7-12-1951

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1951: 07: 12: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Minutes of July 12 Meeting

Present were: Chairman Bartlett, Mrs. Holland, Mr. Christian, Mrs. Strickland, Mr. Wick. Also present was Dr. Williams, the Director. Mrs. Strickland served as secretary pro-tem upon request of the chairman.

The minutes of the June 14 meeting were read and approved as read.

Mr. Christian moved and Mr. Wick seconded a motion that a letter be written to Mr. William G. Gardiner whose appointment as Juvenile Judge was announced in the mornings' paper. The letter is to be written by the Director and will offer to the newly appointed Juvenile Judge a welcome to the Board and the cooperation of the Board in his work on behalf of the children of the county. The motion was carried.

Mr. Christian moved and Mr. Wick seconded a motion to approve expenditures for the last half of June and first half of July covered by checks 2157-2198 in the General Operating Fund and by Checks 186-195 in the School Counseling Project. This motion was carried.

Dr. Williams presented the Budget for 1951-52 as approved by the Budget Commission of Pinellas County. Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Strickland seconded a motion that the official copy of the Budget be spread upon the minutes of the July 12 meeting. This motion was carried. The Budget follows:

PINELLAS COUNTY
BUDGET OF JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD FOR
FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCT. 1, 1951, ENDING SEPT. 30, 1952

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACCOUNT</th>
<th>APPROPRIATED LAST YEAR</th>
<th>REQUESTED FOR NEXT YEAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SALARIES</td>
<td>$30,000.00</td>
<td>$31,880.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAVEL</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
<td>4,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFICE EXPENSE</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JUVENILE HOMES</td>
<td>2,500.00</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologist</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric Social Worker</td>
<td>4,200.00</td>
<td>4,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOSTER HOME CARE</td>
<td>22,800.00</td>
<td>24,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER SERVICES AND EMERGENCIES</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
<td>1,720.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$75,000.00</td>
<td>$75,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dr. Williams called attention to the financial statement, copies of which had been distributed to the members of the Board. According to this financial statement the expenses of the first 8 months of foster home care exceeded the budget allowance for that period $859.53. All of the other items were under-expended as compared with the budget.

The state auditor's report of Juvenile Welfare Board Accounts for years ending September 30, 1949 and September 30, 1950, together with the report of the Juvenile Court Registry fund was presented by the Director and discussed. This report shows the financial condition of the Board to be good.

Mrs. Holland moved and Mr. Wick seconded a motion that Mrs. Wyatt G. Dame's request for two weeks educational leave to take a short course in the Florida State University during the summer be granted with pay. The motion was carried.

There was some discussion of the Juvenile Traffic Survey by the Sociology and Statistics Department of Junior College. This report indicates that the number of juvenile traffic offenders re-appearing in the Juvenile Court for traffic offenses decreased during the period from June 1950 to June 1951 while the new method of handling traffic offenses was in effect.

Dr. Williams reported on his analyses of active cases with the School Counseling Service and gave some of the statistics for the services rendered during May. In the discussion that followed members of the Board expressed the conviction that Dr. Williams should continue to give help to the staff of the School Counseling Project to insure better allocation of duties and responsibilities, more selective intake, and better follow-up.

Following a discussion on possible shortage of funds to meet the Board's $75,000 budget, it was suggested that the Director contact Mr. Cooperman and Mr. Bogue to secure their opinion about the proper steps to be taken to insure receiving the full budgeted amount. It was also suggested that a letter be written to the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners in regard to the probable shortage, if this met with the approval of Mr. Lincoln C. Bogue, Chairman of the Legislative Committee and Mr. Leonard Cooperman, member of the Legislative Committee.

Mr. Patrick, Probation Officer was asked to give a report on the case load of each of his workers, which he did. He was also asked to report on his conference with Miss Lovely in regard to her work. Mr. Patrick submitted his report, a copy of which is attached. In the discussion that followed, it was agreed that Mr. Patrick would be asked to make monthly reports on Miss Lovely's progress in meeting the standards which she has agreed to meet. It was also suggested that Mr. Patrick arrange for more staff conferences.

The newly appointed Juvenile Judge, William G. Gardner, was introduced to the members of the Board and Mrs. Bartlett, Chairman, welcomed him to membership on the Board and assured him of the enthusiastic cooperation of the Board in his work as Juvenile Judge.

The Board requested that Judge Alfred P. Marshall be invited to attend the next meeting of the Board and that he be presented with a service award at that meeting.

The date of the next meeting was set for August 16 and it was agreed to meet in Clearwater at 9:30 a.m. on that date.

Kathleen Strickland

[Signature]
Report of Conference Held on the Afternoon of July 9, 1951

Participating Were:

Miss Margaret J. Lovely, Mr. Edward E. Patrick, and Dr. Herbert D. Williams

This conference was held in accordance with instructions from the Juvenile Welfare Board at its meeting of June 14. At that meeting there was a discussion of Miss Lovely's work and a statement that Miss Lovely felt that she was overworked. In the opinion of the members of the Board, this was not true. There was also some discussion of complaints from the Juvenile Judge and the Probation Officer of lack of cooperation on the part of Miss Lovely in carrying out instructions and in taking care of emergencies when requested to do so. Miss Lovely's caseload was reviewed again and the Board felt that Miss Lovely should be told definitely wherein she is not meeting the requirements of her position and that following this, Mr. Patrick should report back to the Board regarding Miss Lovely's attitude and her willingness to take a more objective, less emotional, attitude toward her work and her willingness and capacity to improve.

The complaints mentioned specifically were: 1) Poor organization of time and effort resulting in failure to accomplish as much as should be expected of her; 2) failure to carry out immediately and efficiently orders from the court; 3) lack of cooperative teamwork spirit in meeting emergencies and getting work done; 4) failure to control emotional reactions in connection with supervision and in connection with some complainants.

At the meeting on July 9 each of these items was brought up with Miss Lovely. Miss Lovely discussed each of them in a mature, rational fashion. She admitted that she had sometimes erred in regard to the above complaints. She wished to emphasize that she had not meant to imply any unwillingness to cooperate in carrying out the court's orders but merely wished to bring out that an avalanche of new complaints had been referred to her and that if she took them in the order received, there would be the delay in making the investigations requested by the court. Miss Lovely pointed out that many times in following through on a particular complaint that seemed simple, it was found to be a very complicated situation in need of extensive work and that sometimes she became so deeply involved with the one case that she did not take care of other complaints promptly. In the discussion it was agreed that perhaps this was a matter of organization of time in terms of making preliminary calls and arranging for the longer sessions after a good many other less serious complaints had been disposed of.

Miss Lovely indicated that she felt that she has made progress in developing a more patient, objective attitude toward complainants and toward supervision. She expressed her willingness to bring about still further improvement in this regard.

One of the points emphasized by Miss Lovely was the need for more frequent conferences of the staff as a group and with the Judge. She believed this would help to prevent misunderstandings and confusion and would increase effectiveness of the work of all the members of the staff.

There was every indication in the conference that Miss Lovely was anxious to eliminate the weaknesses complained of in her work and was willing to take necessary steps to improve the quality and increase the quantity of her performance. All three persons participating in the conference felt encouraged by it.