

3-12-1953

## Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1953 : 03 : 12 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting of March 12, 1953

Held in Clearwater

Present were Mrs. Strickland, chairman; Superintendent Christian; Judge Gardiner; Mrs. Harrison; Mrs. Holland; Mrs. Jackson; and Dr. Williams, Director. In the absence of Commissioner Parry, Mrs. Holland was appointed secretary pro tem.

The minutes of the February 26 meeting were approved as submitted to the members of the Board.

Motion: Mrs. Jackson moved and Mrs. Harrison seconded a motion that expenditures covered by checks Nos. 3024 through 3041 in the General Operating Account, and 371 through 377 in the In-School Counseling Account be approved for payment. Motion carried.

The Director submitted supporting details to explain budget items and requests. This was gone over and approved by the Board.

Dr. Williams reported that the Juvenile Welfare Board has received credit for \$1555 during the first five months of the fiscal year from parents and relatives toward the payment of care for children. The Juvenile Court has collected and reimbursed the Juvenile Welfare Board and agencies to the extent of \$1034.64. The balance of \$520.36 was paid directly to the agencies by the parents. He also reported that the Child Welfare Unit as of February 28 showed a bank balance of \$4564.73.

The Board entered into a discussion of the problem of securing medical services for indigent children or those from poverty stricken families with whom the agencies in the county are working.

Motion: After discussion, Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Jackson seconded a motion that the Director write to the Pinellas County Medical Society calling their attention to the need for developing an organized plan for medical care of children who are dependents or whose parents are unable to provide funds for medical care, requesting their help in developing such a program. Motion carried.

A request was read from Miss Lovely, Assistant Chief Counselor of the Juvenile Court, for temporary help in meeting bus fare and incidentals in order that Aileen Howard may attend school during the period required for court action.

Motion: Mr. Christian moved and Judge Gardiner seconded a motion that \$5 Funds for per month be allocated for transportation and spending money for Aileen Howard until the Juvenile Court can determine custody and support responsibilities. At the present time, Aileen is living with a family friend without payment of board. Motion carried.

The Director reported that 47 children were in foster care in February. Thirty-nine children were in the care of the Child Welfare Unit and 8 children were in the care of the Children's Service Bureau.

There was discussion of the possible use of Mrs. Dame in a cooperative effort with the churches of the county in connection with the marriage and family counseling in

which both the Juvenile Welfare Board and the churches are interested. The Director emphasized the need for Christian casework service in bringing the unhappy, discouraged parents and children into church relationship. He pointed out that this would require an individual approach to both the client and minister. This kind of service he said was already being given in other places with beneficial results. He expressed the belief that such a tie-up would make it possible to reach more people and would result in more selective case load for him, with many of the cases being taken care of by the case worker.

The Board approved his contacting some of the church leaders in regard to this matter with a view to exploring their attitudes toward the possibility of such an arrangement.

Judge Gardiner and Dr. Williams presented the legislative program being recommended by the Florida Children's Commission of which the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board is a County unit. The Board requested the Director and Judge Gardiner to prepare a legislative program for discussion and approval by the Board and for submission to the legislative delegation of Pinellas County.

Motion: Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Holland seconded the motion that  
Attendance the Director be authorized to attend the Florida Conference of  
Florida Social Welfare with expenses paid by the Board. Motion carried.  
Conference

A letter from Mrs. Bartlett was read in which she expressed her appreciation to the Board for its gifts and for the special meeting held to honor her.

Judge Gardiner reported on Mr. Patrick's health status and the present situation with regard to his staff.

The meeting adjourned until Thursday, March 26, at 9:30 a.m. in Clearwater.

*Mairlande W. Holland*

Mrs. H. W. Holland  
 Secretary Pro Tem