CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL

MINUTES

October 9, 2025

In attendance for the meeting were Melisa Jahner – Chair, Dylan Tedders, Debbie Gillis, Bill Wallace, Bob McPartlan, Michael Hazellief and Toni Wiersma- Executive Director

Absent: Jessica Lea, Pat McCoy and Frank DeCarlo

Audience: Chuck Akers, Tobi Cnudde, Sarah Blowerth, Andea High, Magi Cable and Leah Suarez

1) **Meeting called to order 5:31 pm**

2) Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

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

3) Additions/Deletions- Approval of Agenda

a) Toni Wiersma added the following:
   i) 6d – GFNF Christmas gifts - $2,000.00

a) Michael Hazellief made a motion to accept the agenda with the additions. Bob McPartlan seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor. Bill Wallace was not present for the vote.

4) Approval of Minutes: September 15, 2025

a) Dylan Tedders made a motion to approve the minutes. Bob McPartlan seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor. Bill Wallace was not present for the vote.

5) Approval of Financial Statements:

a) Financial Statement– October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025
   i) Mrs. Wiersma presented the financial statement:
      (1) INCOME
      - Total Income - $1,363,384.32

      (2) GROSS PROFIT - $1,363,384.32

      (3) EXPENSES
      - Administration - $115,124.12
      - Program Services – Agencies – RFP - $564,014.16
      - Community Scholarships - $68,500.00
      - Summer Projects - $361,653.89
      - Special Projects - $436,205.01
      - **TOTAL EXPENSES - $1,545,497.18**

      (4) NET INCOME - $-182,112.86

      (5) CURRENT ASSETS
      - SouthState Checking - $32,278.42
      - CD 6398–$512,625.44
      - CD 4582 – 446,149.34
      - Money Market – 402,660.39

- **Total Bank Accounts - $1,393,663.59**

(6) FIXED ASSETS

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

(7) TOTAL ASSETS - $1,393,898.78

(8) LIABILITIES

- Total Current Liabilities -
- Total Equity - $1,337,541.56

(9) TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY - $1,393,898.78

ii) Toni Wiersma also presented the Profit-Loss for the Fiscal Year October 2024 – September 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) Michael Hazellief made a motion to accept the financial reports. Bob McPartlan seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor. Bill Wallace was not present for the vote.

6) Special Project Requests

a) **Okeechobee Battlefield Friends - $5600.00**

Magi Cable appeared before the Board to request funding for the 2026 school day Battlefield Friends project. School Day is when all fourth graders from public, private, charter, and home schools come to the Historic Battlefield State Park to learn about the Christmas Day Battle of 1837. This grant would cover transportation costs, educational materials and stipends for the presenters. Dylan Tedders made a motion that the Board approve $5,600.00 to the Battlefield Friends to help support this event. Bob McPartlan seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor. Bill Wallace was not present for the vote.

b) **Okeechobee County Fire Rescue (Health and Safety Expo) - $5,000**

i) Chuck Akers appeared before the Board to request funds to purchase raffle prizes for the Health and Safety Expo in January. This is an event that CSC has sponsored for many years. Bob McPartlan made a motion that the Board approve $5000.00 to support the Health and Safety Expo. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor. Bill Wallace was not present for the vote.

c) **Chobee United Cheer - $24,950.00**

i) Sara Blowerth appeared before the Board to request money for the competitive cheer squad. The team has expanded to 45 athletes, and they attend many competitions. They received a total of $25,492,67 from CSC last year. The total cost of the program is $105,775.00. The team has fund raisers and parents are responsible for paying the remaining balance. Bob McPartlan made the motion to fund Chobee United Cheer $24,950. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor. Bill Wallace abstained from voting.

ii) Chobee United Cheer received over $25,000.00 from the CSC during the 24-25 fiscal year. This was an oversight because funds were carried over from the previous year. Bob McPartlan made a motion that we would accept a financial review instead of an audit for the $492.67 overage. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. The motion carried; all were in favor. Bill Wallace abstained.

d) **GFNF – Christmas gifts - $2,000**

i) The Guardian For the Near Future requested in writing $2,000.00 for Christmas gifts for their 71 clients in Okeechobee. The CSC has traditionally given to this program in previous years. The Board had questions and tabled this request until a representative from the program can attend.

7) Monitors for 24-25 and 25-26

i) Toni Wiersma reminded the Board that final evaluations were due by October 31, 2025. She will remind the agencies, and they should be in contact with the Board Members.

ii) The Board selected the agencies to monitor for the 25-26 fiscal year.

(1) Big Brothers/Big Sisters – Melisa Jahner
(2) Children's Home Society – Dylan Tedders
(3) Early Learning Coalition – Jessica Lea
(4) Economic Opportunities – Bob McPartlan
(5) Helping People Succeed (Both RFP's) – Melisa Jahner
(6) Hibiscus Children's Center – Dylan Tedders
(7) IRSC Expanding Horizons – Michael Hazellief
(8) Lake O' Elite Athletics – Frank DeCarlo
(9) Martha's House – Pat McCoy
(10) New Horizons – Melisa Jahner
(11) Okeechobee Educational Foundation – Michael Hazellief
(12) Healthy Start – Bob McPartlan
(13) 4-H Trek through History – Jessica Lea
(14) 4-H H2O camp – Bill Wallace
(15) OYLS – Frank DeCarlo
(16) Our Village Peer Support – Pat McCoy
(17) Nuestro Pueblo – Pat McCoy
(18) Real Life Children's Ranch – Debbie Gillis
(19) Rodeo Team – Bill Wallace
(20) Tykes and Teens – Debbie Gillis

8) Public Comments

i) Tobi Cnuddle commented that she appreciated the Board members asking so many questions.

9) Open Discussion

a) A new printer with instant ink was purchased for $24.95 per month. This was a savings of 5.00 per month.
b) Discussed the prices of yard signs and recommendations from the Board. Several members of the Board and the audience have had good results with the Sign Guy. The quoted price was $7.00 per sign printed double sided.
c) Discussed Special Projects and developing guidelines for granting the Special Projects. It was suggested that we have a Special Workshop to develop the guidelines. The members were asked to bring suggestions and thoughts to the October 13, 2025, workshop.

Next Meeting Date: November 13, 2025
Workshop – Monday, October 13, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

Bill Wallace made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. Dylan Tedders seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Wiersma

Toni Wiersma, Executive Director