CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL

MINUTES

May 1, 2025

In attendance for the meeting were Melisa Jahner – Chair, Frank DeCarlo, Bob McPartland, Dylan Tedders, Jessica Lea, Debbie Gillis, Michael Hazellief and Toni Wiersma- Executive Director

Absent: Pat McCoy

Audience: Kayla Mohney, Leah Suarez, Cindy Kemp, Ashley Lowe, Raymond Lowe, Morgan Davis, Shermon Gordon and Matt Fairchild

2) Additions/Deletions- Approval of Minutes

(1) 5) Delete Prosper Noggin presentation
(2) 6a – OHS Bass Club - $3,350.00
(3) 6b – OCRA - $59,350.00
(4) 6c – Elite Athletic Group – Softball - $46,000.00
(5) 8c – Public comments

ii) Dylan Tedders made a motion to accept the agenda with the additions and corrections. Frank DeCarlo seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

3) Approval of Minutes: April 10, 2025

a) Frank DeCarlo made a motion to approve the minutes. Michael Hazellief seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

4) Approval of Financial Statements:

a) Financial Statement– October 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025

i) Mrs. Wiersma presented the financial statement:

(1) INCOME
- Total Income - $1,265,618.71

(2) GROSS PROFIT - $1,265,618.71

(3) EXPENSES
- Administration - $72,376.03
- Program Services – Agencies – RFP - $285,576.73
- Community Scholarships - $68,500.00
- Summer Projects - $135,069.00
- Special Projects - $249,609.64
- **TOTAL EXPENSES - $811,131.40**

(4) NET INCOME - $454,487.31

(5) CURRENT ASSETS
- SouthState Checking - $1,021,179.27
- CD –$941,717.46
- **Total Bank Accounts - $1,962,896.73**

(6) FIXED ASSETS
- Equipment - $1,926.00
- Accumulated depreciation - $(1,177.63)

- TOTAL FIXED ASSETS - $748.37

(7) TOTAL ASSETS - $1,963,349.21

(8) LIABILITIES

- Total Current Liabilities - $2,841.11
- Total Equity - $1,960,508.10

(9) TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY - $1,963,349.21

ii) Toni Wiersma also presented the Profit-Loss for the Fiscal Year October 2024 – April 2025.

b) Wicks. Brown, and Williams presented the written audit for the fiscal year 2023-2024. There was one material finding of not filing the Public Depository funds by November 30, 2024. The form is now filed. Frank DeCarlo made a motion to accept the financial reports and the audit report. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

5) Logo Presentation – Prosper Noggin Students

a) The item was deleted from the agenda. The students aren't quite ready to make the final presentation.

6) Special Project Requests

a) **OHS Bass Club - $3,350.00**

i) Katelyn Mohoney presented the proposal for the Bass Club. The state tournament was originally scheduled to take place on Lake Okeechobee, but due to water levels has been moved to Leesburg, Florida. This has caused extra expense, and the students will need lodging and transportation. The Children's Services Council can't fund this for the Bass Club because it is through the high school. If another organization that was independent of the high school would agree to fund the Bass Club the CSC Board would approve the request. Raymond Lowe was in the audience and stated that the Brahman Athletic would request the funds on behalf of the Bass Club. Michael Hazellief made a motion to fund this project for $3,350.00 if a new application was submitted by the Brahman Athletic club. Jessica Lee seconded the motion; all were in favor.

b) **OCRA Association - $59,350.00**

i) Morgan Davis and Cindy Kemp presented the proposal on behalf of the OCRA Association. OCRA has been chosen to host the 2025 Diamond Youth Tournament. There will be 22 teams competing including four of Okeechobee's teams. The budget listed several items that the CSC can't fund because all funds must be for kids that reside in Okeechobee County. The CSC can provide uniforms for Okeechobee County kids, equipment and travel to the State Tournament for the girls. Jessica Lee made a motion to fund $44,600.00 to the OCRA organization for the State Tournaments. Frank DeCarlo seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

c) **Elite Athletic Group - $46,000.00**

i) Shermon Gordon, Ashley Lowe and Raymond Lowe presented the proposal on behalf of the Elite Athletic Group. The Elite Athletic group would like to include a travel softball team. At the present time they have 15 girls practicing in the 12u group. They hope to have a 10u and a 14u in the future. The group stated that at the present the 12u girls would be the ones that would compete in tournaments this spring and summer. Frank DeCarlo made a motion to provide $20,286.00 for the 12u team. Michael Hazellief seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

7) Publicity

a) Jessica Lea stated that the third person that she was going to contact was no longer working in this field. Toni Wiersma has contacted Carey Pung at the high school, and he is talking with some of his Digital Design students. Also, the new Facebook page has some new posts and will continue to have more posts. Toni Wiersma is also going to talk with Bill Sutton about redesigning our website and giving her administration rights.

8) Open Discussion

a) Mid – Year reports – All mid-year reports have been submitted except for Guardians for the Near Future. Bob McPartlan has tried to make contact with the organization.

b) RFP information – The Board was given the request for RFPs for the 25-26 fiscal year. The total requested amount is $1,063,349.37. This amount would almost be our entire budget for next fiscal year. Toni Wiersma asked the Board for guidance on the amount that we should budget for RFPs. There was a discussion that depending on legislation property taxes may be drastically reduced. This would affect the amount of revenue that we would receive. After discussion the Board recommended that $725,000.00 be budgeted for RFPs.

c) Public comments – Toni Wiersma researched surrounding counties Children's Services Councils regarding if they had a time for public comments. All four counties had public comment times, two at the beginning and two at the end. Toni also noted that all of the councils also incorporated the Pledge of Allegiance in their agendas. After discussions, the Board will add a public comment section at the end of the meeting and also begin the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and an Invocation.

d) Osiel Luviano is interested in submitting an application for the vacant seat on the Board.

9) Next meeting date – The meeting had to be changed due to members being out of town. Next meeting date – June 19, 2025.

Upcoming events:
May 8, 2025 – Scholarship Night
June 5, 2025 – RFP committee meeting

Bob McPartlan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. Jessica Lea seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Wiersma

Toni Wiersma, Executive Director