



# Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County

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## Finance Committee Meeting Notes

May 23, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Room 191

**Committee Members Present:** Honorable Bob Dillinger, Maria Edmonds, Honorable Bernie McCabe, Elise Minkoff

**Guests:** Martha Lenderman, Board Chair; Veatrice Farrell, Commissioner Ken Welch

**JWB Staff Present:** Gay Lancaster, Cindy Bell, Marcie Biddleman, Denise Groesbeck, Marcia Marcionette, Debra Prewitt, Lisa Sahulka, Lynn De la Torre, Sue Walterick

### I. Request Approval of Notes

A. April 25, 2011 Finance Committee

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to accept the notes as written; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds; motion carried.**

B. May 9, 2011 Audit Services Public Meeting

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to accept the notes as written; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.**

C. Request Approval of May 16, 2011 Bank Services Public Meeting

**ACTION: Mrs. Edmonds moved to accept the notes as written; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.**

### II. Recommendation for Auditing Services Contract

The Evaluation Committee consisted of The Honorable Bob Dillinger, member of the JWB Finance/Audit Committee, Lisa Sahulka, Sue Walterick, Lynn De la Torre, and Danielle Berche. Six proposal responses were received from applicants. Each proposal was evaluated and scored for technical qualifications. The Evaluation Committee is recommending Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, LLP be awarded the contract for providing professional auditing services for five fiscal years: September 30, 2011 through September 30, 2015. The auditing firm ranks as one of the top 30 largest CPA firms in the nation and is the largest nationally recognized accounting firm with a primary focus on serving government organizations.

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved approval to negotiate a contract with Cherry, Bekaert & Holland to provide auditing services beginning September 30, 2011 through September 30, 2015; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.**

### **III. Recommendation for Bank Services Contract**

A total of five proposal responses were received from applicants. The Executive Committee recommends Branch Banking & Trust (BB&T) receive the contract for five (5) years beginning October 1, 2011 and ending September 30, 2015.

Discussion: Mr. McCabe wanted to know if a fixed interest rate was established. Mrs. Walterick said the Banks utilize the federal funds rate for interest and JWB has the flexibility to use other entities for investing purposes.

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved approval to negotiate a contract with Branch Banking & Trust to provide banking services beginning September 30, 2011 through September 30, 2015; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.**

### **IV. Budget Actions for FY 10/11 and 11/12**

A. Requested approval to maintain the Child Care Executive Partnership (CCEP) match up to \$900,000 for child care slots.

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved approval; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds, motion carried.**

B. Requested approval to implement a Family Services Pool and allocate up to \$453,600 through September 30, 2011; and allocate up to \$450,000 for PEMHS Master Level Case Managers (Navigators).

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved approval; seconded by Mrs. Edmonds, motion carried.**

C. Requested approval to move forward with FY 11-12 Program Budget as presented at the May, 2011 Board Meeting

Discussion: Mr. Dillinger would like to adjust the reduction to Emergency Response Team (ERT) from \$250K to \$500K, and move the dollars to the Family Services Pool, which would allow for programs to apply for funds for services as needed.

Mrs. Edmonds asked who and how are the costs for services determined? Mrs. Lancaster said there are mathematical models and Administrative Services Organizations (ASO) available that would assist with the process. Dr. Mike Flora, who is currently consulting on the Access to Care project, has already met with some of the Board members, and will be meeting with the remainder to explain the mathematical models for establishing service rates. Rebecca Robbins of the Hillsborough Children's Board ASO, will provide a presentation on their ASO that fully explains their process in billing for services. The informational meeting will be sometime in June or July for Agency Executive Directors and staff. A Board presentation will be arranged, as well.

Ms. Lenderman remains apprehensive with the elimination of funding for the Truancy programs and shared Judge Sullivan's concern on whether the data used to determine the move was accurate. Marcia Marcionette said JWB is receiving reliable data to make the decisions required.

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to present to the Board a reduction to ERT funding by \$500,000 and to move the dollars into the Family Services Pool; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.**

D. Requested Approval for a FY 11/12 millage rate of .95

Discussion: Mr. McCabe doesn't think the political climate is open for tax increases, no matter how small the increase amount. He also stated that just because other agencies (i.e. Early Learning Coalition (ELC) change their policies, JWB isn't obligated to pick up the tab for unfunded needs by increasing taxes.

Mr. Dillinger asked why stop at .95: why not go for a full mill? The extra dollars could be used to expand services such as Out of School Time (OST) which would keep kids off the street and out of trouble, and provide child care slots for homeless families (allowing parents to work). JWB should hold a community forum to explore the interests of the tax payers to support services to at-risk children.

Ms. Lenderman thinks if JWB is going to request an increase in millage, the sooner the better. She recommended public hearings be held in north county and south county and making the locations easily accessible for the public.

Mrs. Edmonds said staff must make the presentation "real" to the public by sharing real stories of how JWB has impacted the lives of children and families – numbers are too cold.

Mrs. Minkoff is concerned that the Delegation isn't being addressed. JWB needs to be smarter and more savvy about how we proceed because an increase in millage could greatly impact small businesses.

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to present the millage increase to the Board for consideration at the June Board meeting including a plan for public meetings; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.**

## **V. Discussion of Administrative Budget Item – Supplemental Adjustment for Employees**

In addition to stagnant salaries, JWB staff has had to absorb continuing increases to health and dental insurance deductibles, food cost and gas prices. The Pension Reform-SB 2100 will require employees in the Florida State Retirement System to pay 3 percent of their salaries into their retirement account. Mrs. Lancaster proposed a one-time adjustment for all employees, except the executive team and employees who are already in DROP, to assist with the additional costs they must pay.

**ACTION: Mr. Dillinger moved to approve a \$75,000 fund, capped at a 3% increase per employee, in light of the retirement issue created by the legislature; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.**

**Mr. Dillinger moved to adjourn at 11:03 a.m.**

Notes Respectfully Submitted by Penny DeLacquesaux, JWB's Executive Assistant

6/5/11