9-10-2009

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 2009 : 09 : 10 : Packet

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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PRESENT: Joseph Smith, Chair; John Milford, Vice Chair; Martha Lenderman, Secretary; Honorable Bob Dillinger; Maria Edmonds; Honorable Bernie McCabe; Van Sayler; Judge Irene Sullivan; Commissioner Ken Welch; Elise Minkoff (participated by telephone); Colleen Flynn, Attorney

ABSENT: Dr. Julie Janssen

I. CALL TO ORDER
Pledge of Allegiance

II. CONSENT ITEMS
A. Minutes for June 11, 2009 Board Meeting and Budget Workshop
B. Trim Hearing Dates: September 10 & 17, 2009

ACTION: Mr. Milford moved to approve the Board Meeting and Budget Workshop minutes as written and the TRIM hearing dates; seconded by Commissioner Welch; motion carried.

III. ACTION ITEMS
A. Budget for FY 09-10

Recommended Actions: Vote on #1 separately; #2-7 together

1) Establish the millage rate at .7915

Discussion: The rollback rates and procedures were discussed. Commissioner Welch believes the public understands the need to fund much needed services and would consider looking at increasing the millage even if it isn’t to the rollback rate (.9005).

Mrs. Lancaster informed the Board regarding other Children’s Services Councils’ proposed millage rates: Palm Beach, Duvall and Broward Counties went to their rollback rate, Dade County increased their millage from 4.2 to 5, and Hillsborough County is capped at 5.

Ms. Lenderman asked for clarification on how the rollback rate produces revenue; Pinellas County’s current rate (.7915); the maximum rate (.9005) and how much revenue .9005 would generate ($56m).
Mr. McCabe stated he was against increasing to the rollback rate at this time; the Legislature is contemplating even more severe actions than they have taken to date.

**ACTION:** Mr. Milford moved to establish the millage rate at .7915; seconded by Mr. Sayler; motion carried.

*(Continued with recommended actions and related discussions)*

2) **Approve the FY budget at $64,490,065**

   **Discussion:** None

3) **Establish the FY 09-10 JWB Administrative Cost Rate at no greater than 9%**

   **Discussion:** Mr. Sayler asked that the Board approve administrative costs on a yearly basis.

4) **Waive the Board policy restricting contracting with small agencies for PCMS agencies below $500,000 in annual revenues.**

   **Discussion:** None

5) **Waive the policy limiting contracting on a reimbursement basis only for Coordinated Child Care – Child Care Purchasing Pool and the Neighborhood Family Centers.**

   **Discussion:** None

6) **Allocate up to $840,136 to Coordinated Child Care for the Child Care Purchasing Pool in a lump sum payment.**

   **Discussion:** None

7) **Reserve $870,667 in the ongoing and $100K in the time limited Community Priority Fund**

   **Discussion:** Mrs. Edmonds commended staff for the clear and easily understood budget. She is concerned, however, with the lack of services in North County and the issue of transportation for many residents. Mrs. Lancaster acknowledged her concern and believes in universal services, but stated they aren’t feasible at this point in time. The Board’s direction is to concentrate services in the highest risk areas, which are predominantly in the south part of the county.

   Mr. McCabe requested a correction on pages 33 and 35: wrong program listed.

   Mr. Dillinger was concerned with the elimination of the Special Children’s Services but was reassured Coordinated Child Care will be providing the service.

   Mr. Milford and Mr. Smith praised the staff and the Finance Committee for a wonderful job.

   Commissioner Welch thanked the Board for their kind words and extended his appreciation to staff and the Finance Committee for their hard work.
Mrs. Minkoff stated she appreciated the direction JWB is taking regarding PCMS, and the establishment of a new department which will be beneficial to NFC’s.

The 2-1-1 discussion included Mrs. Minkoff addressing the progress 2-1-1 has made in their attempt to control expenses, strengthen fundraising, write numerous grant applications, and seeking prospects for merging. Mrs. Minkoff would like the Board to entertain the idea of a Challenge Grant which was suggested at the June Board meeting. In response to Mrs. Minkoff, there may be dollars available in the Community Priorities Fund depending on child care slots which will need to be replaced by JWB. Ms. Lenderman and Commissioner Welch continue to support 2-1-1 and it’s viability for the county. Mr. Sayler believes 2-1-1 will not fulfill the promise until it becomes regional or merges with the County.

Mr. McCabe was reassured that adopting the budget would not preclude the possible Challenge Grant for 2-1-1. He also requested an outline of what 2-1-1 has done over the past year and their future endeavors. Mrs. Minkoff stated she would be happy to provide a report at the September Board meeting.

**ACTION:** Mr. Milford moved to approve items 2-7 as presented in the memorandum; seconded by Mr. Sayler; motion carried.

B. Budget Amendment Pinellas County Health Department to the Health and Human Services Coordinating Council (HHSCC)

**Recommended Action:** Accept Pinellas County Health Department’s Grant for $80,000, on behalf of HHSCC, and allocate the money to the HHSCC FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10 Budgets

**Discussion:** None

**ACTION:** Mr. McCabe moved approval; seconded by Mr. Dillinger; motion carried.

C. Agreement with Pinellas County for Human Resource Services: Request Approval

**Recommended Action:** 1) Approve agreement with Pinellas County for the delivery of human resource services to JWB. 2) Re-allocate up to $20,476 ($101,500 annualized to Pinellas County for human resource services for FY 08-09)

JWB’s Human Resources Director, Earl Reeves, has resigned effective August 1, 2009. Staff have reviewed opportunities for contracting through the County, St. Petersburg College, and private entities. As a public agency, it is important that the contractor for human resource services has experience in the public sector, particularly with the Florida Retirement System.

