

# CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY

Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, April 11, 2013

Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County  
546 NW University Boulevard, Suite 201 -- Board Room  
Port Saint Lucie, Florida 34986  
Meeting time: 8:30 a.m.

## MINUTES

- I CALLED TO ORDER: 8:33 a.m.** by Chairperson Kathryn Hensley.
- II PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III MISSION STATEMENT** Read by Chairperson Kathryn Hensley; *"The mission of the Children's Services Council is to improve the quality of life for all children in St. Lucie County."*
- IV ROLL CALL:** Quorum established.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Chairperson **Kathryn Hensley** (*School Board Member*); Vice Chair **Queen Townsend** (*Governor Appointed*); Secretary **Garry Wilson** (*Governor Appointed*); **Michael J. Lannon** (*Superintendent of Schools*); **Paula A. Lewis** (*County Commissioner*); **Mark W. Klingensmith** (*Circuit Judge*); and **Candice Loupe** (*Governor Appointed*) and **Marilyn Lawless** (*Governor Appointed*).

**COUNCIL ABSENT:** **Pat Alley** (*Governor Appointed*); and **Lorrene Egan** (*Department of Children & Families*).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** **Sean Boyle** (*Executive Director*); **Dori DiToro** (*Director of Finance & Human Resources*); **Jim Dwyer** (*Director of Programs*); **Tonya Andreacchio** (*Capacity Building Coordinator*); **Erin Craig** (*Fiscal/Human Resources Specialist*); **Sandy Mack** (*Program Specialist*); **Paula Rivera** (*Office Manager/Transcriber*); **Dee Torres** (*Administrative Assistant*); **Glen Torcivia** (*CSC Attorney*), and 2 members of Public in attendance. Reference attendance sheet for specifics.

**NOTICE:** *The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County maintains an audio record of all monthly Council meetings and public hearings. The written summarized minutes of the meetings are concise and become the official minutes after approval by the Council. Any person seeking to appeal any decision by the Children's Services Council, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, is advised that a record of the proceeding is required in any such appeal and that such person may need to insure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.*

## V PUBLIC COMMENTS

No input received from the public in attendance.

## VI CONSENT AGENDA

*Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes minutes from the Regular Monthly meeting and financials for the month of March 2013. Ms. Queen Townsend seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 6/0.*

*Mr. Michael Lannon and Judge Mark Klingensmith arrived during the Executive Director report, respectively. Final quorum of eight established.*

## VII EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director, Mr. Sean Boyle, reported and updated Council as necessary referencing his report (Attachment 2 of Council Packet) which is included in the Council Packet. There are three (3) versions of the Report Card available, all displaying the same information in various formats.

Item(s) new to Mr. Boyle's report and/or requiring updates:

**Council Member Meetings:** Mr. Boyle expressed his appreciation for Council members meeting with him individually in the month of March. Taking the time from their busy schedules to meet with Mr. Boyle briefly, and provide their feedback on a variation of topics.

**Hands Art:** Mr. Boyle informed Council that the 'hands art' that is dangling from the Board Room conference tables is that of local children and placed here by the Early Learning Coalition in honor of Children's Week. The art has been on display at several local county venues for a limited time, CSC being one of those sites.

**Annual RFP 2013/2014 Reviews:** Mr. Boyle informed Council that CSC is working on the detailed review of all fifty-three program RFPs for fiscal year 2013/2014. CSC Team recommendations will be provided to Council at the meeting in May, with a Council vote necessary for the month of June. Mr. Boyle expressed his appreciation to CSC Team members involved in this process.

**Target Funding: School Suspension Program:** Mr. Boyle informed CSC Council members that the targeted funding proposal for the present Project ROCK North School Suspension program is currently in its pending receipt status; deadline for RFP submissions is May 10th. The CSC Team will brief you on the status of program applications received at the next Council meeting. The CSC Team will plan to have this School Suspension targeted funding recommendation to Council at the meeting in the month of July.

**United Way Needs Assessment Presentation:** Mr. Boyle informed Council that the United Way Needs Assessment presentation that recently was held at the Kathy Basile Center for Training and Community Development was well attended, and several Council members were present to hear it first-hand. CSC was one of the largest funders of this investment in the compilation of data. The information presented at the recent meeting was the Executive Summary (shortened version); the detailed version is rather lengthy and can be accessed via the United Way website. There were indicator comparisons both to state level and county level. All the indicators related to CSCSLC and our service to our local children progressed in a positive direction compared to most of the other Florida counties, and similarly in comparison to state as well. At today's meeting Council will view the indicators for CSCSLC since our inception, and how far CSC's come in the direct and indirect impact of our local children in such a positive light. Truly, a reaffirmation of the assessment data collected in the United Way Needs Assessment report.

