

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

MINUTES

January 26, 2023 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Services Commission was held on Thursday, January 26, 2023 in person at the Born auditorium at 170 Otis Street, virtually via Zoom and telephonically pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953(e) and Mayor London Breed’s 45th Supplement to the Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency dated February 25, 2020.

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON SCOTT KAHN, President
JAMES MCCRAY, JR., Vice President
RITA SEMEL
SALLY COGHLAN MCDONALD

MEMBERS PRESENT REMOTELY (VIA ZOOM) DARSHAN SINGH

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON Trent Rhorer, Executive Director
Elizabeth LaBarre, Commission Secretary
Dan Kaplan, Deputy Director – Finance & Administration
Susie Smith, Deputy Director – Policy, Planning & Public Affairs

ROLL CALL President Kahn called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. and stated the commissioners are deeply saddened by the mass shootings in Monterey Park and Half Moon Bay and they send out condolences to all who were affected.

Commission Secretary Elizabeth LaBarre took roll, noting the presence of all commissioners (Commissioners Kahn, McCray, Coghlan McDonald and Semel in person in the Born auditorium with Commissioner Singh attending virtually via Zoom).

AGENDA On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission adopted the agenda as posted.

December 15, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES On motion of Commissioner Semel, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission adopted the minutes of the December 15, 2022 Regular Meeting as circulated.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT Executive Director Rhorer opened his report echoing President Kahn’s sentiments, stating that Lunar New Year is normally a time of celebration and togetherness and, unfortunately, many are grieving the horrific acts... members of the of the AAPI community “should never have to feel unsafe when they go about their lives, and as an agency we grieve and condemn the violence against the AAPI community, and we stand with our AAPI colleagues and community.” The agency-wide Lunar New Year celebration will take place next week. He hopes staff can be in community together and have a space to process with each other during the event.

FEDERAL

The lifting of Title 42 has been paused. The City continues to prepare for the potential influx of immigrants but now has more time as the case is with the Supreme Court and won't be heard until, most likely, June.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act (i.e., the federal budget), signed late last year, is a \$1.7 trillion omnibus budget package with a few provisions that impact SFHSA fairly significantly:

- i. Medi-Cal (Medicaid nationwide) recertification begins in April. In March of 2020, the federal government suspended the Medi-Cal redetermination requirements under the authority given to them under the public health emergency. The Consolidated Appropriations Act decouples continuous Medicaid/Medi-Cal eligibility. During the public health emergency, continuous eligibility meant no one would lose health insurance. Human services agencies must resume the required annual redeterminations of eligibility, which look at family size and income, beginning in April. Redeterminations will occur over a 12-month period, depending on the month when the client started to receive Medi-Cal initially. While some clients can be automatically recertified, about 100,000 cases will need to be recertified by Agency staff. The state launched a campaign directed at Medi-Cal recipients in an effort to get addresses updated in the system to ensure Medi-Cal recipients receive their recertification packets in the mail. Additionally, SFHSA has a data sharing agreement with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and San Francisco Health Plan (SFHP) to obtain the most recent addresses of San Francisco recipients. The state is requiring the submission of a county readiness plan due February to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). DHCS oversees Medi-Cal, not the Department of Social Services (CDSS). SFHSA's communications team is working with community-based organizations (CBOs) to inform households of recertification requirements; households have gotten used to having continual coverage for over 2.5 years so this is a big shift. Getting the message out is important because if recipients don't submit the paperwork, then the Agency is required to discontinue benefits. There is also a financial impact potentially for SFHP as they would lose premiums for disenrolled clients.
- ii. The CalFresh emergency allotment is ending. Households have been receiving the maximum allowed benefit during the pandemic, with a minimum additional benefit of \$95 per month (the average additional benefit is around \$150 per household per month). 73,000 San Francisco households receive the CalFresh emergency allotment, the last of which will be issued in March. San Francisco CalFresh recipients will feel the decrease in benefits. This emergency allotment costs the state \$520 million per month. Given the budget constraints in the new year, the state cannot absorb that amount. SFHSA hopes to continue the community food support programs the commission approved earlier in the fiscal year. The food support budget in June, passed by the Board of Supervisors, was savings from SFHSA's budget from the prior year and made the continuation of the programs possible. It is one-time money and will not be in the

