

9-8-2005

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 2005 : 09 : 08 : Minutes

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JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY
Regular Meeting – September 8, 2005

MINUTES

Present: Van Sayler, Chair; Joseph A. Smith, Vice Chair; John Milford, Secretary; Janet Caramello; Bob Dillinger; Judge Irene Sullivan; Commissioner Kenneth T. Welch; Dr. Clayton Wilcox; Beth Wilson; James E. Mills, Executive Director; Amy Daly, Executive Assistant

Absent: Cecilia Burke; Bernie McCabe; Terry Smiljanich, Board Counsel

Mr. Sayler called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. Mr. Mills announced that a joint meeting with the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation would precede the October Board meeting and noted a checklist of potential legislative priorities for the Board to complete in Item IV. C.

AGENDA A motion was made by Mr. Milford and seconded by Commissioner Welch to approve the agenda of the September 8, 2005 regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES
7/14/05

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2005 regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

8/29/05
TRIM

A motion was made by Mr. Milford and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2005 TRIM Hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Due to the Labor Day holiday there was no Executive Committee meeting.

ACTION

**Tarpon
Springs
Housing
Authority**

Prior to a motion, questions and comments from the Board included the availability of other programs in the area, the location of the program in relationship to the middle school and a request for a chart showing the locations of before and after school programs, including administrative costs. Staff noted that the YMCA of the Suncoast is currently a subcontractor in after- school programs, transportation from the middle school to the program is in place and space for after-school programs in the area is limited. Following introduction of Pat Weber, Executive Director, Tarpon Springs Housing Authority; Mark LeCouris, Chief, Tarpon Springs Police

Department; and Office Ed Hayden, Tarpon Springs Police Department, a motion was made.

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Judge Sullivan to allocate up to \$111,568 from the FY 2005-06 Community Contingency Fund to the Tarpon Springs Housing Authority for the HEAT Program (a collaboration of the Tarpon Springs Housing Authority, Tarpon Springs Police Department/Cops & Kids Program, and the YMCA of the Suncoast) for the period of October 1, 2005 to July 31, 2006. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: The FY 2005-06 Community Contingency Fund would be reduced by \$111,568 from \$450,000 to \$338,432. The allocation for the Tarpon Springs Housing Authority would increase from \$16,320 to \$127,888.

Religious Community Services In response to a concern on the salary level for the shelter advocate position to staff and Linda Amidei, Executive Director, The Haven, prior to the motion, Mr. Mills noted that a salary study was under consideration with the funded agencies

A motion was made by Mr. Milford and seconded by Commissioner Welch to increase the continuation allocation to The Haven Program of Religious Community Services by up to \$29,800 on an annualized basis, starting in FY 2005-06. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Welch noted work the county was undertaking on the issue of the cost of housing and suggested JWB and the School Board may wish to support this effort.

Fiscal Impact: The FY 2005-06 Continuation Contingency Fund would be reduced by \$29,800 from \$125,000 to \$95,200 and the FY 2005-06 continuation allocation to The Haven program of RCS would be increased from \$66,286 to \$96,086.

Safe Start A motion was made by Judge Sullivan and seconded by Commissioner Welch to 1) approve the allocation of \$54,000 in JWB funds to Coordinated Child Care to continue Safe Start Project Challenge services during FY 05-06; and 2) approve the allocation to Help-A-Child, Inc. of \$296,000 in JWB funds and an additional \$100,000 federal funds from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, to continue the Safe Start Partnership Center services during FY 05-06. The motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: The JWB FY 2005-06 contracts and grants budget would be reduced from \$779,839 to \$429,839 as the funds are directly allocated to agencies.

**Program
Accounta-
ability**

Prior to a motion staff responded to the Board's questions and comment, noting that more e-learning courses relevant to our community would be added, agencies are held responsible for control of the laptops and the network cards and the courses are web based. An agreement re the ownership of the courses was also suggested.

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Mr. Milford to allocate up to \$11,900 to BayShore Technologies for the purchase and distribution of seven laptop computers to Family Resources, Inc., Family Services Center, Inc. and PEMHS; and allocate up to \$5,400 for the purchase of Articulate and Captivate software and distribute to those agencies. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: Program accountability will be reduced by \$17,300 from \$71,386 to \$54,086.

