

**Early Childhood Council of Kern
Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, May 21, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Alesha Brown at the Reider Center at 3:14 p.m. In addition to Alesha, Melissa Vittoria and Mike Bledsoe also attended the meeting. Staff attending were Amanda Cruz-Ardoin and Natalie Diaz.

Public Comments: Alesha read the Public Comments statement. There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda: Alesha made the motion to approve the agendas for the March 19, April 23, and May 21, 2025 meetings, and the minutes from the Feb. 12, March 19, and April 23, 2025 meetings. The motion was seconded by Mike. These items were unanimously approved. There were no public comments.

Budget Report: Amanda noted that there were a few items that had not posted prior to the summary on April 30. They included \$475 for subs for members to attend Council meetings, and \$398 in mileage. Community Events line totals \$1114.03. Staff will reach out to Lakeshore, and to Kern Trophy regarding name tags for members. Natalie suggested tote bags or books, contacting Scholastic for the books. There is \$65 in the Travel/Conference line. There were no public comments.

Executive Committee Nominations: The nomination committee members will get back to Amanda by Friday with the names of members who want to run for Executive Committee positions. There were no public comments.

2024 ECCK Strategic Plan: There were no public comments.

ECE Workforce Survey: All people present discussed how to report and present the results during the June Council meeting. It was suggested to create summary slides to display on the screens. Alesha asked if there were any updates. Amanda explained that Myetta had been working to tabulate the results, and would get the final numbers to Amanda and Natalie. There were no public comments.

Council Membership: Amanda stated that Sabrina Runnels has submitted her application to the Board of Supervisors for a Council seat. Alesha suggested sending letters to Council members whose terms are expiring June 30, 2025 to determine their status for next year. Amanda said that there are about 10 members whose terms are expiring. There were no public comments.

Committee Reports: * Mike reported that there are no changes for 2024-25 in the Bylaws, Training Plan, and Standing Rules. * Amanda reported that Olga Bernal Camarena was presented during the May 7 Council meeting to receive the 2025 Wendy Wayne Scholarship. Gene Tackett has stated that he would like to donate additional money to provide additional scholarships in the future, which Amanda stated is very exciting. * Alesha and Amanda will meet to organize the presentation on the Strategic Plan to the Council. * The Workforce Development Committee was represented by Myetta at the Grad Hire Fest sponsored by Bakersfield College on April 23. There were no public comments.

Member Reports: * Amanda reported on Workforce Pathways. A total of 267 people completed at least 21 hours for Professional Development. There were two people who were still pending for Permits. She also reported on Higher Education, the 25 Family, Friend and Neighbors who completed five hours of Professional Development. There were 39 people who completed requirements for

Licensing, with one pending. There was also a total of 30 people who registered for new accounts in the Workforce Registry. There were no public comments.

June Council Agenda: Those present reviewed the agenda. There were no public comments.

Adjournment: Mike made the motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Alesha. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Mike Bledsoe
Secretary, Early Childhood Council of Kern