proposed budget for fiscal year (FY) 2023-2024. However, the Agency is working with the Mayor's Budget Office to try to continue food support in the community. To communicate the decrease in food benefits, San Francisco households will be mailed an information letter next week. The Agency is adding an automated message to the inbound phone line and a scrolling message in SFBN lobbies. Additionally, CDSS will send texts and automated calls.

- iii. The summer EBT is now permanent. Launched as part of the emergency pandemic response, families whose children were eligible for free and reduced school lunches during the school year received the food benefit in the form of an EBT augmentation throughout the summer. What was a temporary program is now permanent.
- iv. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Title IV-B child welfare programs are reauthorized. TANF is the federal office for the local CalWORKs program. Additionally, the maternal infant and early childhood home visiting program is renewed for five more year.

STATE

The governor released his budget a few weeks ago. His proposed budget for FY 2023-2024 reflects a \$22.5 billion shortfall. The governor does not forecast a recession so the budget does not dip into the state reserve. The budget does not cut any SFHSA services or programs but it does pause the start of new programs.

The County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) annually establishes their priorities as an association. This year's priorities include:

- i. \$40 million in additional funding to meet the needs of complex care for youth - These are youth in the foster care system who have experienced significant trauma, and their needs are very complex and generally require services across multiple systems of care. This budget allows for deep services to a small number of children to ensure they can maintain their placements, that places are suitable for them, and that they get the adequate, complex mental health support that they need.
- ii. Funding for emergency response - SFHSA supported this bill last year but it stalled in appropriations. Counties respond to an unprecedented number of emergencies and disasters over the last number of years without any state support. Human services agencies are a city's lead for emergency shelter yet they do not receive any state money to do this. There is some reimbursement from FEMA but no state money. The proposal requests state funding for counties to hire five full-time employees for emergency planning and disaster response, along with ongoing, dedicated funding for emergency response planning, training and community response.
- iii. Increase to the CalFresh cost of doing business - There has not been a cost of doing business adjustment for CalFresh administrative funding in 20 years, which means counties are reimbursed 60% of their actual costs. In 2021, the Budget Act included trailer bill language to update the CalFresh budget methodology beginning this fiscal year. A state-county workgroup devised a methodology that

accounts for counties overspending their state dollars. CalFresh should be an almost 100% state-funded program but it ends up being much less than that. The hope is that a new budgeting methodology will be included in the May Revise.

- iv. Administrative funding for Medi-Cal to account for the increased workload for the redeterminations.

AGENCY

ADMIN/FINANCE

The budget will be addressed in Dan's forthcoming presentation.

The Agency's emergency response team has been busy. Given the historic series of atmospheric rivers and storms recently, the City's Emergency Operation Center (EOC) was activated and the Mayor issued a local proclamation of emergency on January 9. There were 23 City departments participating at the EOC, including SFHSA. The Agency collaborated with the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) to shelter displaced households. By the end of the response, there was no significant dislocation due to flooding, trees falling, freeze, etc., though the team was prepared with contingency plans to shelter displaced households.

Human Resources, the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) and ESSS hosted a hiring fair for eligibility workers (EW) as the Agency has a significant number of EW vacancies and the workload is going to increase in April/May. Over 400 people attended the event, which was held here in the Born auditorium on a rainy Saturday. It was a big success. Executive Director Rhorer noted gratitude to staff who organized and attended the event.

ESSS

SFBN

CalFresh

Through March 31, CalFresh emergency allotments continue to be distributed and waivers are in place for interviews and telephonic signatures. The California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) was going to be expanded to cover undocumented residents ages 55 years and older in 2025. However, the governor's budget delays it to 2027, which does not make a lot of sense since there is no immediate budget impact (not until 2025). The governor's office claims it is due to automation delays and the need to have a longer runway to get the expansion implemented. Counties are trying to get it back on track for 2025.

