2-4-1982

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1982 : 02 : 04 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.
Regular Meeting - February 4, 1982

PRESENT: Mrs. Helen W. Herman, Chairman; Mrs. Mary Wyatt Allen, Vice Chairman; Dr. Calvin D. Harris, Secretary; Mrs. Mailande Holland Barton; Mrs. Mary Frances Byrkit; Judge Robert F. Michael; and Dr. Scott Rose. Also present: Mr. Carl E. Meisner, Acting Executive Director; Mr. William M. Michaels, Deputy Director; Mrs. Mary Laura Broadwater, Executive Secretary; and Mr. Terry A. Smiljanich, Attorney at Law.

Mrs. Herman called the meeting to order.

MOTION Approval of Minutes
Mrs. Allen moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried to approve the minutes of the work session of December 17, 1981 and of the regular meeting of January 7, 1982.

Mr. Smiljanich brought the Board up-to-date on his negotiations with Mr. Doug Baird (attorney for Dr. Raymond Edwards), who was present in the audience, together with a court reporter. Mr. Smiljanich stated that, in spite of the fact that Dr. Edwards has filed a lawsuit against the Juvenile Welfare Board and individual members, he would recommend that the Board pay Dr. Edwards his salary for a total period of five months under the procedures that were in existence up to November, 1981. He would also recommend that the Board have a meeting at which all members are present, invite Dr. Edwards to attend and respond to the Board's termination of him; and, at that point, for the record, the Board should again express its wishes in connection with his continued termination by public vote.

MOTION Approval to Extend Severance Pay
Judge Michael moved, and Mrs. Allen seconded a motion which carried to continue the severance pay for Dr. Edwards for two additional months, a total of five months, through March, 1982.

Mr. Baird asked to clarify Dr. Edwards' position as to what his rights are under the agreement he had with the Board. Dr. Edwards feels that he is entitled to the full salary for the remaining period of his three year contract; however, that salary would be diminished by whatever Dr. Edwards is capable of earning, including unemployment, in that interim period in some other employment.

MOTION Approval to Invite Dr. Edwards to Respond
Dr. Rose moved, and Mrs. Allen seconded a motion which carried to accept the Board attorney's recommendation to invite Dr. Edwards to respond to his termination, and directed the Board attorney to write a letter to Dr. Edwards' attorney setting forth the invitation (and any comments he might need to make about it) for Dr. Edwards to attend at a special time and place.

Mr. Smiljanich reported that no action had been taken by him re Affiliated or the Foundation in response to authorization given him by the Board on January 7, 1982, because the District Mental Health Board (with whom the Juvenile Welfare Board was to join) had not filed an injunction to bar Affiliated or the Foundation from further spending assets without Court approval.

Mr. Smiljanich also reported that on February 3rd he and Mr. Meisner had attended a hearing in connection with a lawsuit that had been filed by The Times Publishing Company on behalf of The Evening Independent against Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS) seeking release of an audit report and the back-up working papers as public documents involving
Comprehensive Mental Health Services. Just prior to the hearing, HRS agreed to produce those records, copies of which will be made available to the staff of the Juvenile Welfare Board as soon as they have been reviewed by the court.

MOTION
Approval to Endorse Children's Day

Mrs. Allen moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried to endorse Children's Day for August 8, 1982.

MOTION
Approval for Endorsement for SABV

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Barton seconded a motion which carried to authorize the Acting Executive Director to write a letter endorsing the San Antonio Boys Village program as effective in dealing with problem youth.

A motion for the Juvenile Welfare Board to join with other organizations in endorsing the concept of a sales tax increase to be used by local governments, including special taxing districts, failed to carry.

MOTION
Approval for Endorsement for FCCY

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Allen seconded a motion which carried to endorse the concept and efforts of The Florida Center for Children and Youth.

MOTION
Approval of Resolution

Mrs. Barton moved, and Mrs. Allen seconded a motion which carried to approve a resolution for the family of Mr. Charles J. Britt, District V Administrator of the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services, pointing out the great contributions Mr. Britt has made to this community.

MOTION
Approval of Acting Exec. Director's Salary

Mrs. Allen moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of the Policy Committee to have the Acting Executive Director receive a 10% increase on his base salary, which is to be refigured on January 1, 1982 to include the 7% salary adjustment voted upon at the January regular Board meeting. This salary is to be on a month-to-month basis as long as Mr. Meisner is Acting Executive Director and is retroactive to the time he was appointed to that position.

MOTION
Approval of Change in Merit System

Mrs. Allen moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of the Policy Committee that, for this fiscal year only, the merit increase become a 3% increase and be given on the anniversary date of the employment. In order to qualify for this 3% increase, there must be an evaluation by the supervisor which, among other items, must say that the employee has a satisfactory or better evaluation. Judge Michael, Mrs. Barton and Mrs. Herman opposed this motion.

