

**TULARE COUNTY CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**Minutes**

Thursday, February 9, 2006 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
7000 Doe Avenue, Visalia  
Resource & Referral Conference Room

Present: Karen Cardell, Ray Chavez, Brandi Clark, Rose Crow (Chair), Cynthia Garcia, Janet Hogan, Tracy Martinez, Deana McCoy, Edwyn Ortiz-Nance, Pam Pulford, Rose Rubio, Lois Sheffield, Tina Shirley (staff), Valerie Simonich and Vicki Wright.

Absent: Nancy Driver, Joe Engelbrecht, Carolyn Rose, Stan Stine, Prudy Tanner, and Mary Thomas.

Guests: Damian Maldonado.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A. Welcome

Rose Crow, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

B. Introductions

Members introduced themselves. Rose Crow announced that the Superintendent of Schools recently appointed Brandi Clark and Janet Hogan to the Council and the Board of Supervisors recently appointed Nancy Driver and Victoria Wright to the Council. The new members were welcomed to the meeting.

**II. COUNCIL TRAINING**

Karen Osborn, Resource & Referral Administrative Assistant, provided an overview of the Centralized Eligibility List (CEL). The CEL is a system that allows low-income families to apply at one location for assistance to pay for all or part of their child care needs. The information is placed on an eligibility list available to all subsidized programs in Tulare County. The Tulare County Office of Education is the agency contracted to operate the CEL. All Child Development contractors must participate to be eligible for continued funding, except for Campus programs, Seasonal Migrant Programs, and Bay Area Severely Handicapped programs. The CEL should be fully operational July 1, 2006.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Damian Maldonado MPA, After School Consultant, spoke to the Council about Proposition 49. Prop 49 increases state grant funds available for before and after school programs providing tutoring, homework assistance, and educational enrichment. Establishes priority for continued funding level for schools already receiving grants. Makes public elementary, middle and junior high schools, including charter schools, eligible for grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$75,000. Provides priority for additional funding for schools with predominantly low-income students. Declares that funding for before and after school programs shall be above Proposition 98 base funding, and at least \$85 million for first year increasing to \$550 million annually if state revenues grow.

Damian stated that there would be a summit on March 17, 2006 and encouraged Council members to attend.

**IV. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Approval of December Minutes

Pam Pulford made a motion to approve the December minutes as presented. Valerie Simonich seconded the motion. Brandi Clark, Cynthia Garcia, and Janet Hogan abstained. The motion was carried.

B. Revised Budget

A revised budget was presented to the Council for review. The budget reflected the deletion of Celeste Rodriguez's salary, the deletion of the Read for Life line item as the event was cancelled, an increase in equipment for a monitor, an increase in marketing items and changes to Council activities. Funds were allocated to the summit and forums.

Deana McCoy made a motion to approve the revised budget with the equipment line item change from no request to monitor. Ray Chavez seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

## V. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

### A. Executive Committee

#### i. Conference Attendance Policy

Rose Crow announced that the Executive Committee has drafted a policy for conference attendance. Members reviewed and discussed the draft. It was suggested that the fiscal year be utilized in the policy rather than the calendar year. Staff will make the revisions and members will vote on the policy at the next meeting.

#### ii. Nominating Committee

One member from each category was chosen, by lot, to serve on the Nominating Committee. Those chosen are, Karen Cardell, Rose Crow, Cynthia Garcia, Carolyn Rose, and Lois Sheffield. The committee will set a time to meet.

### B. Collaboration Workgroup

Rose Rubio gave an updated on the Collaboration workgroup. Rose stated that the workgroup has been working on a survey that will be distributed to all members. The purpose of the survey is to gather information about members on the Council in an effort to effectively collaborate internally. Rose also stated that the workgroup is suggesting putting member bio's and pictures up on the website. Some Council members expressed concern about having their information on the website. Members discussed the pros and cons of having the information on the web. Ray Chavez made a motion to only have the survey available to members. Pam Pulford seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

### C. Public Awareness Workgroup

Pam Pulford updated the Council on the activities of the Public Awareness Workgroup. Two forums will be held to get public input on the child care priorities. A forum on March 21, 2006 will be held in Visalia in the R&R conference room and a forum on March 23, 2006 will be held in Porterville at the WIB office. Pam encouraged Council members to participate and stated that a facilitator would be needed for each forum. A suggestion was made that a translator be available for Spanish speaking participants. Staff will arrange for this.

### D. Preschool for All/Universal Preschool Workgroup

Lois Sheffield updated the Council on the activities of the workgroup. Staff spoke with Karen Hill-Scott. Ms. Hill-Scott stated that she will keep the date of the summit open, but does not believe she is the best person for the event. She thought that since the purpose of the summit is to provide viewpoints from those for and against the initiative and that a Q&A session would follow, the best person to speak in favor of the initiative would be someone from the campaign. Although, she did not say no, she was not sure she would be able to accurately and effectively answer all questions related to the initiative. Ms. Hill-Scott gave staff contact information for the PFA campaign and also a foundation that is opposing the initiative.

The workgroup has agreed to proceed with the summit having a representative from the PFA campaign and a representative from the opposition. Also, based on salary changes in the LPC budget, the Council will be able to fully fund the summit.

### E. First 5 Tulare County

Ray Chavez and Janet Hogan gave the following updates on the activities of First 5 Tulare County.

- Sterling Bishop is the new Project Manager for OCERS.
- The Commission will be collaborating with Madera, Fresno, and Merced counties to broadcast "0-5 in 30 minutes" with Valley Public Television. These are repackaged shows and will be close captioned in Spanish. The broadcasts begin March 1, 2006.
- A comprehensive update has been conducted on the strategic plan. The update will be presented at the next Commission meeting.

- A new RFP will be released on March 1, 2006. The funding will be focused on the new strategic plan and will be less than in previous years. The RFP's will be due in mid-April.
- Healthy Kids coverage is set to begin March 1, 2006.

F. CDPI Budget Workshop

Cynthia Garcia attended the CDPI Budget Workshop on behalf of the Council. She gave a summary of what was presented at the workshop and distributed packets of information to members.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

**VII. NEXT SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING**

A. April 13, 2006

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.