles. Maria noted that she is creating a shared file with relevant documents for commissioners. There was also a discussion whether the commission needs to exist. Maria noted that the (Prop. 10) revenues designated for Marin County would be lost if the commission disbanded; the funds would revert to First 5 California (and presumably split by other counties).

**Direct services vs. policy and advocacy:** depending on community needs; meet the moment. The RFP process (for our current funded partners) helped identify community gaps and needs. Our flexibility supports our responsiveness.

**Mission: embracing our role.** Do we understand our mission? The Charter will be helpful (Who are we? Why? How?) The Strategic Plan needs to be more specific; it can serve as a road map. An annual reflection could be helpful.

**Strategic Plan Refresh** – Megan summarized three goals/actions needed.

**A study session on each goal.** (Possibly an ad hoc committee and not the full commission?) Staff overview: what is already happening? (First 5 Marin and community?), data, landscape, gaps, where does First 5 need to act, strategies and measurable outcomes.

**Chart or memo on commission vs board member roles**— available for reference.

**An annual commission self-assessment.**

## VII. COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS and FINAL COMMENTS

**Commissioner Lucan** said he attended the backpack event at the South Novato Library.

**Commissioner Hollman** noted that our budget resolution referenced a 2.5% COLA but that we would align with the County of Marin. **Commissioner Lucan** said that final County rates are still pending, but could we “true up” when they are finalized? (Yes.) He suggested we tie to an unrepresented group.

**Commissioner Hollman** suggested the budget resolution adopted by the commission be amended to state that the final cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) for staff be adjusted to match the County of Marin percentage (as soon as approved by the Marin County Board of Supervisors).

**A motion was made to amend First 5 Marin's budget resolution to allow for adjusting the final COLA to match the number approved by the Marin County Board of Supervisors.** The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Raffel; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Michelle Fadelli announced the remaining dates for backpack distribution to preschoolers.

Maria Niggle reminded commissioners that she will be traveling internationally; she will be working the week of June 16<sup>th</sup> and on vacation afterwards, returning July 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Rosenblum** announced that the Marin Breastfeeding Coalition will be holding a breastfeeding festival on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The motion was made by **Commissioner Beuerman**, with a second by **Commissioner Rosenblum**. The motion was unanimously approved.