3-12-2009

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 2009 : 03 : 12 : Packet

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Board of Directors Meeting

March 12, 2009

Minutes – February 12, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve Minutes for January 15, 2009 Regular Meeting
B. Approve Revised IT Policies – Pat Gehant
C. Request Approval: SAMIS Contract Amendment – Pat Gehant

ACTION: Mr. Sayler moved approval of the consent agenda; seconded by Mrs. Minkoff; motion carried.

III. ACTION ITEMS

Acceptance of Audit for FY 07-08 – Sue Walterick, Troy Manning of Cherry, Bekaert & Holland

Troy Manning with Cherry, Bekaert & Holland, commended staff for a clean audit. The concerns mentioned in the 07-08 Audit were addressed; there were no management letter comments and no violations of contracts or grant agreements. The issue regarding JWB funded agencies employing qualified auditors was discussed. Although the new Risk Based Standards (included in the 2008 Contract the Executive Directors of the funded agencies will sign) may address this issue, the Finance Committee recommended additional contract stipulations be included regarding the hiring of auditors by the funded agencies. Ms. Manning suggested requiring funded agencies to 1) employ auditors who have undergone an AICPA Peer Review within the past three years; 2) adhere to Government Accounting Standards in performing the audit, and 3) that they have considerable experience in auditing not-for-profit entities.

ACTION: Commissioner Welch moved approval to accept the 07-08 Audit as submitted; seconded by Mr. Sayler; motion carried.

IV. WORKSHOP: ADDRESSING CHILDREN’S NEEDS IN TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES

A power point was provided that included the following information:

The Community’s Investment in Our Children
Status of Children – Browning Spence

Trends: Youth substance use is decreasing; fewer children entering child welfare system; juvenile justice referrals are decreasing; total child population is stable; school readiness is increasing; school graduation rate is increasing

Issues: 35% of children are not ready for school; minorities graduate at a significantly lower rate than non-minorities; the child care waiting list is at an all time high; unemployment is the highest it has been since the late ’80’s; a significant number of children remain in the child welfare system longer than the guidelines dictate; the majority of the highest risk children in Pinellas are concentrated in a few neighborhoods.

Financial Outlook – Lisa Sahulka

- At the current millage rate (.7915), large Ad Valorem gaps are protected
- Worst case scenario for FY 09-10 an $8,406,132 reduction in revenues; budget parameters will be available in March
- Unemployment is rising; likely to surpass 10%
- JWB’s Fund Balance ($10mm) surpasses the maximum set forth in Board policies; Board direction will be requested at a future date.

Service Delivery Implications – Debra Prewitt

Systems of Care Includes:  Child Care (Lead: Coordinated Child Care/Early Learning Coalition)  
Family Counseling (Lead: Central Florida Behavioral Health Network)  
Out of School Time (Lead: Coordinated Child Care)  
Neighborhood Services (Pinellas Core Management Services)

Lessons From Research

Criteria for achieving impact: start early; involve parents; comprehensively address family needs; invest in quality; provide services over time; provide intensive services; engage multiple systems; monitor progress over time; provide culturally competent services; teach cognitive and non-cognitive skills; provide opportunities for positive relationships; focus on highest risk, hardest to reach children and families.

Focusing Services for Maximum Impact (utilizing neighborhoods)

Indicators used for rankings: Number of youth under 18 in poverty; number of youth referred to Department of Juvenile Justice; number of single female head of households; number of Department of Children and Family abuse investigations; percentage of children ready for school; grade 9 mean reading and math FCAT Scores.

The “Children’s Zones – Theory of Change” was introduced to the Board as a potential model for focused services. The four lessons learned in operating this model are: 1) invest time, energy and money in what works; 2) great leadership is essential; 3) sustained family-friendly systems of care; 4) collaboration and continuity amongst all service providers.
Discussion

The Board requested additional information throughout the power point presentation.

- Mr. McCabe: side by side comparisons of Neighborhood Family Services, Children’s Zones and CSC Services.

- Level III FCAT scores for third grade levels

- Mr. Sayler: clarification on JWB’s position regarding OPED (Other Paid Employee Benefits), what is required by statute?

- Mr. Sayler: geographic breakdown of children not ready for school.

- Commissioner Welch and Mr. Sayler: information on Hispanic graduation rates.

- Mr. Sayler: statistics that show diversion has an impact on children.

- Mr. Milford: procedures for the diversion services provided through the Emergency Response Team (ERT).

- Mr. Dillinger: all court/justice information correlated with statistics given.

- Mr. Dillinger: statistics on Weed and Seed and Front Porch; how much money has been spent locally; and what was the impact on the community.

- Mrs. Edmonds: the recruitment strategy for the Hispanic outreach for the Out of School Time initiative.

- Judge Sullivan: the referral process with CFBHN.

- Commissioner Welch: outcome data from other Children’s Zones.

- Mr. Dillinger: data on whether or not intensive services have a better outcome than limited services.

JWB staff will address the inquiries and forward information to the Board.

V. OPEN AGENDA

Pinellas Core Management System’s Executive Director, Paul Lackey, presented a document confirming the PCMS Board’s decision to adhere to the Sunshine Law, only as it relates to JWB funding. Commissioner Welch voiced his concern about receiving the document at the meeting, which didn’t allow the Board time to thoroughly process the content, as well as the community’s perception regarding PCMS and JWB’s relationship, and requested a monthly report that includes PCMS’ monthly Board Minutes; be included in the Board Packet.
Mr. Dillinger extended a heartfelt thanks to the Guardian Ad Litem program for their willingness to assist with the expansion of Beth’s Closet.

Mary Jo Monahan announced April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and spoke about the upcoming events.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McCabe moved adjournment at 11:40 a.m.

JWB’s Open House directly followed the Board Meeting/Workshop.

Next Board Meeting is: March 12, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.
EpiCenter
13805 58th Street North
Largo, FL

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Martha Lenderman
JWB Board Secretary

3/5/09