Medi-Cal

The Hearing Aid Coverage for Children Program (HACCP) was expanded at the beginning of this year to cover young adults, ages 18 to 20, who meet certain criteria.

Medi-Cal expanded coverage for Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)—methadone, Suboxone, other detox medications, etc.—for opioid addiction prevention and treatment services.

Doula services are now a Medi-Cal benefit effective January 1.

WDD

The Workforce Development team kicked off the annual tax assistance program for working families. Last year, the team assisted over 3,400 clients obtain additional tax refunds. As of January 23, the team is accepting new applications. This service is not typically a core human services agency benefit; it is a great program for San Francisco families to make them with aware of the federal, state and local earned income tax credits and assist them with filing.

The CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP) budget was expanded in the state budget passed last July. 73 families have been placed in housing since July 2022, and over 800 families have received eviction prevention services and/or housing subsidies since the onset of the program.

CAAP

Care not Cash was resumed in August 2022. 85% of CAAP homeless clients receive shelter beds with about 250 CAAP recipients receiving the full grant. All clients should be transitioned to Care not Cash in the next two months.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES (FCS)

February is Black History Month, and Black History Month celebrations are planned throughout the Agency, including the February 22 event in the Born auditorium hosted by FCS with guest Supervisor Walton and then the Agency-wide event on February 16 in the 170 Otis courtyard and Born auditorium. Commissioners are invited to both and can get more information from Elizabeth (Commission Secretary).

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD

President Kahn announced Karina Zhang, Program Support Analyst, as the January 2023 employee of the month. She was awarded an engraved desk clock, which she graciously accepted with thanks to all, including her now-retired supervisor who joined on Zoom and her husband who presented her with flowers in the Born auditorium.

DEPARTMENT OF BENEFITS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROPOSED BUDGET

Dan Kaplan, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, presented the Department of Benefits and Family Support's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and 2024-2025. He provided an overview of the Agency and Department of Benefits and Family Support (DBFS) original budget of \$641.4 million for FY 2022-2023 by program, source and category. He also noted the number of full-time employees (FTEs) by program, for an Agency total of 1,957.

The Mayor's FY2023-2024 citywide budget projection includes a \$200.8 million cumulative deficit, with the following fiscal year at a \$527.5 deficit.

The drivers of the deficit are a weakening revenue outlook due to high office vacancy rates in the city and slow downtown recovery along with the loss of one-time pandemic federal revenues, higher base wages for employees, growing health benefits costs, increased pension costs due to recent market downturn, and new and growing general fund (GF) commitments that increase annually. Therefore, the Mayor's Office has asked agencies to propose 5% reductions in the budget year and 8% reductions in the year after the budget year plus one, and these are reductions to 5% and 8% of the discretionary general funds in an agency's budget. SFHSA's total budget is over a \$1 billion, including federal, state and local monies. The 5% is computed on a small share of that, so the cut target is \$2 million in the budget year and \$3.2 million in the budget year plus one.

Related to the state budget deficit, although it is fairly large, it does not really hit human services programs, and in fact on balance the Agency is in a slightly improved position from state revenue.

Deputy Director Kaplan provided an overview of DBFS caseloads in the major programs since 2012 (through November 2022). When the pandemic started, the Medi-Cal caseload increased for a number of reasons, including due to a change to the way cases are reviewed and people were dislocated from their jobs and newly qualified for benefits. In CalFresh, caseloads increased in 2019 due to SSI eligibility changes, and then caseloads further increased during the pandemic with many people becoming eligible for CalFresh. That trend is expected to continue. In CAAP and CalWORKs, the caseloads were decreasing for a number of years as the economy was very strong, then when the pandemic hit in early 2020 the CAAP caseload spiked up. It then decreased quickly, most likely due to federal pandemic benefits such as unemployment insurance allowing people to have income from other sources who would have otherwise been on CAAP. Then when federal pandemic benefits ended in the fall of 2021, caseloads rose again. The foster care caseload was largely unaffected by the pandemic. It has been decreasing for many years due to practice and demographic changes.