MOTION
Approval to Reconsider Previous Motion

Dr. Rose moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried to reconsider the previous motion.

Mrs. Allen and Dr. Harris opposed this motion.

MOTION
Approval to Defer Change in Merit System

Judge Michael moved, and Mrs. Barton seconded a motion which carried to defer action on the recommendation of the Policy Committee that the merit increase become a 3% increase to give Board members more time to consider this position.

Mrs. Allen opposed this motion.
Mr. Bill Markman, Business Administrator, went over the personnel report for January, 1982, with the Board.

The Board noted the workshops to be offered in February.

**MOTION**

Approval of Staff Recommendations re Funding Requests

Dr. Rose moved, and Mrs. Allen seconded a motion which carried to approve the following staff recommendations:

1. Consider funding requests pending, to address lost funds from agencies now supported by the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) at the February meeting (total potential: $182,526). Preliminary to this, JWB staff will meet with other funders to determine whether they have potential funds to assist with needs identified by the JWB survey.

2. Consider other requests addressing cutbacks from currently funded programs at March meeting. Agencies should make formal written requests with supporting budget which reflect available and needed funds by February 12th. (Potential additional known: $218,767).

3. Retain 25% of Contingency/Program Development ($155,393) in reserve until June 1st.

Dr. Rose left the meeting.

**MOTION**

Suspension of Match & Diversification Criteria

Mrs. Allen moved, and Judge Michael seconded a motion which carried to suspend the match and diversification criteria for the balance of fiscal year 1981-82 and for fiscal year 1982-83.

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Barton seconded a motion which carried to table the request from Shelter Homes Ministry for reconsideration of a grant request.

Mrs. Allen moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried to fund Girls Clubs of Pinellas County up to $19,334 from Contingency, effective December 1, 1981.

Mrs. Allen moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried to provide up to $2,540 for the three children presently in care at The Children's Home at the foster care rate for the period January 1, 1982 through March 31, 1982.

Mrs. Allen moved, and Mrs. Barton seconded a motion which carried to fund the Pinellas Association for Retarded Children up to $12,440, beginning February 1, 1982 from Contingency to enable the program to reinstate its physical therapy services.

Mrs. Allen moved, and Mrs. Barton seconded a motion which carried to table action on requests for vacant positions at Mental Health Services of North Pinellas and Mental Health Services of South Pinellas until a reconciliation of costs due Affiliated Health Services is complete for quarter one of fiscal year 1981-82.
Mr. Barry Slaiman, Assistant Research and Evaluation Consultant, updated the Board on the numerous contacts between staff and Community Youth Services (CYS) over the past year, and on the strengths, recommendations, concerns, and findings of the site visit report. Mr. Rick Escarraz (President), Mr. Roger Plata (Treasurer) and Mr. Lonnie Donaldson (Executive Director) were present from CYS to respond. Since the next CYS site visit is scheduled for February 15, and the Board is invited to attend, Mr. Meisner recommended that the Board review this program at the next regular meeting on March 4, 1982.

MOTION
Approval to Endorse Service Areas

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Allen seconded a motion which carried to endorse the Interagency Committee's recommendation to establish two mental health service areas in Pinellas County using John's Pass to 62nd Avenue North to I-275 as the north/south dividing line.

MOTION
Approval of Additional Compensation

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Allen seconded a motion which carried to approve additional compensation to the Assistant Planning and Funding Consultant and to the Planning and Funding Assistant in the amount of ten percent of regular salary from November 1, 1981 to the date of commencement of duties of an Executive Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board who is not in an acting or interim capacity.

Judge Michael and Dr. Harris left the meeting; so a quorum was no longer in effect.

Mr. Michaels updated the Board on recent developments with mental health services which had not been touched upon by Mr. Smiljanich earlier in the meeting.

Board members present seemed to be in consensus with the proposed settlement for mental health services as distributed and discussed by Mr. Michaels.

Mr. Meisner asked that Board members note the informational items, including the narrative report from the Acting Executive Director, the Youth Services System Advisory Council history, media items, letters from the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation chairman and from Commissioner Rainey to the Delegation, and a summary of evaluations on the "Writing for Dollars Workshop".

The Board packets also included an investment report, the quarterly financial report, material on the George Finck Trust Fund, and a letter from Youth Homes of Florida.

Mrs. Barton moved that the meeting be adjourned.

The next meeting will be: March 4, 1982 - Regular Meeting.

Calvin D. Harris, Ed.D., Secretary