

Boy Scouts of America

W.D. Boyce Council No. 138

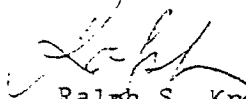
November 25, 1981

Mr. Paul I. Ernst
Director
Subscription & Statistical Service
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
Irving, Texas 75062-1296

Dear Paul:

Enclosed are our complete notes on James R. Lankton. Jim is not appealing this decision. He is currently taking treatment and his family is aware of the problem and supporting him.

Sincerely,


Ralph S. Kroehler
Council Executive

SEE
RECORD
PC

RSK/bu

enc.

614 N.E. Madison Avenue • Peoria, Illinois 61603 • Telephone (309) 673-6136

Member of United Ways

CONF009149

DYKES_I_007018

9/17/81 late afternoon - Dan Truller reported to P.K. that he had received two phone calls. One from a person (possibly Dan) that would not identify himself reporting improper acts on the part of Scoutmaster from the north side of Peria. He wasn't completely sure of the accuracy of his sons report and wanted to check further.

The second call was from Mrs. [REDACTED] reporting on what her son had ~~and~~ told her and her husband about the actions of his Scoutmaster, [REDACTED] Thomas Jackson.

P.K. tried to call Mrs. [REDACTED] back to set up an appointment, did not make contact.

9/18/81 P.M. - P.K. received ^{message that} ~~message that~~ Mrs. [REDACTED] had called. P.K. called back and was told by her that a mother had contacted him about the actions of a Scoutmaster and what should be done - Mrs. [REDACTED] told her, he would call the B.S.A. and they would take appropriate action. Mrs. [REDACTED] gave the woman's name as Mrs. [REDACTED]

P.K. phoned Mrs. [REDACTED] and set up an appointment with her, her husband and another couple for 7 PM 9/21.

P.K. got no answer at the [REDACTED] home during the day.

CONF009150

DYKES_I_007019

9/21 Alk and Dan Miller went to the
home ~~the~~ Other parents had been invited
to the meeting including ~~some~~ ~~that~~ were to have
been at the TPK meeting. ~~Per & Mas.~~
M + Mas

P.M. - B.K. called Paul Ernst, Registration and reviewed steps taken and future steps to be taken.

RSK set appointment with Wilkins ^{+ Miller} for 9:30 AM 9/21
Ad K tried to reach Durgin, left word at Regional
office for him to call.

9/21 Pdk and Miller met with Dr. Walther at 7:30 PM and outlined what had happened and been said to date. Walther indicated ~~over~~ interest in talking to at least some of the parents. Pdk called [REDACTED] and he agreed to talk to Walther. They made an appointment to meet the evening of 9/22.

9:00 PM - Talked with R. Durkin, outlined the problem. ^{he said} he asked us to do nothing else until he had talked to the national leaders.

9/21 Ann Durkin called Pdk, Ray Bessel had asked him if there was a meeting about Tracy. 3:04 ~~the~~ today, Pdk told him that there was a meeting with some parents, ~~and~~

Pdk called Ray Bessel, told him ~~that~~ that Pdk & Ann Miller were meeting with some parents. Bessel indicated he had been told about the nature of the problem by Bob Pfeiffer who had heard it over the weekend.

3:45 PM Pdk and Dr. Miller met with Harry Sinclair to check on ~~and~~ report from parents that there had been an incident reported in ~~some~~ Lubaton about 5 years ago. Sinclair said a parent had complained to the Dr. E. about the physical attention to his son by Lubaton.

CONF009152

DYKES_I_007021

The L. E. had talked to Lincoln, the two of them then met with Linton, and then the three of them met with the father of the boy involved. Lincoln said he thought the situation at that time had been settled to everyone's agreement.

8:50 PM. H. Lincoln called RSK to report that two parents had showed up at the meeting because they had heard there was to be a parents meeting about a problem. These parents were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Lincoln said [REDACTED] had no comment to offer. But apparently Lincoln had some possible inputs. He advised Lincoln to call RSK on 9/22.

9/22 - 9/21. RSK talked with B. Seeger and told him there was a serious problem involving Linton. ~~Seeger~~ Seeger agreed that all inquiries & comments concerning Seeger were to be referred to Kuebler. Seeger is going to call Piper to find out who told him so as to try to get a handle on gossip being spread. Seeger had heard the names of several of the parents that were to meet with Kuebler on 9/21, from Piper.

CONF009153

DYKES_I_007022

9/22

10:05 AM R. Swager called.

He ~~should~~ ^{not} get any written statements from parents at this time.

