

11-4-1948

## Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1948 : 11 : 04 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 1948

The Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board met November 4, 1948 at 9:40 a.m. in Clearwater, with the following members present: Mrs. Holland, Miss Phillips, Judge Marshall, Mr. Fugitt, Mr. Belcher, and Mrs. Bartlett. Also meeting with the Board was its director, Dr. Williams, Chief Probation Officer Albert Rogero, and Mr. W.O.Gentry, Assistant State Auditor.

The minutes of October 14 were read and corrected to read "October 15" instead of "October 13", regarding the discontinuation date of the operation of the Juvenile Home.

Mr. Gentry read his report on the audit of the accounts of the Board, as of July 31, 1948, showing a net cash shortage of \$1996.20, due to defalcations of Virginia Bilderback Jackson, now serving a five-year term in the State Penitentiary. This report is hereby attached to these minutes. Mr. Gentry made certain suggestions and criticisms; namely, that the petty cash and emergency fund of Clearwater not be commingled with the Juvenile Court Registry Fund; that retirement deductions from employees' salaries be made in all cases; that service charges made by the Bank of Clearwater be refunded; that collateral in the designated depositories be increased to secure the Board's funds at all times; that travel allotment to its employees be changed from the present flat sum to a detailed report of actual miles driven; that an adequate accounting system be installed by the auditor and instruction be given on the keeping of the books; and further, that the shortage shown had not been repaid. Judge Marshall moved and Mr. Belcher seconded that the report of the auditor be received and filed with the Board's appreciation of his efforts. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion of Mr. Gentry's suggestions followed. It was shown in several cases that these changes had already been made; the others were taken under advisement until a future meeting.

Motion: Bills amounting to \$5905.65 were presented . Mr. Fugitt  
Bills moved they be paid. Mr. Belcher seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rogero explained that since probation officers are obliged to advance expenses personally for trips away from the county and feel this to be a hardship, he would recommend that Dr. Williams secure gasoline credit cards for all probation officers and pay these officers other expenses as soon as possible; the officers in turn to present expense receipts at once.

Dr. Williams reported that Mrs. Cowell had sent a check for \$28.00 for food on hand as of October 15 in the Juvenile Home; also that equipment and clothing now at the Home need not be removed at once but could be stored there temporarily. Mr. Belcher suggested the Board use a storage room in the County Home.

Dr. Williams said that the Motherette Club had written a letter of appreciation in response to the Board's letter commending them on their sponsorship of moving pictures for children.



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Certain special cases were brought before the Board for disposition; namely, the Fischman children, the Rolfe girls, the Zumberis boy and the Murwin children. Judge Marshall moved the Board pay the Children's Service Bureau a bill of \$220.22 for board for the Fischman children, Motion: and that their care be continued 2 weeks to give the mother Fischman another chance for work. Mr. Belcher seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Motion: Regarding the Murwin children, Miss Phillips moved the Murwin Board reimburse the Children's Service Bureau for board and to furnish continued care pending disposition of the case. Mr. Belcher seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the Zumberis boy, Mr. Rogero stated that he would try to get the family to take responsibility December 10, the expiration date of the amount furnished by the Board at the Duvall School. The Farm Colony at Gainesville still reports no vacancy available for this boy. Regarding the Rolfe girls, a letter from Judge White was read, stating there was not at the present time enough money in their estate to pay their board, et cetera, and asking this Board to assume that responsibility. The chairman asked Judge Marshall to confer with Judge White and to request a reimbursement later when the funds are available.

Mrs. Bartlett stated that the Exchange Club of St. Petersburg had signified its willingness to buy shoes for foster home children in St. Petersburg, also to furnish children's shoes in the Pinellas Park area wherever the need exists.

Dr. Williams gave each member of the Board a written report on the work accomplished its first year of operation and asked the Board to study this report and make any suggestions or corrections.

Mr. Rogero presented a most interesting survey of his study of the juvenile courts in the 6 cities he visited this summer. A discussion followed on the various findings. Judge Marshall suggested that the Board study this report further and adapt suitable phases to the needs of this county.

Mr. Rogero gave a written report (copy attached) of the activities of the Juvenile Court for the fiscal year, ending September 30, 1948, showing 1238 cases handled, 911 out of court. *see J.W.B file 1947-48*

The meeting adjourned till November 17.

Marguerite Blocher Bartlett  
Secretary