

8-4-1966

## Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1966 : 08 : 04 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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## Meeting in Clearwater

August 4, 1966

PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. H. W. Holland, who acted as Secretary; Juvenile Judge William A. Patterson; and County Commissioner Robert L. Weatherly. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director; Mr. Theodore Hanscom, Supervisor, Child Welfare Division, State Department of Public Welfare; and Mr. Howard Angermeier, Assistant Director, County Welfare Department.

The minutes of the June 2nd meeting were approved as distributed.

MOTION

Confirmation of Telephone Approval of Expenditures for June and July

Mrs. Holland moved, and Commissioner Weatherly seconded a motion which carried, to confirm the telephone approval of checks for June and July: Checks #864, 881, 883, 885, 887, 890, 891, and 892 through 912 dated June 30, 1966 and Checks #930, 932, 938, 940, 943, 945, and 950 through 953 and #956 through 978 dated July 29, 1966.

MOTION

Approval of Salary Checks for August

Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Judge Patterson seconded a motion which carried, to approve the salary adjustments for July: Checks #982, 983, 984, and 985, and the salary checks for August on condition of the completion of satisfactory service. Dr. Finck announced to the Board that Mrs. Dame would continue on half-time for the month of August and that Mrs. Ruth Mayos would be working full time in her place.

MOTION

Financial Reports and Statements for June and July

Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to direct that the financial reports and statements for June and July be read and filed.

The reports of children in foster care for May and June 1966 were reviewed by the Board. Dr. Finck read a letter describing the satisfactory completion of foster care for Joseph Richardson.

MOTION

Continuation of Foster Care for Edward Lee Bannister

Judge Patterson moved, and Commissioner Weatherly seconded a motion which carried, to continue the foster care for Edward Lee Bannister beyond his 17th birthday and to suggest that the County Parks Department be contacted as a possible source of employment for him and Joseph Richardson.

Dr. Finck read the reply from Mr. Howard Croom, Acting Director of the State Department of Public Welfare. Mr. Croom was responding to Dr. Finck's letter of June 13th, raising the question of a different form of State support for foster care which would allocate funds on the basis of caseload and County contribution rather than solely on the basis of school attendance. Mr. Croom stated that the Department would like to be able to put through an equitable matching program if State funds were made available in the next biennium. Dr. Finck also read letters from Senators Holland and Smathers and from Congressman Cramer in response to the Board's inquiry about Senate Bill #2951 for Federal matching of foster care funds.



MOTION

Approval of Travel  
Expenditures for  
Dr. Finck to  
Washington, D. C.

Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Judge Patterson seconded a motion which carried, to pay the travel expenses of Dr. Finck to go to Washington to see Senators Holland and Smathers and Representative Cramer to discuss the needs for Federal funds for foster care. Commissioner Weatherly suggested that Dr. Finck's letter to Mr. J. Hal Stallings, Chairman of State Welfare Board, be made a part of the minutes of this meeting.

There was further discussion of the request of the State Department of Public Welfare for permission to use foster care funds to purchase medical, psychological, and psychiatric services for the diagnosis and treatment of children. Mr. Howard Angermeier, Assistant Director of County Welfare Department, reported that the County Welfare Department's new medical clinic was operating to capacity with present use and service and that the clinic would not be able to handle any additional services. Commissioner Weatherly stated that the County Administrator was making an overall study of medical needs for the County and was preparing to bring in a recommendation in thirty to ninety days about the establishment of a County Medical Department which could include services to children.

MOTION

Deferment of State  
Department Request

Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to defer decision on the use of foster care funds to purchase medical, psychological, and psychiatric services until the County's report on plans for a medical department had been received and studied.

Dr. Finck announced that the resignation of Mrs. Beatrice Simcox Reiner had been received. Mrs. Reiner is going to Addis Ababa in Ethiopia where for the next two years she will be a member of the School of Social Work faculty. Dr. Finck stated that he felt that Mrs. Reiner's contribution to the Board over the past five years had been invaluable and that she had been largely responsible for the nationwide attention received by the Juvenile Welfare Board for its papers presented at the meetings of the American Orthopsychiatric Association.

MOTION

Citation to  
Mrs. Reiner

Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Judge Patterson seconded a motion which carried, to award Mrs. Reiner a citation for her outstanding work at the Juvenile Welfare Board. Commissioner Weatherly also suggested that Dr. Finck discuss with Mr. Glisson the possibility of the Commissioners' awarding Mrs. Reiner a key to Pinellas County.

Dr. Finck reported on special group counseling sessions with blind adolescents which have been led by Mrs. Mayos and Mr. Smith. The request for these sessions had come from the Florida Association for the Blind which had been conducting a program for blind adolescents home from the State School for the Blind in St. Augustine for members of special education classes in Pinellas County.

Dr. Finck reported at length on his trip to the Sixth International Congress of Child Psychiatry and Allied Professions at Edinburgh, Scotland, July 25th - 29th. He stated that in London he attended a Case Conference at the Family Discussion Bureau at the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations where many marriage and family problems are worked on in a way similar to that of the Juvenile Welfare Board. Dr. Finck described the plenary sessions of the Congress and the discussion groups in which many problems common to the nations of Western Europe and the United States and Canada were considered. Dr. Coleman asked Dr. Finck to express to Mrs. Dame and Miss Jones the Board's thanks for their able operation of the Board during Dr. Finck's absence.



The Activities Reports for June and July were reviewed by the Board.

Since there was no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board will be Thursday, September 1st, in the County Office Building, Clearwater.

*Maidende W. Holland*

Mrs. H. W. Holland

Acting Secretary

Letter from Dr. Finck to Mr. J. Hal Stallings, Chairman, State Welfare Board, Post Office Box 2050, Jacksonville, sent June 13, 1966.

Dear Mr. Stallings:

The Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board approved and certified to the Board of County Commissioners a budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1966. This budget includes \$316,800 for foster care and \$112,365 for administration of the Child Welfare Division, State Department of Public Welfare, District #4.

The Board has directed me to inform the State Board that \$429,165 represents a disproportionate obligation to Pinellas County. Almost two-thirds of the total Juvenile Welfare Board budget is allocated to the State Department of Public Welfare. We are appropriating more money to the Child Welfare Division than the State of Florida for all 67 counties. What money is allocated by the State is done on the basis of school attendance, regardless of what the individual county may appropriate. According to Operations Letter #335, dated July 20, 1965, \$5,396 per month is allocated to 43 counties which do not appropriate any money to your Department. The remaining \$27,937 is allocated without regard to matching appropriations in the other 24 counties so that Pinellas appropriates \$14.19 for each State dollar and Duval County 24 cents! (January 1966 figures.)

The Juvenile Welfare Board is requesting that a matching basis related to caseload be urgently considered by the State Board of Welfare. We do not deny that need exists in the counties which have not appropriated funds. And we are proud the Pinellas has been able to meet the needs of children even to the extent that the Legislature of the State of Florida, at the request of the Juvenile Welfare Board, has amended the Law in order to secure increased millage. We are asking that the State Board consider possible administrative remedies for this inequitable situation so that it will not be necessary for us to request the Legislature to intervene.

We are enclosing a copy of an editorial from the St. Petersburg Independent under date of June 4, 1966. Please let us know if there is any further information you may require.

Very truly yours,