As quickly as possible contact the chartered organization ~~to~~ ^{they need to} take action to eliminate Lankton as a

parent. Also station - talk to highest official possible

to see if there is anything on record.

~~Have our lawyer~~ ^{Have our lawyer} meet with Lankton

10:20 AM 9/22 called Tim Howard, legal counsel
+ see 10:50 AM on 9/22

10:25 AM R. Swager brought Allison Hall into P.K.

Office, John Zeigler talked to ~~her~~ ^{her} about a parent that had brought other boy to her Troop to transfer from T 304 and asked her she should see about a problem in T 304. Zeigler had referred her to R. Swager since she wanted to see a high level volunteer.

10:35 AM John Zeigler called P.K. to tell him what he had told L. Hall. Also reported the matter was taken to the Troop Chairman Tom Balis about the problem in T 304. When asked ~~what~~ ^{what was} the boy's name, Zeigler said he couldn't remember exactly but it was Greek. P.K. asked if it was [REDACTED] and Zeigler said yes.

CONF009154

DYKES_I_007023

9/22 11 AM RDK met with Tim Howard,
legal counsel. Howard checked to see if
there from representative Jim Linkton - otherwise no.
They represented the Russell Linkton estate and John Linkton.

RDK outlined the history since 9/17/11 of the situation
and summarized the reports of the parents and
steps taken to date. Also gave Howard copies of
national materials for procedures in these situations
and reported on conversations with national and
regional personnel.

T. Howard felt we had enough information to proceed.
He felt the initial meeting with J. Linkton should
be as small a group as possible and not include
legal counsel. This group should only be R. Walpin,
RDK and representative of the chartered organization.
At that time Linkton should be told we are going to
ask for his resignation because of reports and rumors
about his actions that were damaging the B.S.A. That we
were asking him to resign for whatever reason
he chose to prevent this from going further.

In this way hopefully Linkton will back off
and ~~that~~ nothing more will need to be done.

However we do need to be prepared with
the letter telling him he is through in
case he doesn't voluntarily resign.

CONF009155

DYKES_I_007024

9/22 further on meeting with T. Howard.
Howard recommends that we do not
go to the police because ~~he~~ feels this
will cause further injury and expansion
of the issue in this community.

9/22 non-called Rev [REDACTED] to
ask if Rev. Withers could ~~talk~~ ^{talk} them. They
said okay.

12:05 called Rev. Withers, gave him
[REDACTED] phone number and reviewed
report and attorney's comments. He
agreed on not seeing police.

9/22 1:10 PM RKK met with Jim Baldwin, S.C.
and gave him a verbal report. Baldwin felt he
should know the names of the people that met with.
RKK told him that he would need to get permission.
Baldwin mentioned he had suggested to several families
they have them join the group. Baldwin decided
to call one of them - Mrs. [REDACTED]

9/22 2 PM noted RKK Mrs. [REDACTED] called at 7:20 PM
did not reach Mrs. [REDACTED] until about 3 PM.
She said if Baldwin had called, she understood what
we were doing, and thought we were handling the situation
fair - next page

CONF009156

DYKES_I_007025

9/22 3PM conversation with Mrs [REDACTED]
 (continued) Pdk told her we had not
 released their names but two other
 volunteers not connected with the unit
 had called the office to report what they had
 heard and were able to name several
 of the parents involved. Chord up with
 Mrs [REDACTED] that the same lady at the
 8/21 meeting was a Mrs [REDACTED]
 no longer in T304 - switched to another troop
 because of their boys' expense.

By [REDACTED] was completely call with [REDACTED]
 J. Baldwin called. He said he had talked to
 Mrs [REDACTED] and to his son in college and
 there was no longer any question in his mind
 about the report. His son said some things
 had been going on when he was in the troop but
 he never told his dad because he knew his
 dad was a close personal friend of J. Lankton
 and respected him. Baldwin felt he
 could not ~~leave~~ take part in the meeting
 with J. Lankton. Pdk asked him to
 think about it overnight.

3:45 Pdk called Watkins to bring
 him up to date - also to suggest that
 he let the parents he was meeting with
 understand why we were taking these steps.
~~next page~~

CONF009157

DYKES_I_007026

9/22 3:00 PM Walkers (continued) R. K. also asked
 Walkers to let the parent know that we
 had not released their names but that
 there was some gossip about the situation
 that involved their names. Walkers reported
 he had talked to ^{in person} Briers and Rev. [REDACTED]
 and that after tonight's appointment, he figures
 he will have heard enough.