Executive Director Rhorer presented DBFS highlights by division. He noted the caseload rise in SFBN. In addition to the reasons Deputy Director Kaplan noted, one reason for an increase in caseload is due to the state's continued expansion of Medi-Cal to undocumented residents of San Francisco, an impact that "we are more than pleased to deal with." Additionally, the pandemic waiver on processing Medi-Cal eligibility ends at the end of March. Beginning in April, staff will have a significant increase in workload with redeterminations. SFBN currently has many eligibility worker vacancies, so Executive Director Rhorer and his team are taking various steps to address the workload, including bringing back retired employees. He noted the loss of the CalFresh emergency allotment beginning in April. The monetary loss to the city is about \$11 million per month, which will be felt in restaurants that accept CalFresh along with corner convenience stores and bigger supermarkets.

He then discussed the Homeless Benefits Linkages program. Successes during the pandemic included providing shelter-in-place hoteling for thousands of homeless, the bulk of whom now receive some sort of permanent housing support, along with the unique ability to provide homeless benefits linkage to individuals because they were in a fixed location sheltering in place. While there is a Department of Homeless and Supportive Housing, SFHSA continues to provide many services to homeless residents in San Francisco, such as the Homeless Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP).

Executive Director Rhorer provided an overview of CAAP, noting the significant increase in the homeless CAAP caseload over the past year, most likely due to the pause of Care not Cash (the pause of providing shelter in lieu of cash assistance). He noted the nature of the CAAP population and the migration patterns of single homeless adults, who often move from county to county. General assistance offerings for the homeless in Alameda and San Mateo counties are very low, nowhere near the \$600 that San Francisco provides. That creates an attraction to San Francisco from individuals who might be living elsewhere, and contributed to the increase in the CAAP caseload.

In CalWORKs, the state shifted from a 48-month to 60-month lifetime benefits clock in May 2022, which helps the team work with families for a bit longer to get them on track to employment or more stability. However, even when families reach the 60th month, they are not disconnected from aid. The grant decreases, removing the parents' needs, to support only the child(ren), according to state law, not local. The governor expanded the CalWORKs Housing Support Program (HSP), increasing the funding by over \$11 million in both fiscal years and to be spent through the end of June 2024. The allocation will go down in 2024 unless the state renews the funding, which is not anticipated. The budget team will assess how to adjust the service delivery to account for the loss of dollars, from \$11 million to \$5.4 million. Executive Director Rhorer then noted the increase in Ukrainian refugees, from 13 per month during fiscal year 2021-2022 to 155 cases in November 2022. These families are designated refugees or asylyes by the federal government and are eligible for CalWORKs, unlike undocumented families who are not eligible for cash assistance.

In Workforce Development, Executive Director Rhorer is anticipating an increased demand on employment services as the pandemic relief aid programs wind down. Even though there is a 2% unemployment rate in the city, there are still a lot of people seeking employment. People reentering the labor force are not calculated in the unemployment rate. The Public Service Trainee program is at half of pre-pandemic levels, yet the budget is fully funding the program as a return to full capacity is anticipated. The Workforce Development team launched a digital divide program during the pandemic to address the digital disparity of clients as job searches and interviews went 100% virtual. The program helps families with Wi-Fi access and devices such as iPads and laptops so that they can engage in the economy. There is currently a pilot program for 100 CalWORKs

undocumented families to provide case management support and pathways to employment by removing hardship barriers and providing cash incentives to participate and complete certain components of CalWORKs.

