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## Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1951 : 05 : 10 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Minutes of May 10 Meeting  
Held in Clearwater Courthouse

Attending were Mrs. Bartlett, Chairman, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Meador, Mrs. Strickland, Judge Marshall, and Mr. Wick. Also present was Dr. Williams, the Director.

The minutes of the April 12 meeting were read and approved.

In further amplification of the discussions on the shortcomings of the probation department, it was brought out that one of the chief weaknesses is the quality of the case work service being rendered and the need for more thorough and careful planning of follow-up work on those cases which need more intensive case work than has been given to them in the past. Mrs. Bartlett called attention to the dissatisfaction of some of the school people with the cooperation of the probation department and the failure of the probation staff to follow-up on cases.

Bids were opened on a new car with the trade-in of the old Chevrolet. Five companies submitted bids and after careful study, the Board approved the bid of Al Deane Chevrolet Company which offered a new car with needed extras for a net difference of \$873.91. The excellent service given by and good trade-in allowance for the old Chevrolet of like model were determining factors. Mr. Wick moved and Mrs. Holland seconded the motion that Dr. Williams be authorized to buy the car from Al Deane Chevrolet Company. The motion passed unanimously.

Judge Marshall moved and Mrs. Strickland seconded a motion to approve expenditures from the general operating fund as covered by Checks No. 2068-2112 inclusive and expenditures in the School Counseling Fund as covered by Checks No. 160-171 inclusive. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Bartlett reported on efforts to secure a suitable successor candidate for Judge Marshall as Juvenile Judge and indicated that there has been no success in obtaining someone to take the position up to the present time. It was agreed by the Board that the salary would need to be increased to make the position attractive to a qualified person.

Judge Marshall reported on his efforts to secure passage of the new Juvenile Court Act. He stated that he thought there would be two changes in the Act: one would be in eliminating the provision that the Juvenile Judge must belong to the legal profession and, two, that the method of financial support for the court would be changed from that in the original act.

This was followed by a discussion on legislation, and concern was expressed about the appropriations for the Farm Colony and for the new Forest Hill Institution. Mention has already been made of the concern about the need for increasing the juvenile judge's salary. It was agreed that an effort would be made to see the Legislative Delegation this weekend in St. Petersburg to urge that support be given to these measures. Judge Marshall agreed to communicate with Senator Baynard in regard to the juvenile judge situation.

Mr. Patrick was invited in for a discussion with the Board of the complaints and shortcomings discussed with him last month. He was asked to report on his plans for correcting the situation and the results of his efforts.

Mr. Patrick stated that he had assigned most of the dependent cases to Miss Lovely and that he is taking care of the delinquents, especially the boys, himself. He also reported that he has been attending meetings where his presence was desirable.

He mentioned a welfare committee meeting, a case conference, and meetings with the school staff. Mr. Patrick reported that he is now working out a schedule for regular recording and follow-up on cases, both those in the community and those in the training schools. It was pointed out to Mr. Patrick that such reports should have been a regular practice for the past two years instead of the past two weeks. He was urged to make reports on case loads so that the Board could keep itself informed about the distribution of the work. The need for careful and accurate recording was agreed to by the Board, and Mr. Patrick was urged to improve the quality of his case work service and of his recording.

There was some discussion of the Child Guidance Clinic Budget and concern was expressed over the fact that salaries were raised in a deficit budget. There was also some anxiety expressed about the degree to which the Child Guidance Clinic has followed the instructions of the Budget Commission to be integrated into the health Department prior to the next budget hearings. Judge Marshall promised to bring these matters to the attention of the Child Guidance Clinic Board since he is on both boards.

Dr. Williams reported that the Junior Service League of Clearwater had contributed \$600 for the care of a child or children in foster homes during the coming year. He also reported that the Junior League of St. Petersburg had sent in their check for \$3,000 toward the second year of operation of the School Counseling Project, and read a letter of appreciation with which this had been acknowledged.

Dr. Williams read a letter from Morrison Pearce, Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, with reference to the deficit in millage levy by the Board of County Commissioners and the resulting deficit in collections for the Juvenile Welfare Board. This letter with the reply calling attention to the probable deficit of between four and five thousand dollars in the present budget due to failure of the Board of County Commissioners to levy the  $\frac{1}{2}$  mill tax as required by law was read.

A proposal by the Children's Service Bureau to initiate adoption services for Negro children and white children in their own case load was considered by the Board. This program has been developed at the suggestion of the Juvenile Welfare Board because of the need for such services. Mrs. Meador moved and Judge Marshall seconded a motion that the Juvenile Welfare Board provide funds for the temporary foster care of negro children pending adoption placement and continue present arrangement with the Children's Service Bureau for care of white children pending adoption placement. The motion passed by unanimous vote of members present.

Dr. Williams presented an invitation from The Executive Committee of the Blue Ridge Institute for Southern Social Work Executives requesting him to attend an institute at Blue Ridge, N. C. July 23 to 27th for the purpose of discussing Public Attitudes toward Social Work, especially Family and Child Welfare. Mrs. Strickland moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that Dr. Williams be sent to the meeting with expenses paid by Juvenile Welfare Board. The motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

*Nancy Meador*

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