



**MINUTES  
FIRST 5 RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
Commission Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, July 9, 2025  
2:00 PM**

First 5 Riverside County  
585 Technology Ct  
Riverside, California 92507

**Commissioners Present:** Supervisor Chuck Washington, Jose Campos, Charity Douglas, Elizabeth Romero, and Zachary Ginder

**Commissioners Absent:** Kimberly Saruwatari, Takashi Wada, and Edwin Gomez

**Commissioners Vacancy:** District V

**Administrative Staff Present:** Tammi Graham, Executive Director; Charna Widby, Assistant Director; Michael Knight, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director; Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV; Carol Abella, Regional Manager; Larissa Wills, Regional Manager; Charity Webb, Regional Manager; Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist; Martina Guevara, Commission Coordinator; Victor Lopez, Business Process Analyst II; Luis Garcia, Business Process Analyst II; Michael Avalos, Support Services Technician

**Legal Counsel:** Kristine Bell-Valdez, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

**A. Call to Order – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**

1. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Vice Chair Campos
2. Roll Call – Conducted by Lynn Stephens, Executive Assistant IV

**B. Public Comments (for items not listed on the agenda) – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**  
None

**C. Commission and Advisory Committee Business – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**

1. Director's Report – Tammi Graham, Executive Director; Charna Widby, Assistant Director; Michael Knight, Assistant Director; Patricia Perez, Deputy Director

Presented by Tammi Graham

- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Updates
- Presentation of Illustrated Recognition

Ms. Stephens presented framed illustrations to Chair Washington and Vice Chair Campos, capturing key points from the messages delivered by them as featured speakers during the 25th Anniversary Celebration. A framed copy was also provided to Ms. Graham in recognition of her leadership.

Presented by Charna Widby

- 2027 Strategic Plan Update

Presented by Tammi Graham

- Recognition of JoAnne Lauer's Leadership and Retirement

2. Public Information Report – Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist

Presented by Sean Pravica

- Congratulations were extended to Michelle Rodriguez, Public Information Specialist, on the birth of her baby boy.
- PIO Meeting: Media Advisory

Chair Washington requested that staff follow up with Fire Chief Bernard Molloy of Murrieta, a potential partner for promoting water safety/drowning prevention scholarships. Additionally, staff were asked to provide him with an overview of First 5 services and the RivCo One integrated services efforts. Ms. Widby confirmed she will take the lead on this request. (Commissioner Romero arrived at 2:18 p.m.)

3. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Douglas expressed appreciation for the staff's work on drowning prevention and highlighted the partnership with the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS). Commissioner Douglas acknowledged Ms. Widby for her partnership and contributions, which have led to increased referrals. Chair Washington noted that Supervisors receive emails when drownings occur.

Commissioner Ginder commended staff for effectively promoting funded programs, and he recognized the success of First 5 Riverside County's 25th Anniversary Celebration.

Vice Chair Campos concurred with Commissioner Ginder and congratulated staff who received their Community Health Worker (CHW) certifications. Vice Chair Campos encouraged continued collaboration to enhance family services and expressed gratitude to the leadership of First 5 Riverside County and First 5 California (F5CA) on the ongoing policy work. Vice Chair Campos further noted that Jurupa Unified School District is part of Cohort 1 of the Children Youth, and Health Initiative, which supports the sustainability of clinical and counseling services.

D. **Presentation/Information Item – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all presentation items and attachments can be viewed at [www.rccfc.org](http://www.rccfc.org) and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Presentation of Champion for Children Award, Angela Muñoz, Director, Outreach & Education, JFK Memorial Foundation - Sean Pravica, Senior Public Information Specialist

Presented by Sean Pravica

- Honoring Champion for Children Nominees
- Honoring 2025 Champion for Children, Angela Muñoz  
-Ms. Muñoz provided brief comments

2. Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) Presentation - UPK - Mixed Delivery System Update, Including Introduction of Assistant Superintendent Kathy King - Jennifer Beggs, Executive Director, Early Care Education

Ms. Beggs introduced the newly appointed Assistant Superintendent, Kathy King. Ms. Beggs provided an informational presentation on the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Mixed Delivery System work happening in Riverside County.

3. Inland Empire Children's Cabinet Presentation - Susan Gomez, Chief Executive Officer, and Brian Romo, Director of Policy and Project Lead, Inland Empire Community Collaborative (IECC)

Ms. Gomez and Mr. Romo highlighted key areas of the presentation.

Commissioner Douglas inquired about where to access information at upcoming meetings and asked what specific actions the Commission can take to advance the work. Mr. Romo responded to Commissioner Douglas's question by recommending that she visit the IECC website for information on upcoming meetings. He also noted that Commissioners can be added to a distribution mailing list to receive notifications about IECC activities.

Ms. Gomez responded to Commissioner Douglas's second question by emphasizing the greater need is for the coordination of services and the development of networks and coalitions that speak to issues of injustice. She stated that IECC welcomes engagement from committees and individuals who would like to support the efforts moving forward.