**Boys & Girls Club Default Loan:** Mr. Boyle informed CSC Council members that the Boys & Girls Club – a CSC funded agency -- recently defaulted on a loan through Grand Bank. They had the Ken Pruitt Unit site as collateral for this loan. Boys & Girls Club assures CSC that despite the possible loss of this site, the program services will continue; and they are meeting with the lender this week to discuss options available.

**United For Families:** Mr. Boyle informed CSC Council members that the United for Families – a community partner CSC works closely with – is the community-based care entity for foster care services and has held this contract for many years. This ITN (‘invitation to negotiate’) contract is being released for competitive bidding. The Alliance Committee has asked to participate in the negotiation process for the ITN contract selection to make certain the community has a voice in the community based care provider that is ultimately chosen. New community based care contract is expected to be in place by September 2013.

**CSC Outstanding Youth Dinner:** Mr. Boyle reminded CSC Council members about CSC’s signature dinner coming up on the evening of May 13, 2013. Invitations for the event are scheduled for release on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Part of the event honors two community heroes from our funded programs with the Kathy Basile Champions for Children Award. The following are the two heroes recommended by the CSC Team: Kimberly Eardley from the Parent Teen Community Connection program – she was instrumental in leading this transition when CSC changed agencies whom provided the services and has been a leader in this effort since; second person is Lori Sang who manages the Easter Seals program and works with developmentally challenged children birth through 36-months of age in our community. A couple of years ago there were some organizational restructuring and Ms. Sang is the one who kept this program afloat and running smoothly. This program has become a model for the state. Council consensus is in agreement with the two Champion for Children nominee recommendations.

**Community Presentations:** Mr. Boyle informed CSC Council members that the CSC team has been regularly attending community events and functions, either at direct request or referral of previous attendees that learned of the CSC presentation and wanted to hear more. CSC has recently gone to the Fort Pierce Rotary, a second time showing there having been called back within the last two years. They are very supportive of the CSC mission and our efforts to remain existent in the community, conscious of the 2014 referendum vote nearing very soon. Another visit was to the St. Lucie County Auxiliary, a referral of CSC Council Member Ms. Lawless. CSC was well received at their board meeting back in November, and they were very excited to have learned so much from the presentation. They welcomed us to return recently where CSC presented last week to a larger group of (90) volunteers associated with the St. Lucie County Auxiliary group. Mr. Boyle acknowledged Ms. Lawless’ efforts in linking this association and CSC together, as they have become quite an informative and supportive group. Mr. Boyle reminded Council Members that CSC is available to present at any local group event or function.

**CSC Annual Report:** Mr. Boyle informed Council members that several copies of the current CSC Annual Report had been left for each at their seat location – one personal copy and other copies for disbursement to associates and friends.

**Mets Tickets:** Through a partnership with the YMCA, CSC has obtained Mets tickets for the April 20<sup>th</sup> evening game. Please feel free to advise the CSC Team if interested in any tickets. CSC will have a representation table at this game, and there will be fireworks after the game.

## **VIII OLD BUSINESS**

**A) (none)**

## **IX NEW BUSINESS**

**A) CSC Election of Officers**

The CSC Chair informed Council members that election of officer positions Board Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary are up for election. Mr. Boyle handled the motions for new appointees, however first reminded all of the current positions held. Current seats are occupied as follows: CSC Chairperson is Ms. Hensley; CSC Vice Chairperson is Ms. Townsend and Secretary is Chief Wilson. Individual motions were taken for each position, with Council unanimously expressing their favor to have current seat-holders continue in their respective roles.

*Ms. Marilyn Lawless motioned to approve Ms. Kathryn Hensley to continue in her current role as Chairperson. Chief Garry Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 8/0.*

*Ms. Kathryn Hensley motioned to approve Ms. Queen Townsend to continue in her current role as Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Paula Lewis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 8/0.*

*Ms. Marilyn Lawless motioned to approve Chief Garry Wilson to continue in his role as Secretary. Ms. Queen Townsend seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 8/0.*

#### **B) Provision for Audit Services**

Ms. DiToro provided a synopsis of the Council Action Item (Attachment 3) of the CSC E-Packet. At the April 12, 2012 Council meeting, the Council voted to extend the auditor contract for another one year providing for the audit for Fiscal Year Ended 09.30.12 at the cost of \$12,700. The audit for Fiscal Year Ended 09.30.12 has been completed by the auditor firm, and CSC now must decide whether to extend the current auditor contract for another year, or seek a new auditor firm. CSC may wish to appoint a Council representative to either negotiate the extension with the current auditor firm or serve on an audit committee to pursue the process of auditor selection by solicitation of new proposals.

