



The First 5 Yolo Children and Families Commission met on the 14th day of January, 2026 at International House, 10 College Park, Davis 95616.

Commissioners in attendance: Anna Domek, Barbara Boehler, Aimee Sisson, Sally Brown, Lucas Frerichs, Jenn Rexroad, Garth Lewis, Nichole Arnold

Staff in attendance: Victoria Zimmerle, Melina Ortigas
Absent: Gina Daleiden due to family medical emergency

Public in attendance: Sarah Smernes Edson

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

Item #1: Call to order

L. Frerichs called meeting to order at 3:10pm

Item # 2: Roll Call

L. Frerichs took a voice roll call.

Absent: M. Roberts

Late: N/A

Item #3: Consider approval of the agenda

Approve Meeting Agenda

Motion: S. Brown **Second:** J. Rexroad
Motion carried unanimously

Item #4: Opportunity for Commissioners to State Conflict and Recusal

None.

Item # 5: Public Comment

No public comment.

Item #6: Meeting Dedication to First 5 Founding Leader, Rob Reiner

L. Frerichs shared remarks regarding the recent passing of First 5 founding leader Rob Reiner and his wife. He reflected on Rob Reiner's longstanding advocacy for children and families and his leadership during the passage of Proposition 10. Commissioners observed a moment of silence in recognition of his legacy and dedicated the meeting in his honor.



CONSENT AGENDA

Executive Director recommends approval of Consent Agenda Items 7 – 12.

Item #7: Approve First 5 Yolo Commission Meeting Minutes from 10/29/25

Item #8: Approve First 5 Yolo Finance Committee Meeting Minutes from 12/01/25

Item #9: Approve First 5 Yolo Special Commission Meeting Minutes from 12/01/25

Item #10: Accept Health and Safety Fiscal Half Year 2 2024-2025 Program Performance Measure Progress Report

Item #11: Authorize Contract with Yolo Crisis Nursery to Provide Welcome Baby: Road to Resilience In-Clinic Navigation Services for the Period January 15, 2026-June 30, 2027, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$223,000 Across the Initial Term of the Agreement

Item #12: Receive Sponsorship Fund Allocation Report (Yolo County Caregivers Collective Wee Winter Wonderland Series; Empower Yolo Human Trafficking Awareness Month)

Approve consent agenda items 7-12

Motion: J. Rexroad **Second:** B. Boehler

Motion carried unanimously

REGULAR AGENDA

Item #13: Adopt First 5 Yolo 2026 Policy Priorities

L. Frerichs presented the proposed 2026 Policy Priorities, noting that historically First 5 Yolo's priorities have aligned with First 5 statutory requirements and statewide First 5 Association priorities. He explained that the policy framework continues this alignment with an emphasis on funding sustainability and alignment with broader state initiatives. Commissioners commented on the clarity and accessibility of the format and expressed support for maintaining consistency with prior year priorities.

Adopt First 5 Yolo 2026 Policy Priorities

Motion: G. Lewis **Second:** A. Sisson

Motion carried unanimously

Item #14: Receive Report on Proposed Ballot Measure for Early Childhood and Childcare Services and Consider Available Options

L. Frerichs provided background on the Community Survey completed by FM3 earlier in the year to assess public perceptions around funding needs for early childhood and childcare as well as the public's attitudes towards a potential revenue measure to support identified needs. Findings from the survey indicated that a Countywide sales tax to support early childhood and



childcare could be successful if placed before voters on a future ballot via voter signatures requiring only 50% plus 1 vote to pass, as results showed 57% in support countywide.

The Commission reviewed draft Ballot Measure language which was developed by First 5 Yolo and Yolo County Office of Education with input from community members, leaders, and stakeholders, aligned with allowable public agency activities and statutory functions as subject matter experts. Leveraging the existing public infrastructure of First 5 Yolo, the Measure Draft lists First 5 Yolo as the administering agency for a proposed countywide sales tax dedicated to children, specifically allocating 70% of revenues to childcare and 30% of revenues to early childhood. L. Frerichs further explained that while the Commission cannot directly place a measure on the ballot, it may request Board of Supervisors action or take no action and allow a voter-led effort to proceed.

L. Frerichs also discussed the statutory limitations on public agency advocacy and emphasized the importance of maintaining a clear separation between educational outreach and campaign activity. He noted that the Commission's role remains focused on providing data, research findings, and community needs assessments to inform decision-making without engaging in electioneering. Commissioners discussed the importance of transparency and coordination with County leadership.

Commissioners discussed the implications of ballot language complexity, coordination with potential city and county revenue measures, sales tax cap considerations, and sequencing of state legislative approvals.