Commissioner Ginder acknowledged his appreciation of the work being done in the community. Ms. Gomez noted that the following cities being prioritized are San Jacinto and Riverside.

Commissioner Romero inquired about policy efforts and recommended providing training for local elected officials on effective engagement of policy strategies.

Ms. Gomez responded that she serves as the Chair of the Inland Empire Vital Conditions Network. The network focuses on supporting providers and elected officials to build their civic muscle. The Funders Alliance is funding a Civic Engagement Pool Plan designed to help both non-profit and for-profit organizations build their civic capacity. Mr. Romo added that outreach efforts are underway with the City of Adelanto's Supervisors and elected officials to encourage their engagement in these efforts. Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson is also a supporter of the efforts.

Chair Washington asked whether the Youth Advisory Council, which is comprised of high school juniors and seniors, would be an appropriate group to engage with IECC. Ms. Gomez concurred.

**E. Presentations/Action Items – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair**

1. **25-26:** Approve Funding Stability for Home Visiting Provider Contracts for FY 2024-2026 [**\$1,056,842 - PROP 10 FUNDS**] - Charna Widby, Assistant Director

Chair Washington noted a conflict of interest for Vice Chair Campos due to his role as Director of Jurupa Unified School District.

Ms. Bell-Valdez confirmed that the five members present constituted a quorum for the meeting. She noted that, although Vice Chair Campos would typically recuse himself from the discussion and vote, action item 25-26 had already been continued from the May Commission meeting due to a lack of quorum. To avoid further delay and potential service lapses, she explained the Rule of Necessity could permit his participation. Vice Chair Campos ultimately opted to abstain from the vote.

Ms. Widby provided an overview of the request before the Commission.

Ms. Graham added that the request would allocate “safety dollars” to allow First 5 to administer additional funding for agencies to provide referrals and enroll families as needed, with quarterly updates to be provided to the Commission.

*Commissioner Romero moved to approve action item 25-26 as presented. Commissioner Ginder seconded the motion. **Motion carried.***

**Abstain:** Vice Chair Campos (conflict of interest).

**Absent:** Commissioner Saruwatari, Commissioner Wada, and Commissioner Gomez.

**F. Consent Items – Supervisor Chuck Washington, Chair** (A copy of all action items and attachments can be viewed at [www.rccfc.org](http://www.rccfc.org) and at the Commission Business Office)

1. Approve First 5 Riverside County Draft Commission Meeting Minutes - May 14, 2025 Session
2. **25-27:** Approve First Amendment with Riverside University Health System - Public Health for Shared Staffing from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026 (**MOU NO. HSARC-25-007**) [**\$481,565 - PROP 10 FUNDS**]
3. **25-28:** Approve and Ratify Contract with Riverside University Health System - Community Health Centers to Support HealthySteps Sustainability from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 (**CONTRACT NO. CF25144**) [**\$841,756 - PROP 10 FUNDS**]
4. **25-29:** Approve Contract with Imagine Los Angeles, Inc. for Benefit Navigator Pilot from July 9, 2025 – June 30, 2026 (**CONTRACT NO. CF25145**) [**\$144,650 PROP 10 FUNDS**]
5. **25-30:** Approve Contract with Health Management Associates, Inc. for Technical Assistance from July 9, 2025 – June 30, 2026 (**CONTRACT NO. CF25143**) [**\$150,000 - PROP 10 FUNDS**]
6. **25-31:** Approve and Ratify Contract and Terms with Loma Linda University Children's Hospital for Help Me Grow Inland Empire from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 (**CONTRACT NO. CF25146**) [**\$500,000 - PROP 10 FUNDS**]
7. **25-32:** Authorize Release of Request for Proposal for a Comprehensive Child Care Needs Assessment [**\$250,000 - PROP 10 FUNDS**]

8. **25-33:** Approve Contract with Inland Empire Community Collaborative, Inc. for the Inland Empire Children's Cabinet Project from July 9, 2025 – June 30, 2026 (**CONTRACT NO. CF25133**) [**\$170,000 - PROP 10 FUNDS**]

*Vice Chair Campos moved to approve consent items 1-8 as presented. Commissioner Ginder seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.***

**Absent:** Commissioner Saruwatari, Commissioner Wada, and Commissioner Gomez.

**G. Future Agenda Items:**

1. Strategic Plan Accomplishments
2. Home Visiting Epidemiologist Presentation
3. First 5 Annual Audit FY 24/25 and Public Hearing
4. First 5 Annual Report FY 24/25 and Public Hearing

- H. **Adjournment:** Adjournment at 3:17 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Riverside County Children and Families Commission to be held on September 10, 2025 beginning at 2:00 p.m. at: First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission Office 585 Technology Court - Conference Room A Riverside, CA 92507

Meeting Minutes Recorded by Lynn M. Stephens, Executive Assistant IV.