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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1971: 12: 02: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting at Juvenile Court Center
December 2, 1971

PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. William C. M. Bissell, Secretary; Mrs. Roy M. Speer; Mrs. H. W. Holland; Mrs. R. Clark Robinson; County Commissioner George R. Brumfield and Juvenile Court Judges Jack A. Page and William L. Walker. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director and Dr. Raymond L. Edwards, Assistant Director.

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 A.M. by the Chairman.

MOTION Approval of minutes
Mrs. Speer moved and Commissioner Brumfield seconded a motion which carried, to approve the minutes of the November 4 meeting. Mrs. Bissell requested that the minutes show the insertions she had made in the original draft.

It was agreed that a secretary provided by the Court would take minutes and all meetings would be recorded and said recordings would be available to the newly appointed Secretary.

MOTION Approval of expenditures
Mrs. Robinson moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to approve the expenditures for November: Checks #964 through #1013 dated December 2, 1971 and checks #1014 and #1015 dated December 31, 1971, including $184.77 for 1971 taxes on the Lake Chautauqua property to date of purchase.

MOTION Approval of salaries as budgeted for December
Mrs. Holland moved and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried to approve the salaries as budgeted for December including the increases due after the wage freeze ended effective November 15, 1971 and retroactive increases to that date for Mrs. Ada Sommer from $11,931 to $12,516 and for Mrs. Jean Evans from $11,500 to $12,000.

There was a discussion in the change of payment for twenty-four hour duty for Protective Service Workers. Action was deferred until Mrs. Rowell made her report.

The Board's financial situation was discussed. Dr. Finck stated that the Board had $300,000.00 in Certificates of Deposit at 7-1/2% and about $200,000.00 on hand in taxes that have come in, etc. A great deal of discussion took place as to the rate of interest which could be obtained from the different banks.

MOTION Dr. Finck to submit bids for interest rates
Mrs. Bissell moved and Commissioner Brumfield seconded a motion which carried that Dr. Finck submit bids to different banks for interest rates.

The financial statement as submitted was approved by the Board.

The reports of children in group care and from the Division of Family Services were presented to the Board.

It was reported by Dr. Edwards that after a telephone call to the office of Mr. Mangin he was advised that Mr. Mangin would not be able to appear.

Dr. Coleman requested that some disposition be made on the motion of the previous meeting tabling the request for the Director's resignation. Mrs. Speer apologized for her attitude at the previous meeting, and regretted that the Board was bound by the Sunshine Law to discuss matters such as this publicly. Much discussion followed
pertaining to the responsibility of the members of the Juvenile Welfare Board. Each Board member expressed a desire to become better informed and involved with the many facets of the Board's duties. Discussion and questions concerning Dr. Finck's directorship followed.

**MOTION**
Motion was made by Judge Page that the original motion continue tabled and a substitute motion was offered that the original motion be decided at a work session. The motion of Judge Page was not seconded and Judge Page withdrew his motion to table the original motion. Mrs. Spear moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried to recall the tabled motion to request the Director's resignation. Mrs. Robinson asked that all Board members join with her in defeating the motion calling for the resignation of Dr. George Finck as Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board. Mrs. Holland made a similar statement. The Chairman polled the vote. Mr. Brumfield - no; Mrs. Holland - no; Mrs. Spear - no; Mrs. Bissell - no; Mrs. Robinson - no; Judge Page - no; Judge Walker - no. The motion was voted down unanimously. Mrs. Robinson stated she felt the Director and the Board could operate and function more effectively if the issue of the Director's resignation were not foremost in the Board members' thoughts and further felt Dr. Finck should be permitted the time to reestablish the confidence of the Board members in his performance as Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

There was discussion about a work session every month before the regular meeting.

**MOTION**
Judge Page moved and Judge Walker seconded a motion which carried that a work session be held on the last Wednesday prior to the regular meeting on Thursday providing there was a week between and not to be the Wednesday before the regular Thursday meeting.

There was discussion on the inter-agency agreements. At 11:20 A.M. Mrs. Rowell, Supervisor of Children's Services was admitted to the meeting. She went over in detail their request for budget from January 1, 1972 thru Sept. 30, 1972. During the discussion Commissioner Brumfield excused himself and left the meeting.

**MOTION**
Mrs. Robinson moved and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried that Dr. Finck write a letter to the Personnel Director in Tallahassee re Protective Services requesting a meeting with them and further requesting that one of the judges talk to them with all expenses paid by the Board.

**MOTION**
Judge Page moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried to temporarily approve with reservation the payment of overtime to Protective Services Workers for practical reasons until it can be investigated.

It was agreed that no action would be taken on the budget request of Mrs. Rowell until after the next work session at which time it would be discussed in detail, and then action would be taken at the next meeting. Mrs. Rowell then left the meeting.

A discussion was held about the Child Guidance Clinic, Family and Children's Services, Inc., Peter Pan School, Play Parc School, Juvenile Court and Project Playpen.
MOTION Approval of Agreement between the Board and Child Guidance Clinic

Mrs. Robinson moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried to approve the Agreement between the Board and the Child Guidance Clinic.

MOTION To Approve Family and Children's Service Agreement

Mrs. Robinson moved and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried to approve the Family and Children's Service Agreement.

MOTION To Approve the Peter Pan School and Play Parc School Agreements

Mrs. Bissell moved and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried to approve the Peter Pan School and Play Parc School agreements.

MOTION To Approve the Agreement with the Juvenile Court

Mrs. Bissell moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried to approve the Agreement with the Juvenile Court.

MOTION To Approve the Agreement with Project Playpen

Mrs. Robinson moved and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried to approve the Project Playpen Agreement.

Dr. Coleman opened the floor for the nomination of Chairman. Mrs. Bissell nominated Mrs. Holland. There were no other nominations.

MOTION Election of Chairman

Mrs. Robinson moved that the nominations be closed and Mrs. Holland be elected as Chairman of the Board, seconded by Judge Page. Carried unanimously.

Dr. Coleman opened the floor for the nomination of a Secretary. Mrs. Holland nominated Mrs. Robinson. There were no other nominations.

MOTION Election of Secretary

Mrs. Bissell moved that nominations be closed and Mrs. Robinson be elected as Secretary of the Board, seconded by Judge Page.

There was a discussion of lease of Lake Chautauqua property to Jack and Ruth Eckerd Foundation and it was agreed that action be deferred and that it be considered at the work session and further that Dr. Coleman contact Mr. Rehm.

MOTION Defer action on lease

Mrs. Robinson moved and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried to defer the discussion of the lease to the Eckerd Foundation until the work session. Further that Dr. Coleman contact Mr. Rehm and state that the Board would like to have a meeting with them after the work session.

Dr. Finck discussed the matter of the status of the survey by National Study Service.

MOTION Defer action on National Study Service

Mrs. Robinson moved and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried that Dr. Finck write Mr. Moore of the National Study Service and clarify that the Board is interested only in a $100,000.00 contract.
There was some discussion on the Activities Reports for November 1971.

**MOTION**

**Time Off for County Employees**

Mrs. Robinson moved and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried that Dr. Finck allow his staff to follow the time off given to the State which would allow for Thursday and Friday before Christmas and the Friday before New Years.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 P.M. The next meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board will be held in the form of a work session on Wednesday, December 29, 1971.

Mrs. William C. M. Bissell, Secretary