**Discussion:** Ms. Lenderman asked for clarification on the hourly rate ($64) stating it seemed high. Mrs. Lancaster explained it was difficult to determine an hourly rate because the services are offered by a group rather than an individual, but that the attorney insisted on an hourly rate. Mr. Milford was pleased with the projected cost savings ($65,000). Mr. McCabe asked if the County would be able to assist JWB in obtaining manageable, effective health insurance. Mrs. Lancaster clarified JWB won’t be under the County’s plan but the county may assist JWB in obtaining better insurance. Commissioner Welch believes JWB is moving in the right direction and expressed his appreciation to Earl Reeves for his professionalism and service as Diversity Coordinator and Human Resources Director.

**ACTION:** Mr. McCabe moved approval to enter into an agreement with Pinellas County for human resource services; seconded by Ms. Lenderman; motion carried.
D. Realtor Service: Request Approval to Re-engage Colliers Arnold

**Recommended Action:** Re-engage Colliers Arnold as the real estate representative for the JWB 68th Avenue building

The contract with Colliers expired on December 31, 2008, when JWB decided to explore alternatives for the use of the property among our community partners, including the possibility that the building could be utilized to meet an existing human services need among Pinellas County providers. Substantive negotiations have not materialized to date. Mrs. Lancaster commended Cindy Bell for her persistence and creativity in her efforts.

**Discussion:** None

**ACTION:** Mr. Milford moved approval; seconded by Mr. Sayler; motion carried.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Wealth Building Coalition/Prosperity Campaign

B. Pinellas Core Management Services Transition Update

**Discussion:** Ms. Lenderman asked for clarification on the status of PCMS’ Board if JWB brings the organization in-house. She also asked what the responsibilities of the JWB Board would be when this occurs. Mr. McCabe believes JWB’s Board should be the governing Board. Mrs. Minkoff believes PCMS will continue to have an Advisory Board that will include NFC (Neighborhod Family Center) members. Mrs. Lancaster said details are in the process of being worked out and requested the Board to forward their thoughts to her on the direction they would like her to take. Ms. Lenderman commended Mrs. Minkoff for her dedication and hard work during PCMS’s difficult transition. A full report will be presented to the Board in September.

C. Community Based Care Update

**Discussion:** The Board discussed use of psychotropic medication by dependent children and youth in Community Based Care. Mr. Dillinger, Mr. McCabe, Ms. Lenderman and Judge Sullivan expressed their deep concern regarding the procedures that are being followed. Lorita Shirley, Executive Director of Eckerd Youth Alternatives, stated Circuit Six has developed and adopted a corrective action plan that requires a great deal more monitoring and documentation from case workers and physicians. It will take time to implement however, due to the increased amount of paperwork.

Out of county and multiple placements (bouncing) also remain a great concern for Judge Sullivan and Mr. Dillinger. Ms. Shirley stated there just aren’t enough foster homes to meet the need. EYA is redesigning child placement to assure licensing staff is available to foster parents 24/7 and that other services are available on an as-needed basis. EYA will be working with the community to see how they can provide support to foster parents as well.

The Board discussed the possibility of using Sallie House for foster care and homeless children since it is currently under utilized. Ms. Shirley stated EYA has worked with Sallie House in the past but that the criteria changed. Karen Braun, Salvation Army, would be interested in pursuing a new model that would better address the needs of the community. Bob Henriquez, Circuit Administrator, and Lourdes Benedict, Regional Operations Manager, with Department
of Children and Families, and Mrs. Lancaster will place the item on the Community Alliance agenda for discussion.

D. Family Counseling System of Care (Central Florida Behavioral Health Network)

Discussion: Mrs. Edmonds questioned who is considered ineligible for services, how many individuals fit into this category and what happens to them. She requested a statistical report at the September Board. Mrs. Lancaster will follow-up with Central Florida Behavioral Health Network.

E. Legislative Update
F. Child Welfare Advocacy Update
G. Calendar of Events
H. Financial Reports
I. Initiative Updates, Site Visit Schedule and Summaries
J. Personnel Report
K. Training Center Report

V. OPEN AGENDA

Mrs. Edmonds reminded everyone to register for the Hispanic Leadership Council Annual Conference entitled “Embracing Our Changing Community: Responding to Cultural Differences”. The July 31, 2009 conference will be held at St. Petersburg College, Clearwater. For more registration information, please contact Karen Sandini at (727) 547-5680.

The Children’s Board of Hillsborough County will be holding “Trying Hard Isn’t Good Enough” Results Based Accountability Leadership Summit on September 17, 2009 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at their location. The Board was asked to hold the date and informed they will be receiving an invitation and Mr. Friedman’s book.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Milford moved adjournment at 10:34 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: September 10, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearing: Begins @ 5:30 p.m.
EpiCenter
13805 58 Street North
Largo, FL  33760

Final Public Hearing is: September 17, 2009 @ 5:30 p.m.
JWB Building
14155 58th Street North
Clearwater, FL  33760

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Martha Lenderman
JWB Board Secretary