*Mr. Michael Lannon motioned to approve the continuing with the same audit provider at the same cost without increase for one year as detailed in the options located on Attachment 4 of the E-Packet. CSC Council member Michael Lannon has been the elected negotiator between current auditor firm and CSC. Chief Garry Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 8/0.*

#### **C) 211 Request for Waiver of Late Fees**

Ms. DiToro provided a synopsis of the Council Action Item (Attachment 4) of the CSC E-Packet. Ms. DiToro explained that any agency expense reimbursements received after the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month will be assessed a late fee of 5% or \$500, whichever is less. For the Center for Information 211 the reimbursements were not received by the 20<sup>th</sup> of March of their month of February expenses. Consequently, they submitted a request letter for removal of late fee amount of \$77.92 which was included in the e-packet along with their reimbursement record history. There is no agency representation at the meeting today, as it did not justify the staff time out of the office to attend this meeting.

*Mr. Michael Lannon motioned to deny the request for waiver of late fee as \$77.92 for the Center of Information 211, as detailed in Attachment 4 of the E-Packet. Ms. Queen Townsend seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 8/0.*

#### **D) CSC Community Report Card Presentation**

Mr. Boyle introduced the presentation, explaining the CSC has been presenting this informational report card since year 1990 on an annual basis. The CSC Report Card has been posted on the CSC website and is more current than the United Way Needs Assessment. Ms. Andreacchio has been instrumental in the compilation of this data, and uses various reliable resources to obtain her data. Ms. Andreacchio reminded Council members that at the Council meeting in the month of March three handouts were distributed to Council members for their individual review of this data which is being summarized via a PowerPoint presentation at today's meeting. Ms. Andreacchio highlighted certain areas of data that reflected a significant positive direction in the last few years. CSC can take pride in knowing that it has

impacted to some degree these positive trends since its existence in year 1990. Mr. Lannon expressed that public education is fundamental in making these positive trends continue, and it is clearly seen that this factor was a driver in the last twenty years. There was discussion on the FCAT testing, and how measures have changed from year to year. Hence, although the test name remains the same the measures having changed over the years doesn't accurately reflect in data trends. In other words, if the measure had been stable a more accurate representation would reflect that children of today are more academically successful than in previous years. However, due to fluctuation in measure with higher standards today than years passed the data chart reflects negatively; some may consider this a deception. Until the 'common core' curriculum has been completely populated nationwide, this influx of inaccuracy will continue. Measure entry points and ending points of the period of education are a more accurate indicator, until this testing can become stabilized. Perception of data may appear negative, when in fact it's not. For example, students receiving a GED versus standard diploma is interpreted as a negative in this presentation when in fact if the student did graduate it should be counted as a positive or a minimum a neutral. Mr. Lannon would like to see absenteeism/truancy measures by grouped grade level – elementary, middle and high school levels – as this highly affects the student's success rate in ultimately graduating. This having been said, most if not all indicators point in a positive trend from past years and as a community St. Lucie County should be proud of its growth in this respect.

## **XI COUNCIL & STAFF COMMENTS**

- Ms. Hensley reported there is opportunity for CSC to lend support to our local programs and partners in Tallahassee with our legislative representatives. Our input can include health insurance and early learning education arenas, always adhering to the Sunshine Law in our efforts.

## **XI FUTURE MEETINGS**

- CSC Monthly Meeting – May 9, 2013.

## **XII ADJOURNMENT: 9:49 a.m.**

CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY

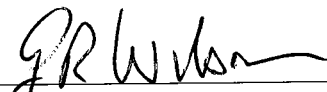
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 11, 2013

MOTIONS PASSED

1. **APPROVED** the April 11, 2013 Consent Agenda, which includes the following:
  - A. *The Agenda for April 11, 2013.*
  - B. *The Regular Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2013.*
  - C. *The CSC Council Attendance Record – as of March 14, 2013.*
  - D. *The Cumulative Financial Report for CSC FY 2012/13 as of March 14, 2013.*
  - E. *The Program Allocations Report for CSC FY 2012/13 – as of March 14, 2013.*
  - F. *The Summary of Fund Balance for CSC, as of March 31, 2013.*
  - G. *The Transactions Report for CSC, as of March 31, 2013.*
  
2. **APPROVED** *Ms. Kathryn Hensley to continue in her current role as Chairperson.*
  
3. **APPROVED** *Ms. Queen Townsend to continue in her current role as Vice Chairperson.*
  
4. **APPROVED** *Chief Garry Wilson to continue in his role as Secretary.*
  
5. **APPROVED** *the continuing with the same audit provider at the same cost without increase for one year as detailed in the options located on Attachment 4 of the E-Packet. CSC Council member Michael Lannon has been the elected negotiator between current auditor firm and CSC.*
  
6. **DENIED** *waiver of late fee of \$77.92 for the Center of Information 211, as detailed in Attachment 4 of the E-Packet.*

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Garry Wilson, Secretary

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

5-9-13