Public comment was received from S. Edson, a community member involved in the citizen committee effort, who described the development of draft ballot language and emphasized the advantages of a voter-led approach requiring a simple majority vote threshold as opposed to the 2/3 majority required if the Commission requests that the Board of Supervisors puts the measure on the ballot.

After discussion, Commissioners expressed support for allowing a community-led process to move forward independently.

Take No Action on the Proposed Measure

Motion: A. Sisson **Second:** S. Brown

Motion carried unanimously

Item #15: Public Hearing: Receive First 5 Yolo Annual Local Evaluation Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25

M. Ortigas presented highlights from the Annual Local Evaluation Report, including participant demographics, service reach, performance outcomes across major initiatives, and strategic plan alignment. She also noted that the Report is aligned to the Freidman Results-Based



Accountability framework answering the questions of “How much was done?”, “How well was it done?”, and “Is anyone better off?”. Staff highlighted improvements in developmental screening rates, positive home visiting outcomes, strong Help Me Grow service delivery, and continued IMPACT Legacy provider support. Commissioners commented positively on the visual presentation format and the growth in overall participation compared to the prior fiscal year.

Commissioners asked questions about data sharing availability from Kaiser Managed Care Plan. Staff noted that Kaiser represents a small but growing portion of the population served and that while data sharing is not yet in place, discussions are ongoing. F5Y has had success in working with Partnership Health Plan to get tailored data on its members to provide additional insight into Yolo-specific outcomes and staff are working to develop a similar relationship with Kaiser. F5Y has executed its MOU with Kaiser and is in contracting discussions which will further support this effort.

Public Hearing Open: 4:02pm

No public comment.

Public Hearing Close: 3:53pm

Item #16: Adopt First 5 Yolo Annual Local Evaluation Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25

The report and discussion on this item was heard during the previous item, Item 15.

Adopt First 5 Yolo Annual Local Evaluation Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25

Motion: S. Brown **Second:** N. Arnold

Motion carried unanimously

Item # 17: Accept Quarter 1 Fiscal Year 2025-26 Revenue and Expenditure Summary Report

V. Zimmerle reviewed the report noting recommended budget revisions to reflect changes to First 5 Yolo’s MHSa contract from Yolo County and associated programmatic changes as well as changes to the personnel object to reflect increased Extra Help Clinical Supervision which will be grant funded. She shared that the projected closing fund balance as of January 2026 is approximately \$2.5 million, noting that the adopted budget includes a planned draw on Fund Balance to sustain current multi-year program commitments, aligned with the Commission’s Strategic Plan. She explained that because the draw is occurring from the Sustained Initiatives Fund and reserves, the projected fund balance will fluctuate over the course of the year based on expenditures and revenue timing. She confirmed that both the cash flow reserve and catastrophic reserve remain at their target levels.

Commissioners expressed appreciation for the financial update and for the clarity provided in the reporting. They discussed the importance of the runway authorized by the Board of Supervisors to support the transition from MHSa to BHSA funding, allowing time to implement Medi-Cal billing, including CHW and ECM services for the long-term sustainability of Help Me Grow and other programs. Staff noted that First 5 Yolo has successfully launched its ECM program within Help Me Grow, is actively enrolling families, and has successfully submitted its



first claims to Partnership Health Plan. Commissioners acknowledged the successful transition to new billing systems and commended staff for managing complex funding changes while maintaining program stability.

Accept Quarter 1 Fiscal Year 2025-26 Revenue and Expenditure Summary Report

Motion: G. Lewis **Second:** S. Brown

Motion carried unanimously

Item #18: Chief Executive Officer Report

V. Zimmerle reported in G. Daleiden's absence. She noted the following:

- First 5 Yolo is actively billing for Enhanced Care Management services and is working to scale enrollment. She noted that eligibility determination, particularly for very young children, remains a challenge due to limited clarity in state guidance. She thanked Yolo County HHSA staff for their support and work with First 5 Yolo to better understand HHSA Specialty Mental Health Service eligibility which is supporting First 5 Yolo's ability to enroll children in ECM.
- First 5 Yolo will complete the rollout of CHW billing and expand billing for additional service lines, including long-term home visiting within Welcome Baby: Road to Resilience. She also reported that staff are working on First 5 Yolo's enrollment with DHCS to be able to bill fee-for-service Medi-Cal which will support additional revenue drawdown.
- Efforts are ongoing with Partnership Health Plan to improve referral processes and First 5 Yolo has completed its build of its new Database to function as the Electronic Health Record for Help Me Grow services and will be launching imminently.
- First 5 Yolo's new website is live and additional content edits are forthcoming.

Item #19: Commissioners Report

A. Sission confirmed that the California Department of Public Health and West Coast Health Alliance continue to recommend following the immunization schedule from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16pm

Next meeting scheduled:
Commission Meeting
March 11, 2026
International House
10 College Park, Davis, CA 95616