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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 2005 : 02 : 10 : Minutes

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JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY
Regular Meeting – February 10, 2005
MINUTES

Present: Van Sayler, Chair; Joseph A. Smith, Vice Chair; John Milford, Secretary; Bob Dillinger; Bernie McCabe; Commissioner Kenneth T. Welch; Dr. Clayton Wilcox; Beth Wilson; Terry Smiljanich, Board Counsel; James E. Mills, Executive Director; Amy Daly, Executive Assistant

Absent: Cecilia Burke, Janet Caramello, Judge Irene Sullivan

Mr. Sayler called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. following the Corporate Recognition reception.

AGENDA A motion was made by Mr. Milford and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the agenda for the February 10, 2005 regular meeting.

MINUTES A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Mr. Dillinger to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2005 regular meeting.

Mr. Sayler noted the actions taken by the Executive Committee related to the Executive Director's evaluation and noted his memorandum to the Board for action later in the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

25 Years of Service Bob Goodbread, Marriage and Family Center, was recognized for 25 years of service.

Corporate Recognition Valpak received the 2004 Corporate Recognition Award. The following corporations were also nominated: Allstate Insurance Company, Cherry and Company, Collegiate Risk Management, Inc., DEX Imaging, Jim's Harley Davidson, Old Salt Fishing Foundation, Pinch a Penny, Inc., Publix, Ricky T's Restaurant, Tech Data.

ACTION

E-Learning Following assurance that statistics indicating participation in e-learning will be provided in the Training Center Report to the Board and classroom instruction will continue to be made available, a motion was made. Commissioner Welch moved

and Mr. Smith seconded a motion, which carried unanimously to allocate up to \$52,500 to Continued Learning, LLC for the purchase and implementation of an e-learning system.

Fiscal Impact: Non-operating Budget – Technology Implementation Fund will be reduced by \$32,200 from \$32,200 to \$0. \$20,500 in fees collected from users will be used to support the remaining contract.

Yes Program

Prior to a motion, Board questions/comment included the timeline for adding the YES Program to the menu of school related services (2007) and why the program was recommended for one-time-only funding (first phase of school related services are already in the schools and the program requested “gap” funding). A motion was made by Mr. McCabe and seconded by Mr. Dillinger to allocate up to \$47,516 to the YMCA of Greater St. Petersburg Youth Enhancement Skills Program at Meadowlawn Middle School for the period February 10, 2005 through September 30, 2005 and special condition the contract requiring YES staff to collaborate, as appropriate, with the State Attorney’s SASS program staff and any other JWB-funded program that may be added as a result of the School-Based Initiative process. The motion carried unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: The FY 2004-05 Community Contingency Fund would be reduced by \$47,516 from \$296,754 to \$249,238.

School Related Services

Questions/comment from the Board to staff and Donna Sicilian, Pinellas County Schools, included the need for a long-term plan for the school district to assume funding for programs, thus freeing up JWB funds for other programs, why Bay Point Middle School would continue to receive funding for an OCIP program despite its current ranking, and the staff recommendation in Option 2 to remove Hip Clubs (R’ Club) from the school related services process for this cycle. Ms. Claire T. Cousins, a counselor at Safety Harbor Elementary School, addressed the Board with her concerns over reallocating funds for programs currently at Safety Harbor Elementary to other schools. Staff distributed information on high need schools not currently receiving menu services and lower need schools currently receiving menu services. Mr. Sayler called on Arthur O’Hara, R’ Club and Pat Gerard, Family Resources, who had requested an

opportunity to speak. Each relinquished the opportunity to speak. A motion was made by Mr. McCabe and seconded by Commissioner Welch to approve Option 2: modify the revised allocation plan as follows: a) remove Hip Clubs (R' Club) from the school related services process for this cycle and implement the revised allocation process to include the remaining four (4) middle school menu programs at a reduced level of funding per school; b) implement the revised allocation process in 26 high-risk elementary schools as planned; and c) use transitional funds to continue (for a two year period) the Bay Point Middle School OCIP programs, and the next five high-risk elementary schools (beyond the 26 high risk schools) that currently have menu programs. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: Of the \$350,000 in available funds, \$53,095 will be used to include OCIP at Bay Point; \$148,889 will be used to include current menu programs at five high-risk elementary schools beyond the 26 high-risk schools; \$148,016 will be available for program start-ups and shutdowns.