In Family and Children's Services, Executive Director Rhorer noted the continued transition from the Title IV-E Waiver to the Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). Under the IV-E Waiver, for five years FCS received a fixed amount of federal dollars irrespective of the direction of the caseload. As San Francisco's foster care caseload has been declining, more money was available for prevention activities, wraparound services and additional services and supports for families. With the end of the waiver, the budget team was able to account for the deficit. As FCS transitions into Family First Prevention Services, the budget team is bringing down federal dollars for some of the preventative work that was funded by IV-E Waiver dollars. FFPSA funds a robust set of prevention activities citywide to keep children out of foster care. With that are a set of criteria that programs need to meet in order to be eligible for the federal money so staff is looking at how to modify existing programs to maximize the dollar drawdown.

Executive Director Rhorer also addressed the exiting of 127 non-minor dependents from FCS now that the state's pandemic policy to pause the exiting of foster care youth at age 22 has been lifted. To prevent a possible drop off of all supports, FCS provides a bridge of housing subsidies through June 2023 using one-time dollars. He also noted the efforts, alongside CWDA, to address the need to support the small percentage of foster youth that have extremely complex needs, including those stemming from significant trauma, which has resulted in the state issuing Complex Care funds to help counties strengthen the continuum of care for this population. Additionally, the governor recognizes the need for housing and homeless supports across the whole continuum—the housing programs for single adults and families that were already mentioned along with the Brining Families Home (BFH) program. BFS provides housing support for parents who are ready to reunify with their children but who are homeless and homelessness is preventing reunification. The program saves dollars on the placement side of foster care and provides better outcomes for families. SFHSA piloted this program before it was funded by the state. He added that homelessness itself is not a criteria for bringing kids into the foster care system; there has to be maltreatments or neglect, not simply homelessness.

With the closing of the Child Protection Center (CPC), a short-term placement at the Edgewood campus for kids newly removed from parents to await a placement, FCS shifted to a network of emergency foster homes. These are foster parents who agree to take in children at a moment's notice to provide them immediate placement into a family environment and not a congregate shelter. There are about 10 emergency foster homes through partnership with Alternative Family Services that will continue in this budget.

In program support, Human Resources is working on speeding up the hiring and onboarding process. Within HR, the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) continues to be a priority. Diversity recruitment efforts are being expanded, racial equity training is provided to all staff (and commissioners), and the Agency hosts multiple racial equity town halls throughout the year. In Information Technology, the team is working on CalSAWs, a huge undertaking. In addition to facilities updates and communications highlights, Executive Director Rhorer highlighted that the shelter-in-place program is demobilized, with hotel settlement negotiations in process. The disaster response team is looking for a permanent location to house displaced San Franciscans who need temporary shelter.

Executive Director Rhorer furnished an update on the food access program, noting that SFHSA continues to invest in community food pantries, grocery vouchers, meals and markets to combat hunger and bridge the gap left by state and federal food programs, and is working with the Mayor's Budget Office and the Board of Supervisors to continue the \$33 million in funding into the next fiscal year.

Vice President McCray asked about the multi-disciplinary teams and how the program is moving along, to which Executive Director Rhorer replied that Cindy Ward coordinates those efforts and could present to the commission an update on this partnership between SFHSA and HSH.

Vice President McCray then asked about the transition of the shelter-in-place hotels back into the commercial market, has there been a "heyday" to those owners? Executive Director Rhorer responded that as the pandemic was reducing room utilization for the hotel owners, the City was helping the businesses stay alive and contributed around \$400 million to the hotel industry that they otherwise would not have received. So they did indeed benefit, but they also helped the City, making it possible for us to house almost 3,000 individuals. However, there are several hotels going after the City for very large sums of money to repair their hotels and claiming loss of use. Many of the hotels have negotiated settlements that were entirely reasonable, but there are a handful that are not being as reasonable.

Next steps are a February 15 special commission meeting requesting approval of the proposed budget, followed by submission of the proposed budget to the Mayor. The Mayor submits her budget to the Board of Supervisors on June 1. The BOS conducts committee hearings throughout the month of June, and then the budget is considered by the BOS in July.

There were two public comments made for this agenda item:
#1 Karl Kramer, representing San Francisco Living Wage Coalition, noted that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase for this last year, which is commonly used as a measure of inflation, was 5.6 for the greater bay area for low-wage workers. That is more than a dollar wage cut. You look at the markets here in the Mission, tomatoes went from \$.99/lb to \$1.99/lb.

