



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

12860 CROSSROADS PARKWAY SOUTH, CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91746
(562) 908-8669
<https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/about/pss.html>



COMMISSIONERS

Chairperson
BOOKER PEARSON

Vice Chairperson
ADELE ANDRADE-STADLER

MICHAEL BLOOM
JOE BROWN
YVONNE CHAN, Ed.D.
FRANK G. DE BALOGH, Ph.D.
SUE ELHESSEN, Ed.D.
RAUL ESTRADA
MICHAEL FLOOD
EGERTON FORSTER
MARY GALVAN ROSAS
VERONICA LEWIS
PAIGE PELONIS
LORI C. STEIN

COMMISSION STAFF

Executive Director
LA FRANCE TOLIVER

Commission Secretary
TINA PHAN

MEETING MINUTES via TELECONFERENCE

**Thursday, June 17, 2021
500 West Temple Street, Room 374-A
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Please note this is a summary of the meeting not a “verbatim” transcription.

Roll Call/Commissioners Present:

Booker Pearson (Chair)	Frank G. De Balogh
Adele Andrade-Stadler (Vice-Chair)	Sue ElHessen
Michael Flood	Egerton Forster
Michael Bloom	Mary Galvan Rosas
Joe Brown	Veronica Lewis
Yvonne Chan	Lori Stein

Commissioners Excused:

Raúl Estrada	Paige Pelonis
--------------	---------------

1.0 CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Booker Pearson, Chair

Meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. A quorum was established.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Antonia Jiménez, DPSS
Julia Almanzan, County Counsel

Commission Staff:

La France Toliver
Tina Phan

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agenda Items)

Booker Pearson, Chair

Public comments were not received.

3.0 DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Antonia Jiménez, Director

Ms. Jiménez provided updates on the following topics:

The Board has proclaimed the month of June as **Refugee Awareness and Immigrant Heritage Month**. To acknowledge the invaluable contributions of immigrants in LA County, **DPSS is partnering with the County's Office of Immigrant Affairs** to celebrate and highlight how immigrants have helped make this country better. In recognition of the essential contributions of refugees, DPSS will partner with the World Refugee Forum of Los Angeles and local agencies for a **virtual event** to celebrate **World Refugee Day on June 18**.

I am pleased to announce that DPSS received six **National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards** that celebrate our agency's innovative approach to government services during the COVID Pandemic. The winning projects are: Community Outreach Response to COVID-19 Pandemic; Customer Service Center Intake; DPSS Website Redesign; Employee Declaration of Relatives System (EDRS); In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Provider Online Orientation; and Outbound Text Campaign for Food Giveaways.

The Department is tracking important information in the **State Budget** that we are excited about. The state budget is proposing a one-time \$500 stipend for all IHSS providers, and the logistics of the payment will be determined by the state. Other areas of importance in the budget is the elimination of the 7% reduction in service hours; a CalWORKs cash aid increase by 5.3%; CalWORKs earned income disregards; a new food assistance program for the undocumented; continuing CalWORKs grants for 180 days for CW households linked to DCFS in hope of reunification. There are approximately 700 families identified in our caseloads; the expansion of Medi-Cal to residents over 60 years of age regardless of immigration status; and the department is working to develop a road map to the qualifications for the Universal Basic Income.

4.0 COMMISSION BUSINESS

Booker Pearson, Chair

DISCUSSION: RE-EVALUATE COMMISSION BY-LAWS

Chairman Pearson opened discussion to receive suggested changes to the By-Laws to include diversity, equity and inclusion as part of the Commissions ongoing governance. Commissioner Andrade Stadler suggested creating a subcommittee to take on the proposed suggestions so that careful consideration could be made when making changes to the by-laws.

Commissioner Lewis suggested beyond addressing the Annual Work Plan the Commission should establish a DEI subcommittee for a broader look into conversations with the Commission and the Department regarding DEI. **Follow up:** Commissioner Chan suggested sharing the Boards Motion on DEI to Commissioners. Chairman Pearson declined to reactivate the by-law committee and deferred to the incoming Chair to reactivate as appropriate under the new leadership.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Booker Pearson, Chair

Chairman Pearson moderated the election as he was not seeking to be elected. Chairman Pearson opened the floor to receive nominations for Chairman. Commissioner Chan nominated Adele Andrade Stadler for the position of Chairman. Commissioner ElHessen second the nomination. Commissioner Andrade Stadler accepted the nomination. Hearing no other nominations for Chairman the floor was closed. Chairman Pearson called for a verbal vote from the Commission and asked the Executive Director to call the roll. By unanimous vote Adele Andrade Stadler was elected Chairman effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

Acceptance: Commissioner Adele Andrade Stadler stated that she humbly accepts the position as the next Chairman of the Commission and thanked everyone for their vote of confidence.

Chairman Pearson opened the floor to receive nominations for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Andrade-Stadler nominated Veronica Lewis for the position of Vice Chairman. Commissioner De Balogh second the nomination. Commissioner Lewis accepted the nomination. Hearing no other nominations for Vice Chairman the floor was closed. Chairman Pearson called for a verbal vote from the Commission and asked the Executive Director to call the roll. By unanimous vote Veronica Lewis was elected Vice Chairman effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

Acceptance: Commissioner Veronica Lewis thanked everyone for their vote of confidence and looks forward to working with the Chair to continue the work of supporting DPSS during this difficult time.

5.0 REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM MAY 20, 2021 MEETING

Booker Pearson, Chair

MOTION: Commissioner Stein moved to approve the minutes and Commissioner Galvan Rosas seconded the motion.

CALL FOR VOTE: Minutes were approved by unanimous vote with no corrections.

Follow up: Contact Joe Brown.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.