**Safe Start
Evaluation**

A motion was made by Mr. McCabe and seconded by Mr. Smith to 1) approve the acceptance, budgeting and allocation of additional federal funding to enhance the local evaluation of Pinellas Safe Start and participate in the Tier II national evaluation should Pinellas Safe Start be selected by OJJDP; and 2) approve recommendations, subject to final OJJDP approval, as follows: increase the allocation of OJJDP funds to Ounce of Prevention by up to \$20,000 FY 2004-05 for enhanced local evaluation of Pinellas Safe Start and participation in Tier II of the national evaluation. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: The approved Safe Start FY 04-05 budget will be increased from \$932,620 to \$952,620. Anticipated revenue from OJJDP for the local evaluation contract will be increased in FY 04-05 from \$87,665 to \$107,665.

**Executive
Director's
Evaluation**

Prior to a motion Mr. Saylor drew the Board's attention to his memorandum on the Executive Director's evaluation, explained the process and noted the Executive Committee approved the proposed salary increase for the Executive Director of 3.5%, which was in line with the salary increase for all JWB employees.

Mr. Saylor then read an email sent to him by Ms. Burke, requesting that he read her statement in the email to the Board. "Since I regretfully will be absent from tomorrow's Board meeting, I am requesting that you read this statement during (missing word(s)) of any motion concerning the Executive Director's evaluation or salary. 'Mr. Chairman, I do not support the Executive Director's request for a 3.5% raise. Board members have received (missing word(s)) which I list some instances where I perceive that staff disregarded board policy and procedures, acted unilaterally (possible missing word(s)) showed bias in its dealing with agencies. These experiences and perceptions of mine lead me to believe that the (missing word(s)) is not being held accountable to the Board. If the Board acquiesces to the salary increase is it an endorse (missing word(s)) these actions? Or does the Board feel these issues are not of any great concern? Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.' (I would also like to note that I distributed the memo at the Executive Committee meeting on Monday, and asked (missing word(s)) faxed to the rest of the board. It was not sent until two days later.)" Mr. Saylor noted that Ms. Burke's opinion was discussed at the Executive Committee meeting and that Ms. Burke agreed with the goals but did not agree with the salary recommendation.

Motion

A motion was made by Mr. Dillinger and seconded by Mr. Milford to approve the Executive Committee recommendation for a salary increase.

Discussion of Ms. Burke's memo and the advertisement in the teen magazine included with the memorandum centered on the advertisement not being a product of one of the JWB Children's Services Committees but a design of the teen magazine staff. Staff noted that the program responsible for the magazine and the teen staff as well has been contacted about the advertisement. The Board suggested a disclaimer be developed and forwarded to the program that oversees the magazine. Mr. Dillinger suggested the possibility of tabling the motion.

Mr. McCabe suggested that the Executive Director be given an opportunity to respond to Ms. Burke's memorandum.

Motion

A motion was made by Mr. McCabe and seconded by Commissioner Welch to table the Executive Director's

evaluation until the March meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION

- Appoint Budget Committee** Mr. Sayler announced that Commissioner Welch would serve as chair of the Budget Committee. Mr. Dillinger and Mr. Sayler have also agreed to serve, and Ms. Caramello has been contacted to serve on the committee as well.
- CBC Update** Lee Johnson provided an update on community based care. He noted caseload numbers were improving, no homes were over capacity, a “B” grade on the report card received from the state had been awarded and expressed his appreciation to JWB for its support. Mr. Johnson distributed and explained a concept paper for a branch board, noting this would provide additional governance/transparency and requested the Board’s support. Mr. Johnson responded to Board questions about the concept of privatization. Mr. Mills noted that the Report Card was attached to his Executive Director’s report.
- Motion** A motion was made by Mr. McCabe and seconded by Mr. Milford to support the concept of a Branch Board for local governance. The motion carried unanimously.
- Additionally, Mr. Johnson noted that they are in the process of responding to an Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) and requested a letter of support.
- Motion** Mr. McCabe moved and Commissioner Welch seconded a motion to provide a letter of support to be included in the YMCA-Sarasota response to the ITN. The motion carried unanimously.
- Mr. Johnson announced the Fall annual conference in November, indicating his appreciation to JWB for providing staff for the planning process and that a presentation would be made at the March meeting on how funds are received by his organization.

INFORMATION

**Legislative
Update**

Board questions/comment to staff included: the Medicaid waiver proposal and the affect on the medically needy, a request to provide a macro picture of the social services portion of the state budget, intangible tax elimination, unfunded local mandates, the county policy on the homeless and CBDG funding.

Mr. Dillinger was assured by Board counsel that his serving on the Board Review Panel for the post detention RFP did not pose a conflict of interest.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Milford
Secretary