**Health &
Human
Services
Coord.
Council**

Prior to a motion, Board questions and comment to staff and Herb Marlowe centered on the number of levels of governance, the need for coordination of services, the need for businesses and providers to have input early in the process, an opportunity for JWB to address/expand issues such as housing and whether some Board members have the discretionary time to serve on the council. Mr. Marlowe reported that he had received commitment from some Board members to serving on the council. Commissioner Welch shared his support for the council, noting that the County has approved the concept but not the document. Mr. Mills indicated that there is a sunset provision of 5 years and there is a need for a more structured ongoing process. Dr. Wilcox suggested a need for annual reports on the progress of the council, which would include specific information on resources, etc.

Motion

A motion was made by Mr. Dillinger and seconded by Judge Sullivan to 1) approve the concept of a Health and Human Services Coordinating Council, and 2) Authorize staff to negotiate an inter-local agreement with the County and present it for Board action. The motion carried by majority. Voting "Yes," Mr. Sayler, Mr. Smith, Ms. Caramello, Mr. Dillinger, Judge Sullivan, Commissioner Welch, Dr. Wilcox, Ms. Wilson. Voting "No," Mr. Milford.

Mr. Milford felt the Coordinating Council would be added bureaucracy. He shared that several layers of administration – a policy board, an administrative forum and the council itself, each requiring staff support, are not the best use of taxpayer's dollars.

Public Consulting Group

Questions/comment to staff and Michelle Prior, Public Consulting Group (PCG), centered on the size and location of PCG (500 consultants, \$70 million in billing, home office in Boston, locations throughout the country and an office located in Tallahassee), the existence of a tightly written contract to avoid any liability on JWB's part and that Medicaid laws preclude a funder from being a billing agent.

A motion was made by Judge Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Smith to allocate up to \$118,068 to Public Consulting Group, Inc. to be the Billing Agent for the Revenue Maximization effort-Targeted Case Management (TCM). The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: The Administration Budget – Programs Department would be reduced from \$1,208,621 to \$1,090,553. The Programs budget would be increased to the original approved amount upon receipt of the first \$118,068 in revenues generated from TCM.

GRAYDI

Michelle McFarlane-Wilson was introduced as the new Senior Planner for the Greater Ridgecrest Area Youth Development Initiative. Ms. Wilson introduced Herman Lessard, Executive Director, Pinellas County Urban League; Vernon Bryant, Chair, GRAYDI and Stephanie Zaragoza, Associate Vice President, Community and Program Development, YMCA of the Suncoast. In response to Mr. Saylor's question, staff noted that the application process for a 501C3 had been initiated and work has begun with the Neighborhood Family Coalition. Mr. Saylor noted the potential for cost savings by joining the Neighborhood Family Coalition. Mr. Mills indicated that GRAYDI is very successful.

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the Memorandum of Agreement, proposed plan and budget for fiscal year 2005-06 for the Greater Ridgecrest Area Youth Development Initiative (GRAYDI); and to allocate a) up to \$52,054 for the Pinellas County Urban League to administer and implement programming for GRAYDI Computer and Learning Center site activities; b) up to \$34,098 to the Suncoast Family YMCA for management of the work and work learning activities; and c) up to \$13,298 to Suncoast Center for Community Mental Health, Inc. for the management and provision of family support

case management services for the family support component. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: \$185,088 has been included in the JWB FY 2005-06 Program Funding Budget for the Greater Ridgecrest Area Youth Development Initiative.

RFP/ITB A motion was made by Judge Sullivan and seconded by Commissioner Welch to approve release of the Gender Specific Girls RFP, Expansion/Enhancement ITB and Academic Enhancement ITB. The motion carried unanimously.

Judge Sullivan and Mr. Milford volunteered to serve on the Board review panel.

