CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL

MINUTES

September 4, 2025

In attendance for the meeting were Melisa Jahner – Chair, Dylan Tedders, Debbie Gillis, Bill Wallace, Pat McCoy, Jessica Lea and Toni Wiersma- Executive Director

Absent: Robert McPartlan and Frank DeCarlo

Audience: Jared Prescott, Leah Suarez, Tobi Cunnde, Alexandra Navarrete, Lilly Larson, Sophia Caves, Isabella Carrillo, Brady Williamson, Kathryn MontesDeOca, Tyrin Langley, Megan Williamson, Lillie Bandi, Ruby Keith, Hannah Keith, Colleen Larson, Tatum Kelley, Travis Larson, and Travis Moody.

1) **Meeting called to order 5:36 pm**

2) Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

i. Melisa Jahner led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Invocation.

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET AND MILLAGE RATE

1) Millage Rate - .3000 - 4.5% increase over Rollback rate

a. The proposed millage rate is .3000. This is the same rate as the 24-25 budget, but it is a 4.5% increase over the Rollback rate. Bill Wallace made a motion to approve the .3000 millage rate. Jessica Lea seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

2) Proposed Budget

a. Toni Wiersma presented the proposed budget. Total income sources $2,971,365.00. Total expenditure is $1,934,500.00. Total fund balance is $1,036,865.00. Total expenditures, transfers, reserves and balances $2,971,365.00. See attached budget for details. Dylan Tedders made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Pat McCoy seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

b. Melisa Jahner asked the public for any questions or comments. There were none.

c. The First Public Hearing adjourned at 5:43 pm.

Regular Meeting of Children's Services Council
September 4, 2025
5:44

5) Additions/Deletions- Approval of Agenda

a) Toni Wiersma added the following:
   i) 8b – United Way - $3500.00
   ii) 8c – Brahman Blaze - $62,561.00
   iii) 8d - Our Village -$34,615.78

a) William Wallace made a motion to accept the agenda with the additions. Debbie Gillis seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

6) Approval of Minutes: July 10, 2025

a) William Wallace made a motion to approve the minutes. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

7) Approval of Financial Statements:

a) Financial Statement– October 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025

i) Mrs. Wiersma presented the financial statement:

(1) INCOME

- Total Income - $1,358,252.51

(2) GROSS PROFIT - $1,358,252.51

(3) EXPENSES

- Administration - $107,295.01
- Program Services – Agencies – RFP - $504,945.83
- Community Scholarships - $68,500.00
- Summer Projects - $321,316.33
- Special Projects - $412,066.27
- **TOTAL EXPENSES - $1,414,123.44**

(4) NET INCOME - $-55,870.93

(5) CURRENT ASSETS

- SouthState Checking - $56,735.44
- CD 6398–$510,889.81
- CD 4582 – 444,547.02
- Money Market – 501,376.03
- **Total Bank Accounts - $1,513,783.49**

(6) FIXED ASSETS

- Equipment - $1926.00
- Accumulated depreciation - $(1,690.81)
- TOTAL FIXED ASSETS - $235.19

(7) TOTAL ASSETS - $1,513,783.49

(8) LIABILITIES

- Total Current Liabilities -
- Total Equity - $1,513,783.49

(9) TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY - $1,513,783.49

ii) Toni Wiersma also presented the Profit-Loss for the Fiscal Year October 2024 – August 2025. She also discussed the Budget vs. Actual expenses and noted that our income had exceeded our budgeted amount. Also, we exceeded our budget on scholarships and summer projects.

iii) Pat McCoy made a motion to accept the financial reports. Jessica Lea seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

8) Special Project Requests

a) **FFA Alumni – Request for National Competitions**

i) Megan Williamson and several members of the FFA teams addressed the board to request funds for several teams to represent Florida and Okeechobee at the National FFA convention in Indiana. They all thanked the Board for their support in sending students to Nationals last year. This year

three FFA teams have placed first in the State competitions and are eligible to compete at Nationals. The Dairy team, the Livestock team and the Milk Quality team have all qualified. Also, three Agri-science students will be competing at the National competition. These teams are working hard and practicing for the competitions. In many of the events they must travel before the National competition. Pat McCoy made a motion that the Board approve $24,700.00 to the FFA Alumni to help support these students. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

b) **United Way – Halloween Extravaganza - $3500.00**
   i) Tatum Kelley appeared before the Board on behalf of the United Way to request funds to purchase candy for the Halloween Extravaganza to be held at the Agri-civic center on October 31, 2025. The CSC has supported this event in the past. The vendors participating will also bring additional candy. Pat McCoy made a motion that the Board approve $3,500.00 to support the Halloween Extravaganza. Jessica Lea seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

c) **Brahman Blaze baseball team - $62,561.78**
   i) Travis Moody was scheduled to present his proposal at the meeting, but at the time was not in attendance. Bill Wallace made a motion to defer the meeting to a time that Travis Moody could attend. Pat McCoy seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.
   ii) Mr. Moody later attended the meeting and gave an overview of his intended program. Currently he has a 15u team, a 9u team and an 8u softball team. His vision is to have a year-round program that will develop the talent of many of our kids. He has plans to bring 7 teams to Okeechobee for a tournament in the next few weeks. He has already secured businesses to also support the team. Since a vote had been made to defer the decision until the next meeting, the Board requested the following information from Mr. Moody: a copy of the Bylaws, members of his Board of Directors, the budgeted amount that he is requesting for the Children's Services Council.

d) **Our Village – Uniquely Yours program - $34,615.78**
   i) Leah Suarez appeared before the Board to request $34,615.78 for a new program to target children who have unique needs. They will be utilizing the education center space during the day to allow for an area for special needs-friendly play. Part of the request is to provide sensory-friendly equipment like soft play areas, calming zones, and adaptive equipment to accommodate sensory sensitivities. Alexandra Naverette will be the program manager of the program. She spoke of the need for space for these children and their parents. Pat McCoy made a motion to fund Our Village $34,615.78 for the Uniquely Yours program. William Wallace seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor.

9) Lake O' Elite Athletics

i) The Board has been invited to the Ducks game on Saturday, September 13, 2025, for a special presentation. The presentation will be at half-time at the 9 am Flag football game. The game will be played at the Sports Complex.

10) Public Comments

i) There were no public comments

11) Open Discussion

a) Please follow and like our Facebook page.
b) Hopefully at our next meeting Prosper Noggin will present some logo samples.

12) Next Meeting Date: September 15, 2025

a) **Final Public Hearing on Millage Rate and Proposed Budget and regular meeting**

Bill Wallace made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm. Jessica Lea seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Wiersma
Toni Wiersma, Executive Director