Oranges went from a \$.99/lb to a \$1.99/lb. Chicken is now \$2.99/lb. This isn't a budgetary pitch. This is a finite crisis, and there are 3 groups of low-wage workers you can help. There are the IHSS home care workers and a 5.6% increase for them would bring them up from \$18.75/hr to \$19.80/hr, and that should just be a minimum. Home care workers are now saying they need at least \$25/hr. There is the city-funded nonprofit workers, the people working in the homeless shelters, providing services to the homeless. The increase would be from the current minimum of \$17.90/hr to \$18.90/hr on July 1. That should just be the minimum. The Mayor's budget instructions did mention a CPI increase for home care workers, and again, that should just be the minimum. Then there is also a third group of workers, parents who are in the welfare-to-work programs. They are working for their public assistance, and there are many of them working at the nonprofit organizations that are providing essential services to the residents of San Francisco. They are part of the social infrastructure in this city and the budget deficit should not be balanced on their backs. They have too many burdens as it is. Thank you.

#2 Saunya Spence, representing Living Wages, shared that she is a CalWORKs recipient and very appreciative of the CalWORKs program, “[it] has been beautiful to me.” Saunya noted that she was “reinstated into [her] job now” and it has turned her life around, “from being in [a] domestic [violence relationship] and not knowing where to go and I do appreciate CalWORKs. Just thank you for the extra wages and money too.”

CONSENT
CALENDAR

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved and ratified actions taken by the Executive Director since the December 15, 2022 Regular Meeting in accordance with Commission authorization of January 26, 2023:

1. Submission of request to encumber funds in the total amount of \$2,700,619 for purchase of services or supplies and contingency amounts.
2. Submission of 2 temporary positions for possible use in order to fill positions on a temporary basis made during the period 12/10/22 to 1/13/23.
3. Submission of 20 temporary appointments for possible use in order to fill positions on a temporary basis made during the period 12/10/22 to 1/13/23.

COMMISSION
TELECONFERENCED
MEETINGS
RESOLUTION

President Kahn presented the request to approve the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings with some members possibly appearing remotely under California government code section 54953(e).

RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS TO ALLOW TELECONFERENCED MEETINGS UNDER CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e)
WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 54953(e) empowers local policy bodies to convene by teleconferencing technology during a proclaimed state of emergency under the State Emergency Services Act so long as certain conditions are met; and

WHEREAS, In March, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a state of emergency in California in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic, and that state of emergency remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, In February 25, 2020, the Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco (the “City”) declared a local emergency, and on March 6, 2020 the City’s Health Officer declared a local health emergency, and both those declarations also remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, On March 11 and March 23, 2020, the Mayor issued emergency orders suspending select provisions of local law, including sections of the City Charter, that restrict teleconferencing by members of policy bodies; and

WHEREAS, On September 16, 2021, the Governor signed AB 361, a bill that amends the Brown Act to allow local policy bodies to continue to meet by teleconferencing during a state of emergency without complying with restrictions in State law that would otherwise apply, provided that the policy bodies make certain findings at least once every 30 days; and

WHEREAS, While federal, State, and local health officials emphasize the critical importance of vaccination and consistent mask-wearing to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City’s Health Officer has issued at least one order (Health Officer Order No. C19-07y, available online at www.sfdph.org/healthorders) and one directive (Health Officer Directive No. 2020-33i, available online at www.sfdph.org/directives) that continue to recommend measures to promote physical distancing and other social distancing measures, such as masking, in certain contexts; and

WHEREAS, The California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety and Health (“Cal/OSHA”) has promulgated Section 3205 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, which requires most employers in California, including in the City, to train and instruct employees about measures that can decrease the spread of COVID-19, including physical distancing and other social distancing measures; and

