

**Location of Meeting:** First 5 Shasta, 393 Park Marina Circle, Redding, CA 96001

**Topic:** First 5 Shasta Commission Meeting

**Time:** August 28, 2023, 2:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

**1. Call to Order**

Welcome and Introductions by Brian Cole, Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. Cole called for a motion to add a revised budget to the agenda as item number six.

**Motion to add Revised Budget as agenda item:**

**Motion/Seconded:** Garman/Vogt

**Ayes:** Barry, Cole, Cooper, Garman, Vogt, Vovakes, Rodriguez

**Nays:** None

**Motion:** Approved

Commission

Joe Ayer (2:59 p.m.)  
Kathy Barry  
Brian Cole  
Elisabeth Cooper  
Tim Garman  
Miguel Rodriguez  
Cindy Vogt  
Michael Vovakes

Staff

Wendy Dickens  
Elizabeth Poole  
Nicole Brainerd  
Tristen Grantham

Public

**2. Public Comment Period**

Members of the public are entitled under the Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950 et seq) to address the Commission on any matter within the Commission’s subject matter jurisdiction. Members of the public may speak for up to three minutes on any matter concerning the Commission, with the exception of items related to pending judicial, administrative litigation, or personnel matters. The Act prohibits the Commission from taking action or discussing the item unless it is already on the agenda.

**Commissioner Recusal Reminder**

All Commissioners are reminded to recuse themselves from voting on any agenda item that has a real or perceived conflict of interest.

**3. Consent Agenda**

**Action Item**

Items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. They will be acted upon at one time without discussion. Any commission member or interested person may request removal of an item from the Consent Agenda for discussion later on the agenda. Consider the approval of the following items:

- a. Minutes from July 5, 2023 Commission Meeting
- b. First 5 Shasta Financial Report FY 2022-23 (July-June) Budget to Actual
- c. First 5 Shasta Financial Report FY 2023-24 (July) Budget to Actual

The commissioners reviewed minutes and noticed that Michael Vovakes was not listed as in attendance for the July Commission meeting and Elisabeth Cooper’s name was typed incorrectly. Grantham will make the amendments to the minutes.



Motion to approve consent agenda with amendments to the July 5, 2023, minutes:

Motion/Seconded: Rodriguez/Garman

Ayes: Barry, Cole, Cooper, Garman, Vogt, Vovakes, Rodriguez

Nays: None

Motion: Approved

#### 4. Approve First 5 Shasta Strategic Plan 2019–2026

#### Action Item

Jennifer O'Donnell with Glen Price Group reviewed the strategic planning process that occurred over the last year with First 5 Shasta (F5S). O'Donnell discussed the discovery process, the highlights that were discovered, opportunities within the community and targeted priorities for the strategic plan. The largest change to the strategic plan was the indicators of success: reduced numbers, reliability of data and mix of performance and population measures. Jennifer reviewed the updated strategic plan goals, indicators, and objectives.

Vogt asked that there be inclusive language around families. Poole reminded the group that the strategic plan revision was just about the goals, but that language is included within the full strategic plan document.

Motion to approve First 5 Shasta Strategic Plan 2019–2026:

Motion/Seconded: Garman/Vovakes

Ayes: Barry, Cole, Cooper, Garman, Vogt, Vovakes, Rodriguez

Nays: None

Motion: Approved

#### 5. Reports

A report on topics and important information related to the committee or position.

##### a. Admin Ad Hoc

The Admin Ad Hoc Committee is exploring conversations about supporting Pathways to Hope for Children (Pathways). Dickens sent the draft legal agreement to Pathways for review but there was some angst about the verbiage. Dickens had a further discussion with the team to clarify some of the concerns. Dickens mentioned that F5S cannot support Pathways without it being a team effort but the assumption from Pathways was to only compensate for Dickens alone. Dickens also wanted additional information about their budget and finances which F5S did not have access to at the time of the drafting of the agreement. Cole added that the last conversation with Pathways went well, and conversations are continuing and making sure that staff will be adequately paid for taking on additional work. Dickens mentioned the next steps would be to have some of the Commissioners attend the next Pathways board meeting.

Cole added that F5S is a structured organization in the community, and it would be a benefit for Pathways to have that structure. Vogt added that perhaps F5S could rebuild their credibility as it has declined as of late. Vogt asked about the plan to move forward. Dickens mentioned Pathways is looking over the agreement and will be getting back to F5S with any questions or changes. Ayer asked if Pathways has a plan, Dickens added that Pathways is still moving forward with hiring an Executive Director along with continued discussions with F5S. Ayer also added that he hopes they make the decision quickly since F5S is putting in a lot of effort. Dickens agreed that as these discussions between agencies have been prolonged and F5S risks damaging a reputation.

Dickens asked the group what the appropriate times frame to make a decision. Ayer said that the upcoming board meeting for Pathways should be F5S final offer to move forward with Pathways. Garman asked Dickens to clarify her stance on the potential partnership with Pathways. Dickens is not afraid of the hard work and that both agencies would mesh

synergistically regarding vision and mission, but Dickens feels the decision needs to come more quickly than Pathways is prepared to act upon. There is an outside funder willing to financially support Pathways and F5S in perpetuity if the venture goes through. That funding will not be available outside of F5S working with Pathways. The benefits for F5S would be leveraging funding for the 0-8 population and other potential grant opportunities. Dickens stated that if this does not go through within the next month then F5S will need to move on from the partnership.

Ayer added that a partnership with Pathways does not work out, that the Commission should investigate formulating a 501c3.

Vovakes mentioned that it would be beneficial to give them a time limit, and to follow up in a year if they still need assistance. Dickens agreed.

Rodriguez mentioned that both organizations are in political crossfires which could create a larger range. Rodriguez added that he would not be supportive of the partnership and would recuse himself from the vote. Rodriguez added that just because F5S supports Pathways the federal funding is not guaranteed and will have to go out for RFP. Dickens asked Rodriguez if there was something more recent regarding political crossfires. Rodriguez said there is nothing recent but ongoing. Vovakes mentioned that F5S budget does not come out of the county. Rodriguez is worried about Pathways taking another political hit. Dickens mentioned that the Child Abuse Prevention Council funding in Siskiyou County goes directly to First 5 Siskiyou and does not pass through the county.

Dickens mentioned that this was just a verbal update for the group and will hopefully have some more information soon.

b. Evaluation & Advisory Committee

c. Executive Director

An intern started with us from Shasta College. Poole added that fall events are starting to ramp up. Dickens agreed to keep the commission informed of those upcoming events.

d. Commission

Vogt mentioned that there is an event at the Redding Teen Center and hoping for community support. Cole mentioned that RPD is currently in the hiring process for a new chief so there will be some internal happenings. Dickens mentioned she had a conversation with Sheriff Johnson about resources available to individuals who come out of jail, especially regarding families and children being impacted.

**6. Budget Revision**

**Action Item**

Dickens described that we have been looking for fencing quotes in the community, the current fence is getting damaged, and there are hypodermic needles and feces. Dickens mentioned that the fence needs to be replaced with something more structured as well as work to enclose our garbage containers from being stolen. Dickens also added a little cushion for other building maintenance that may come up in the next year.

Nicole highlighted changes with the Proposition 10 projections and the updated building maintenance line items to \$25,000.

**Motion to increase budget from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for building maintenance:**

**Motion/Seconded:** Vogt/Garmin

**Ayes:** Ayer, Barry, Cole, Cooper, Garman, Vogt, Vovakes, Rodriguez

**Nays:** None

Motion: Approved

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Submitted By,

Tristen Grantham

