



**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO**  
*Child and Family Strengthening  
Advisory Board*  
**Minutes of June 18, 2019**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

GREG COX  
First District  
DIANNE JACOB  
Second District  
KRISTIN GASPAR  
Third District  
NATHAN FLETCHER  
Fourth District  
JIM DESMOND  
Fifth District

**Members Present:**

Supervisor Greg Cox, County Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor Nathan Fletcher, County Board of Supervisors  
Judge Kimberlee Lagotta, Juvenile Court  
Pamela O'Neil, District 3 Appointee  
Alethea Arguilez, First 5 San Diego  
Maddy Kilkenny, District 5 Appointee  
Crystal Irving, Protective Services  
Patty Boles, Straight from the Heart, Inc.  
Suzanne Starling, Chadwick Center for Children and Families  
Sarah Pauter, Phenomenal Families  
Meredith Riffel, District 2 Appointee  
Adam Reed, Dependency Legal Services  
Carolyn Griesmer, Children's Legal Services of San Diego  
Stephen Moore, Voices for Children, Inc.  
Jeff Weimann, Angels Foster Family Network  
Cheryl Rhodes, San Diego Center for Children  
Kimberly Giardina, Child Welfare Services  
Dr. Paul Gothold, San Diego County Office of Education  
Chief Adolfo Gonzales, County Probation Department  
Nick Macchione, County Health and Human Service Agency

**Members Not Present:**

Armand King, Paving Great Futures

**Staff Present:**

Stephanie Gioia, Supervisor Nathan Fletcher's Office  
Kyle Sand, County Counsel  
Khea Pollard, Supervisor Greg Cox's Office  
Sandra McBrayer, The Children's Initiative

**1. Welcome and Introduction**

- Supervisor Greg Cox brought the meeting to order at 2:05 pm, and asked the Advisory Board members to provide a brief introduction.
- After introductions, Supervisor Cox and Supervisor Fletcher provided a brief history as to why the Advisory Board was formed and discussed their commitment to continuous improvement in all children and youth serving systems in San Diego. They also noted the need to be data driven and best practice informed. They also explained to the members that this Advisory Board will be replacing the Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council (CAPCC).
- Supervisor Cox and Supervisor Fletcher discussed the need for the Advisory Board to look broadly and have a larger impact beyond Child Welfare and beyond San Diego.
- Board members discussed their interest in improving systems of care for children, youth and families and scope of recommendations in the recent report-*Recommendations for Improving County of San Diego Child Welfare Services*.
- Sandra McBrayer briefed the Advisory Board members on the contents of their new Advisory Board binders.
- Members were informed that due to renovations at the County Administration Center future meetings may be held at the County Operations buildings.

**2. Discussion of Priority Issue Areas and Data Needs**

- Sandra McBrayer discussed several strategies for moving forward and tackling the recommendations in the *Recommendations for Improving County of San Diego Child Welfare Services* report.

- Sandra McBrayer discussed the need to develop systems for implementing and completing recommendations, including developing metrics for each recommendation and a tracking system for outcome completion.
- Sandra McBrayer discussed with the Advisory Board the idea of grouping the recommendations into three focus areas (Operational and Organizational Structure, Workforce and Child and Family Services) and forming ad hoc work groups to focus on the three areas.
- The Advisory Board discussed that not all recommendations will fit in these areas of focus, but felt this structure would capture most recommendations and be a good starting point.
- The Advisory Board discussed forming ad hoc work groups to begin addressing recommendations from the *Recommendations for Improving County of San Diego Child Welfare Services* report.
- The Advisory Board discussed including community subject matter experts to serve on the ad hoc work groups as well as staff from child welfare. Members stress the importance of including those with lived experiences serving on the ad hoc work groups.
- Supervisor Fletcher discussed the need to ensure that the Advisory Board understands what is in the law? What is County policy? What is in actual day to day practice? The Advisory Board discussed how the law, policy, and practice must all work together to best serve the youth and families.
- Sandra McBrayer provided a potential data dashboard list and asked the members to review and provide ideas and feedback.
- The Advisory Board provided additional data suggestions and feedback on the data provided, as well as what else the Advisory Board would like to see included in data collection. See Attachment 1 for proposed data elements.
- Members discussed mechanisms to add or subtract items in the ad hoc work groups and how recommendations are addressed, tracked, and measured for success.
- The Advisory Board discussed the potential need to add additional recommendations to the work groups from other child and youth serving systems.
- Members discussed communicating with each other concerning data elements and Kyle Sand from County Counsel cautioned the members that this body was appointed by the Board of Supervisors and is subject to the Brown Act and must follow communication protocols.
- Kyle Sand discussed that the best way to move forward was for all members to communicate directly through Sandra McBrayer and not to email the entire or part of the Advisory Board.
- It was discussed that Sandra McBrayer would collect all of member suggestions around data and she will work with Kimberly Giardina and Child Welfare to look at what data are available and what data development is needed. Kim and Sandra will provide update at the next meeting to see what is most important. They members discussed that data elements may change as the ad hoc work groups begin their work and look deeper into the recommendations.
- Kyle Sand discussed the makeup of the ad hoc work groups. He shared with the Advisory Board that the number of Advisory Board members on a work group has to be less than a quorum of the Board. He noted that the ad hoc work groups since they are time limited did not fall under the Brown Act.
- Advisory Board member will select which work group that would like to serve on and send that selection to Sandra McBrayer by June 28<sup>th</sup> 2019.
- The Advisory Board approved by consensus the focus areas and first three ad hoc work groups- Operational and Organizational Structure, Workforce and Child and Family Services.

### **3. Approval of By-laws**

- Kyle Sand presented the draft by-laws to the Advisory Board. He mentioned that the by-laws were drafted from Board Policy A-74 and Ordinance number 10598. The Advisory Board discussed meeting attendance, potential additional membership, the unneeded Secretary role, conflict of interest, ethics training, and term limits. Kyle Sand noted that several of these issues would require going back to the Board of Supervisors to change Ordinance number 10598.
- Supervisor Fletcher motioned to adopt the by-laws, Jeff Weimann seconded, with all members voting in favor.

### **4. Public Comment**

- Melissa Brooks from YMCA Kinship Support suggested looking at supervision and quality of supervision as well as adoption and guardianship.

### **5. Adjournment**

- **Future Agenda Items:**

- Supervisor Fletcher noted topics to be covered in the next meeting. Topics noted were:
  - Training discussion from Probation and CWS.
  - Presentation on the current County Child Services landscapes.
  - Child Welfare update on current efforts on recommendations
  - Ad Hoc Work Group updates.
  - Data updates.
- Supervisor Cox noted the next meeting will be held at 5500 Overland Ave. Room 120. He also announced at 5:00 pm this evening is the 2019 high school graduation celebration for San Diego County Foster Youth. The Meeting was adjourned at 3:46 pm.
- **Next Meeting:**  
August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### **Distributed:**

- Meeting Agenda
- Potential Data Dashboards
- Key Recommendations
- Advisory Board By-Laws
- Recommendations for Improving County of San Diego Child Welfare Services Report
- Response to the Child Welfare Services Review Working Group
- Board Policy A-74
- Ordinance number 10598
- Memorandum of Law

Meeting minutes were submitted by Sarah Williams. Please call her at (858) 581-5880 if you have corrections or suggested revisions. She may also be contacted for agenda items or general information. Thank you.