



Board of Directors Meeting

October 11, 2012

Minutes of September 20, 2012 Final TRIM Hearing To Adopt the Final Millage Rate and Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Item II.D.

PRESENT: Elise Minkoff, Chair; Maria Edmonds, Vice Chair; Brian Aungst, Jr.; Honorable Bob Dillinger; Judge Raymond Gross; Honorable Bernie McCabe; Raymond Neri; Commissioner Karen Seel; Dr. James Sewell; Attorney Colleen Flynn

ABSENT: Angela Rouson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Minkoff called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mrs. Lancaster.

II. PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 BUDGET

Mrs. Minkoff stated the JWB Board will be voting to adopt the following:

- A. Final Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 (.8981).
- B. Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 (\$69,918,532).

Comments from the Board: Mr. Dillinger felt we should explain to members of the public that our published Notice indicated we were increasing expenditures 25% and suggest Ms. Sahulka explain that is not the tax increase, but reflects other sources of money, not taxpayer money.

Ms. Sahulka responded: We worked with All Children's and Bayfront hospitals to implement an intergovernmental pass-through for Medicaid revenues and, as a result, we had an additional \$12M in the budget. If you subtract the \$12M, our budget would actually be lower than it was last year, at \$57M.

Mr. Aungst asked if that is reflected in the budget under "local grants and contributions".

Ms. Sahulka responded yes.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Minkoff asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board.

- 1) Amanda Enste spoke about the Healthy Families Program. Her son is 18 months old and has been in the Healthy Families Program since day one. She signed up at the hospital and it was the best choice she could have ever made. The Program has been so amazing and her son has bonded so well with the Healthy Families worker. She said it was important that people know about this program.
- 2) Angela McIver spoke about Healthy Families. Six years ago she became pregnant with her first child and didn't know what to do. At the hospital they told her about Healthy Families. Today, she is a Healthy Families worker, able to help other families and it is a great program.
- 3) Harvey Landress, an employee of R'Club Child Care which receives funding from JWB said he is not there on behalf of R'Club, but as a taxpayer. In these times of challenging economy and anti-tax and anti-government sentiment he personally supports JWB's efforts to increase the millage no matter how slight. Although he has a homestead exempted property, he owns three other non-homestead exempted properties and he pays slightly if not considerably more taxes to JWB than the average taxpayer. He supports JWB's efforts to fund children's services and to provide the level needed to keep what we have and maybe just a little bit more.
- 4) Art O'Hara, Executive Director of R'Club spoke as a Pinellas County resident and taxpayer. Both personally and professionally he knows it takes a lot of courage on the part of the Board, and fully endorses the increase and hopes that it passes.

IV. RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Minkoff asked Mrs. Lancaster to read the resolution regarding the millage.

RESOLUTION FY 12-13 - 3

FINAL HEARING

A RESOLUTION OF THE JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVY OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013.

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Florida on September 20, 2012, adopted Fiscal Year 2012-2013 a Final Millage Rate following a public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065.

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Florida held a public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and

WHEREAS, the Gross Taxable Value for Operating Purposes not exempt from taxation within Pinellas County has been certified by the County Property Appraiser to the Juvenile

Welfare Board as \$54,425,420,037;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Florida, that:

1. The FY 2012-2013 operating millage rate for the Juvenile Welfare Board is .8981 mills which is greater than the rolled-back rate of .8532.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Mrs. Minkoff called for a motion and a second to adopt the millage resolution. Mrs. Minkoff asked if there was any discussion from the Board. There was none.

ACTION: Dr. Sewell moved to adopt the millage resolution (.8981); seconded by Judge Gross; no discussion; motion carried.

Mrs. Minkoff then asked Joan Chamo, Executive Assistant, to call on each Board member for their vote.

Joan Chamo, Executive Assistant to the Board, called on each Board member for their vote. Members who voted to adopt the millage resolution (.8981): Judge Gross, Mrs. Edmonds, Mr. Neri, Mr. Dillinger, Mr. McCabe, Dr. Sewell, Commissioner Seel;

Member(s) who opposed the adoption of the millage resolution (.8981): Mr. Aungst, Mrs. Minkoff;

Mrs. Lancaster was asked to read the resolution regarding the budget.

RESOLUTION FY 12-13 - 4

FINAL HEARING

A RESOLUTION OF THE JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012/13.

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Florida, on September 20, 2012, held a public hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and

WHEREAS, the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Florida set forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the Budget for Fiscal Year 2012/13 in the amount of \$69,918,532;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, Florida, that:

1. The Fiscal Year 2012/13 Final Budget be adopted.

2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Mrs. Minkoff called for a motion and a second to adopt the budget resolution.

ACTION: Judge Gross moved to adopt the final budget (\$69,918,532) for Fiscal Year 2012-2013; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds;

Mrs. Minkoff said while she is not in favor of increasing the millage rate she is in favor of the programs we fund and our overall budget. She firmly believes that we already have taxpayer money that we can allocate to cover some of the challenges that lie ahead without raising the millage.

Mr. Aungst said that he agrees with Mrs. Minkoff in terms of his wholehearted support and belief in JWB and the programs we fund. From prior Board meetings, members knew of his opposition to the millage rate increase, based on the fact that the difference in the budget this year is the reserve fund, and that we are not really increasing any services. He said he was going to vote against the budget, but it is not a vote against the programs, but he does not feel he can support the budget based on the reserve funds.

Mrs. Edmonds said she looked at the whole picture of raising the millage and observed she has health insurance, life insurance, home, car insurance and long-term insurance, she looks at this increase as insurance. It is an insurance that our children and our families will be taken care of and she does it from the bottom of her heart because she has five grandchildren who deserve a community which takes care of children.

Mr. Neri said the rationale, as he understood it, to increase the budget now because we most likely would be facing another round of cuts next year. All that comes with a lot of anxiety about the continuation of programs, and we sidestepped that by biting the bullet now, and hopefully the economic situation will change, but we are in better shape because we have that money to work with.

Mrs. Minkoff asked if there were any further comments then asked for a Roll Call.

Joan Chamo, Executive Assistant to the Board, called on each Board member for their vote. Members who voted to adopt the final budget (\$69,918,532) for Fiscal Year 2012-2013: Judge Gross, Mrs. Edmonds, Mr. Neri, Mr. Dillinger, Mr. McCabe, Dr. Sewell, Commissioner Seel, Mrs. Minkoff;

Member who opposed the adoption of the final budget (\$69,918,532) for Fiscal Year 2012-2013: Mr. Aungst.

No further discussion; motion carried.

Mrs. Minkoff said this concludes the Agenda for the final two Hearings and she thanked the Board for their turnout and their willingness to hear dissenting opinions; it is important to the taxpayers and it is important also for the harmony and the functioning of this Board.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Neri moved to adjourn at 5:23 PM; seconded by Dr. Sewell; motion carried.

Minutes Submitted by:

Dr. James Sewell
Board Secretary
10/11/12 (jc)