WHEREAS, Without limiting any requirements under applicable federal, state, or local pandemic-related rules, orders, or directives, the City’s Department of Public Health, in coordination with the City’s Health Officer, has advised that for group gatherings indoors, such as meetings of boards and commissions, people can increase safety and greatly reduce risks to the health and safety of attendees from COVID-19 by maximizing ventilation, wearing well-fitting masks (as required by Health Officer Order No. C19-07), using physical distancing where the vaccination status of attendees is not known, and considering holding the meeting remotely if feasible, especially for long meetings, with any attendees with unknown vaccination status and where ventilation may not be optimal; and

WHEREAS, Consistent with the Mayor’s orders and State law, the Human Services Commission met remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic through March 6, 2022; and

WHEREAS, On February 10, 2022, the Mayor issued an emergency order that (1) requires decision-making boards and commissions established in the Charter (with the exception of the Board of Supervisors) to hold meetings in person at a physical location where members of the public may attend and provide comment, (2) allows members of those boards and

commissions to participate remotely in the in-person meetings for COVID-related health reasons, (3) allows but does not require subcommittees of those boards and commissions to meet in person at a physical location where members of the public may attend and provide comment, and (4) prohibits all other policy bodies (with the exception of the Board of Supervisors and its committees) from meeting in person under any circumstances, with limited exceptions; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Commission began meeting in person consistent with the Mayor's February 10, 2022 order, allowing members to participate by video from a separate location for COVID-related health reasons and providing members of the public an opportunity to observe and provide public comment either in person or remotely; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Human Services Commission finds as follows:

1. As described above, the State of California and the City remain in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this meeting, the Human Services Commission has considered the circumstances of the state of emergency.

2. As described above, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, conducting meetings of this body in person without allowing certain members of this body to attend remotely would present imminent risks to the health or safety of certain attendees due to COVID-19, and the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of those members to meet safely in person; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That for at least the next 30 days the Human Services Commission will hold in-person meetings, with some members possibly appearing remotely. All meetings of the Human Services Commission will provide an opportunity for members of the public to address this body and will otherwise occur in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of parties and the members of the public attending the meeting via teleconferencing; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Commission Secretary of the Human Services Commission is directed to place a resolution substantially similar to this resolution on the agenda of a future meeting of the Human Services Commission within the next 30 days. If the Human Services Commission does not meet within the next 30 days, the Commission Secretary is directed to place such a resolution on the agenda of the next meeting of the Human Services Commission.

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the resolution making findings to allow teleconferenced meetings with some members possibly appearing remotely under California government code section 54953(e).

CDSS

Joseph Huang, Finance Director, presented the request for authorization to approve the request of the 59th County Letter of Agreement with the CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CDSS).

On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request of the 59th County Letter of

Agreement with the CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (CDSS); in accordance with Government Code section 30029.8, the City and County of San Francisco has elected to be the designated county to establish a Contract Special Account within the Protective Services Subaccount of the County Local Revenue Fund 2011 for the purpose of reimbursing CDSS for services performed on behalf of the 58 counties; for the period of Fiscal Year 2022-23 and subsequent fiscal years subject to approved amendments by the parties identifying applicable contracts and corresponding allocations.

EVIDENT CHANGE Melissa Connelly, Program Director, presented the request for authorization to enter into a new contract agreement with EVIDENT CHANGE.

On motion of Commissioner Coghlan McDonald, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the request to enter into a new contract agreement with EVIDENT CHANGE; for the period of February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024; in the amount of \$200,000 plus a 10% contingency for a total amount not to exceed \$220,000.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS On motion of Vice President McCray, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission elected Scott Kahn as Human Services Commission President, commencing February 1, 2023.

On motion of President Kahn, seconded and unanimously carried, the Commission elected Dr. James McCray, Jr. as the Human Services Commission Vice President, commencing February 1, 2023.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT President Kahn's call for public comment yielded no responses.

ADJOURNMENT Vice President McCray adjourned the meeting at 11:18 am.



Elizabeth LaBarre, Commission Secretary
Human Services Commission

Posted: 2/10/23