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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1968 : 05 : 09 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting in Clearwater
May 9, 1968

PRESENT: Judge Robert A. Halvorsen, who acted as Chairman; Mrs. Charles S. Baker, who acted as Secretary; Mrs. H. W. Holland, and Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Thomas B. Southard. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director; Mrs. Eloise Irwin, Director, Mrs. Barbara Thomas, and Mr. Ted Hanscom, Supervisors, State Department of Public Welfare, District #4.

MOTION Approval of Minutes
Mrs. Holland moved, and Dr. Southard seconded a motion which carried, to approve the minutes of the April 11th meeting.

MOTION Approval of Expenditures for April
Dr. Southard moved, and Mrs. Baker seconded a motion which carried, to approve the expenditures for April: Checks #2638 through #2690 dated April 30; Checks #2681 through #2706 dated May 9; and Checks 2707 and #2708 dated May 31, 1968.

MOTION Approval of Salaries for May
Mrs. Holland moved, and Dr. Southard seconded a motion which carried, to approve the salaries as budgeted for May 1968 on the condition of completion of satisfactory service.

The financial report for the month of April 1968 was reviewed by the Board.

MOTION Transfer of Funds from Contingency to Prior Years Receipts
Dr. Southard moved, and Judge Halvorsen seconded a motion which carried, to approve the transfer of $3,86 from the Contingency Fund to "Refund Prior Years Receipts" in order to reimburse the Board of County Commissioners.

The report of Children in Foster Care for the month of April 1968 was reviewed by the Board.

The preliminary draft of the 1968-69 Budget was presented to the Board for discussion. Dr. Finck stated that the millage, on the basis of the Budget presented, would be approximately .437% as compared with .442% for fiscal 1967-68 or a decrease of .005%. He stated this was the third consecutive year in which the Juvenile Welfare Board had been able to reduce the millage. Dr. Finck stated that for the coming year it was estimated that the income from interest would be increased through the use of competitive proposals or bids. The salaries for the Juvenile Welfare Board and the License Board follow the Jacobs Salary Survey and Review of Compensation Plan for Pinellas County, November 1966, and provide for a 5% annual increment for salaries. Dr. Finck stated that he had been requested by the License Board to point out that a kindergarten teacher with a Rank II Certificate would receive more money for ten months' employment than the Director of the License Board with comparable education and experience and much greater administrative responsibilities.

Dr. Finck stated that the Child Guidance Clinic's request for funds did not include janitorial services or payments for the Mental Health Education Consultant and rent for the use of the office in Clearwater.

The request of the Budget of the State Department of Public Welfare was discussed in detail. The amount requested for Foster Care includes a $9,600 increase because of the foster board rates approved by the Juvenile Welfare Board in November 1967 and $15,600 to be used for housekeeper service. The Visiting Nurse Association will no longer receive this $15,600 appropriation for Homemaker Service. The amounts for Administration and Salaries including Travel have been increased by $3,500 on the basis of recommendations for uniform pay scales for all State departments and agencies.
Mrs. Irwin stated that it appeared as if this request would need to be revised before the June 1968 Board meeting since it seemed possible that their salary increases would be limited to 5 percent.

Dr. Finck read a letter from Mr. Joseph Ems, Director of the Pinellas County Department of Social Services, requesting that the Juvenile Welfare Board allocate $5,000 for the hospitalization of children in foster care for fiscal 1968-69. There was considerable discussion as to the appropriateness of this request which could be consumed by the expenses for only one child. The Board felt that this was an open-ended request and questioned whether the Juvenile Welfare Board with its limited millage should be expected to assume this responsibility. Mrs. Irwin explained the transfer of children from Mound Park Hospital to All Children's Hospital and stated that she was being asked for payment of $3,000 in bills for children who had received hospital care at All Children's Hospital. Board members suggested that the Director discuss this request with the Board of County Commissioners.

The State Department of Public Welfare requested the Board's immediate attention to permission to use current funds for psychiatric consultation, to increase payments for 24-hour service from $80 to $100 a week, and to provide for an emergency fund of $200 for expenses incurred by the Protective Service workers.

**MOTION**

Approval of Request by State Department of Public Welfare for Psychiatric Consultation, Increase in 24-hour Salary Payments, and for an Emergency Fund

Mrs. Holland moved, and Judge Halvorsen seconded a motion which carried, to approve the request of the State Department of Public Welfare for permission to use current funds to pay for psychiatric consultation; to increase salary payments for 24-hour Protective Service from $80 to $100 a week; and to establish a rotating Emergency Fund of $200 to be used by the Protective Service workers. The State Department will investigate the necessary auditing procedures for the safeguarding of the Emergency Funds.

Dr. Finck also reviewed the extra request from the Family and Children's Service for $5,000 to provide for adoption service for normal children in Pinellas County. He announced that the Peter Pan School was requesting an increase of $9,200 and that Play Fare School for Retarded Children was asking for an increase of $1,568.20 for 1968-69.

Dr. Finck stated that the Bonds and Insurance increase of $1,380 for fiscal 1968-69 was the result of an increase in the costs of major medical insurance. He stated, however, that the rebates and offsets under Social Security and Retirement had equalled approximately 75% of the total cost so that this amount could be decreased by $16,278.09. The Trust Fund, according to the Auditor's Report, would be considered a receipt and added to the Contingency Fund. The Reserve equal to one month's expenditures as a cash carry-over into fiscal 1969-70 would be increased by $728.26.

There was considerable discussion by Juvenile Judges Halvorsen and Page concerning the need for a group home facility for girls in order that dependent or delinquent girls would not need to be sent to Ocala. It was agreed that an investigation would be made of the possibilities of such a group home and report it to the Juvenile Welfare Board at the June 6th meeting.

The Activities Reports for the month of April 1968 were received by the Board.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board will be on Thursday, June 6, 1968 in the County Office Building, Clearwater.