Truancy ITB Prior to a motion, Judge Sullivan stated a conflict of interest and provided information about absenteeism. She also recognized Donna Sicilian of the Pinellas County School system and Jane Harper, Executive Director, Family Resources, Inc. Commissioner Welch addressed the potential for re-ranking of the schools due to school choice. Ms. Caramello spoke of the need for more focus on literacy. Staff assured that the full needs of the family would be addressed including literacy.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Milford to 1) authorize release of an ITB (Invitation To Bid) for a Truancy Prevention Family Support Program for elementary school age students at a cost of \$110,760 for FY 05-06 (\$166,140 annualized); 2) approve a Sole Source Agreement in the amount of \$169,650 for FY 05-06 with the Circuit Court Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida for a Truancy Magistrate Program for middle school students (Truancy Outreach Program); 3) authorize staff to negotiate with the City of St. Petersburg for the establishment of a South County Truancy Interdiction/Truancy Center at a law enforcement facility with a set-aside amount of \$150,000 pending the outcome of the negotiations; 4) transfer \$127,910 from the Board's New and Expanded pool-Ombudsman fund to the Truancy Fund. The motion carried by majority. Voting "Yes," Mr. Sayler, Mr. Smith, Mr. Milford, Ms. Caramello, Mr. Dillinger, Commissioner Welch, Dr. Wilcox, Ms. Wilson. Abstaining due to a conflict of interest, Judge Sullivan.

Fiscal Impact: \$265,000 was budgeted for the Truancy Initiative for FY 2005-06. Approval of staff's recommendation would decrease the Ombudsman fund by \$127,910 from \$200,000 to \$72,090 and increase the Truancy fund from \$265,000 to \$392,910.

Youth & Sexual Activity Task Force A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Milford to 1) approve Grace Dimm as a member of the JWB Task Force on Youth and Sexual Activity and 2) approve Sue Brett as Interim Chair and Linda Daniels as Vice Chair of the Task Force. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Brett thanked the Board.

Election of Officers:

Chair: A motion was made by Mr. Milford, seconded by Commissioner Welch and passed unanimously to elect Mr. Saylor as Chair.

Vice Chair: A motion was made by Mr. Dillinger, seconded by Commissioner Welch and passed unanimously to elect Mr. Smith as Vice Chair.

Secretary: A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Mr. Dillinger to elect Mr. Milford as Secretary.

2005-06 Meeting Dates A motion was made by Judge Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Smith to schedule JWB meetings for the second Thursday of each month, 8:30 a.m. and schedule a Budget Workshop for Thursday, June 15, 2006, 5:30 p.m. Prior to a vote, it was noted that October 13, 2005 was Yom Kippur. The Board indicated their availability on October 12 and the motion was amended.

A motion was made by Ms. Caramello and seconded by Mr. Milford to amend the motion and schedule JWB meetings for the second Thursday of each month, with the exception of October as follows: Wednesday, October 12; November 10, 2005, December 8, 2005; January 12, 2006, February 9, 2006, March 9, 2006, April 13, 2006, May 11, 2006, June 8, 2006, July 13, 2006, September 14, 2006; and schedule a Budget Workshop for Thursday, June 15, 2006, 5:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Board discussion centered on changes to Board policies necessitated by changes in community involvement suggested during the Board's Visioning Workshop. Comment from the Board included Mr. Saylor's suggestion that the Community Councils define a precise purpose. Staff concurred with the suggestion for a narrower focus. Mr. Milford suggested clarification of the vision statement. It was noted that the Councils have reviewed the proposed changes and there is a mixed reaction. The Board concurred with the proposed changes, which will be returned to the October meeting for Board action.

INFORMATION

In addition to Ms. McFarlane-Wilson introduced earlier in the meeting, Mr. Mills introduced two new staff – Shari Hulin, Director of Training and Shannon Cohen-Phillips, IT Department.

OPEN AGENDA

Gay Inskeep, Court Administrator, thanked the Board for issuing the ITB for Truancy initiatives and noted that literacy is already included in existing programs.

Mr. Dillinger announced that scholarships are available for vocational training for youth/inmates who complete their GED. Inquiries should be forwarded to the Public Defender's office.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Milford, Secretary

Board requests:

- 1. Mr. Sayler requested a chart with the locations of before and after school programs in the county (501C3's). Mr. Smith requested that administrative costs for those programs be added to the chart.**
- 2. Mr. Sayler noted a need for an agreement outlining ownership of e-learning courses.**
- 3. Dr. Wilcox requested an annual report on the Health and Human Services Coordinating Council, including specific information on resources, etc.**