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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1983: 06: 09: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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PRESENT: Mrs. Mary Wyatt Allen, Chairman; Mrs. Mary Frances Byrkit, Vice Chairman; Dr. Calvin D. Harris, Secretary; Commissioner John Chesnut, Jr.; Mrs. Helen W. Herman; Judge Jack A. Page; Dr. Scott Rose; and Mrs. Jo Ann Welch. Also present: Dr. Gus Sakkis, Interim Director; Mrs. Mary Laura Broadwater, Executive Secretary; and Mr. Terry A. Smiljanich, Attorney at Law.

Mrs. Allen called the meeting to order.

MOTION Approval of Minutes Mrs. Herman moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 12, 1983.

Mr. Smiljanich updated the Board on the Baker litigation and on the Edwards litigation. Dr. Harris arrived during the above update.

The Board noted the Personnel Report for May 1983 and welcomed two new staff persons, Mrs. Frances Bucci, Secretary I in the Planning and Funding Department; and Mr. Jack Hartmann, Assistant Training Consultant.

MOTION Approval of Merit Increase for Exempt Status Employees Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried unanimously to approve the recommendation of Dr. Sakkis to remove the freeze and allow a merit increase up to 6% retroactive to October 1, 1982 for each person eligible in the exempt status category for the year 1982-83. Anniversary date would have been October 1, 1982. Henceforth merit increases for exempt status personnel will be in accordance with Board policy. Funds will come from lapse.

MOTION Approval of Reclassification Dr. Harris moved, and Mrs. Welch seconded a motion which carried unanimously to approve the recommendation of Dr. Sakkis for reclassification for Ms. Blacklidge of one pay grade higher (5%) – pay grade 39 to 40. Funds will come from lapse.

MOTION Approval of Promotion Mrs. Herman moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried unanimously to reinstate the position of Assistant Planning and Funding Consultant in the Planning and Funding Department and promote the current Planning and Funding Assistant to that position. Funds will come from lapse in the department.

MOTION Approval of Floor Plan and Awarding of Bid Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried to approve the total office floor plan as presented, to award Wall Innovators, Inc. the contract for removable walls, and to approve additional costs estimates related to the floor plan, with the total cost of $14,747 to come from lapse funds.

Commissioner Chesnut opposed this motion.

The Board reviewed the current investment report, the May transfers, and the site audit reports.

MOTION Mental Health Services of Upper Pinellas Judge Page moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried unanimously to allow Mental Health Services of Upper Pinellas to transfer up to $23,571 from lapse in its salary and fringe line items to cover costs for operating expenses for children's programming from June 1, 1983 through September 30, 1983.
Dr. Rose moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried unani-
mously to deny the request from Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service to
allow the Adopt-A-Grandchild program to transfer funds within approved
line items to a new line item for conference expenses.

Dr. Harris moved, and Dr. Rose seconded a motion which carried unani-
mously to deny the request from Catholic Social Services to allow the
Foster Care for Special Needs Children program to transfer up to $24
from lapsed fringe dollars and $133 in additional funding to cover
the costs of a raise given earlier in this calendar year.

Mr. Will Michaels, Director of the Research and Evaluation Department, explained the
6.2% funding increase guideline used by staff in preparing the preliminary Juvenile Wel-
fare Board program budget recommendations for 1983-84.

The Board noted the brief descriptions of the 1983-84 applicant programs functions.

Mr. Carl Meisner, Director of the Planning and Funding Department, reviewed the prelim-
inary recommendations for 1983-84 Juvenile Welfare Board program funding.

Mrs. Allen declared a short recess.

Dr. Harris, Chairman of the Search Committee, gave each Board member a ballot slip and
asked that each place a check mark by the names of up to four of the seven applicants
for the position of Executive Director. Mr. Smiljanich recorded the votes and found
the top three finalists to be Dr. Joe M. Burnett (6 votes), Dr. Richard L. Jones (6 votes),
and Mr. James E. Mills (8 votes). These finalists will be interviewed again in their res-
pective home towns by a visiting team of Board members, who will also do extensive back-
ground checks on each of the three.

Mrs. Allen expressed appreciation to staff, and particularly to Dr. R. J. Doody, Direc-
tor of the Training Department, who videotaped the seven interviews, and to the Board
members who viewed the lengthy tapes. Dr. Harris expressed his great appreciation to
Mrs. Gayla Larkin, Administrative Assistant, for her work with the Search Committee.

A Board committee made up of all members who have an interest in setting up the schedules
and determining agenda and criteria for the visits to candidates will meet on Wednesday,
June 15, 1983, at 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried unani-
mously to approve the request of the Pinellas County License Board
to hire a Secretary II as soon as possible since the current Secre-
tary II is on sick leave until September 30, 1983, at which time she
will retire. Funds will come from lapse in the License Board salary
budget.

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Welch seconded a motion which carried unani-
mously to approve the plan delineating the role and responsibility
of the Youth Services System Advisory Council as presented by Dr.
Sakkis.

The Board reviewed the staff reports and the media items.

Mr. Michaels presented a special report on the Mental Health Services of South Pinellas
site visit.

Commissioner Chesnut and Mr. Smiljanich left the meeting during the above report.

The Board noted the site visit summaries.
Dr. Sakkis informed the Board that the Bell report re-assessment methodologies had been given to the Policy Committee and then to the remainder of the Board members, together with a synopsis of staff thinking about the report. Dr. Sakkis reported that the status of a needs assessment report at this point is with a joint needs assessment proposal that the Juvenile Welfare Board staff is working out with other funding agencies. When staff and the funding agencies reach some kind of closure on doing a joint needs assessment for the entire county, staff will return to the Juvenile Welfare Board for approval.

Dr. Sakkis explained that the JWB Administrative Matrix is an attempt to provide for a continuing feedback loop of information in making decisions, to establish the responsibility for decisions, to delineate the responsibility of various units, and to provide for accountability.

The Board reviewed the Children's Day memorandum, the acronyms booklet, and the Affirmative Action Committee update material.

Mrs. Terrye Bradley, Assistant Director in the Planning and Funding Department and Chairperson of the Affirmative Action Committee, expressed her appreciation for the work of the Committee, and particularly that of Mr. Barry Slaiman, Assistant Research and Evaluation Consultant, and Mrs. Virginia Scott, Training Assistant, as well as all those members who were simultaneously working with the Board funding cycle.

By consensus, the Board decided to have a budget workshop on August 2, 1983, 7:00 p.m., which would be continued the next evening, if necessary.

Dr. Sakkis commended Mrs. Virginia Scott, who was recently saluted by the City of St. Petersburg for volunteer work at the Enoch Davis Center.

Mrs. Allen declared the meeting adjourned.

The next meetings will be: July 14, 1983, 9:30 a.m. - regular meeting;  
Aug. 2, 1983, 7:00 p.m. - budget workshop;  
Aug. 3, 1983, 7:00 p.m. - budget workshop (tentative).

Calvin D. Harris, Ed.D., Secretary