9/22 4:05 PM. J. Baldwin called to say that he
 had talked with his wife and they both felt he
 should not be at the meeting with [REDACTED] Lankton
 since Lankton will ^{or possibly} turn to him for help.
 Baldwin is to give R. Walkers a letter
 appointing him to act for the ^{ch. organization} ~~the~~
 and troops.

9/22 late PM - Walkers called R. K. after his
 meeting with [REDACTED]. R. K. and Walkers
 agreed we really should have a unit representative
 either chairman. Met tomorrow or Henry Sinclair.
 R. K. to set appointment with tomorrow for 9/23.

Later H. Sinclair called R. K. to find out where
 we were at. Also indicated ~~that~~ he had talked
 to Tarnow who now had some knowledge of
 what was going on.

CONF009158

DYKES_I_007027

REPORT OF MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 21, 1981 BETWEEN PARENTS OF LINDBERG SCHOOL TROOP 304 AND SCOUTING REPRESENTATIVES RALPH KROEHLER AND DANIEL MILLER.

BACKGROUND: This meeting was arranged at the request of the parents following a series of telephone calls to the Service Center alleging moral misconduct of Scoutmaster James Lankton with their sons.

Five different families (husband or wife or both) met with Kroehler and Miller to review their Scout son related story. These are reviewed, without identification of names, as family number one through five below.

FAMILY ONE: related that on a late Spring (1981) camping trip her son had informed her that Lankton had fondled the buttocks of her son.

FAMILY TWO: related that on this same camping trip Lankton had not only fondled the buttocks of her son while fully clothed but had reached inside his underwear to fondle.

FAMILY THREE: related several instances. Scouts are asked to come to Scoutmaster's home or business offices for counseling sessions. Wife or business associates were absent and boy was asked to sit on SM's lap for counseling. Asked if they wanted to be "tickled" or if they wanted to "rough-house". Boy related "rough-house" meant to be grasped by feet and swung about in a circle around SM. Boy related that in his case, he was swung with his pants down around his ankles.

Latest instance was to meet at SM's office with no-one else present for a conference. Here belt was removed, feet were tied together with belt, pants were pulled down and boy was hung from office door.

FAMILY FOUR: Related latest campout when Lankton took nine new Scouts on camping trip alone (at Wokanda). Boys were taken to isolated campsite. When boy returned he stated "I hate Mr. Lankton"! When pressed for explanation of statement he finally admitted he had been taken into tent by Lankton, forced to remove lower clothing and Lankton then had lain down with boy on top of him and proceeded to give boy a "rubdown" (This campout in early September 1981)

FAMILY FIVE: Related experiences of son on Late Spring (1981) campout. Three boys in one tent. During night one boy was complaining of stomach ache. Lankton entered tent to assist boy and proceeded to rub stomach area of boy. However, following this "treatment" he then turned to her son and also gave him a rub down, including groin area and privates.

Several families having older or longer tenured Scouts, after having heard the above from their younger sons, question older sons. Older boys had learned to say "no" when asked to sit in lap and had agreed among themselves never to be alone with Lankton. They stated that "rubdowns" are common experiences when clothed but none had had the experiences the younger boys have had.

CONF009159

DYKES_I_007028

9/23 ^{9:41 AM} Rick Called Fred Torman - told him we had
a problem - set appointment for 10:15 9/23.

Called Jim Baldwin - told him we were
asking ~~the~~ Torman to be involved as Committee
Chair, Called Baldwin to talk to Torman and
fill him in on what he knew.

10:15 Rick, Walther and Rick ~~K~~
met with Torman and outlined the
problem and course of action. Torman
was surprised but then asked some
questions and concerns he had. Apparently
Torman's boy at a wrestling session at
Lambton office had been hurt from a door.
After he spoke to a nurse he had heard.
We agreed to meet with J. Lambton as
soon as possible preferably sometime
between 10:30 AM and noon on 9/24
at the ~~service~~ service center. Rick to
make the arrangements.

11:15 - set up meeting with J. Lambton
by phone for 9/24 at 11:00 AM at Service Center.
Rick called the Walther office and said
word a meeting had been set for 11 AM. Rick
called and talked with Torman and
relayed this information.

CONF009160

DYKES_I_007029

9/23 P.K. talked to H. Lincoln to let
him know what was the proposed Lincoln
asked that P.K. let Lankton know
that ~~the~~ Lincoln ~~was~~ of this.

1:35 - called J. Polimeni - busy - to
call back.

Later in afternoon - reviewed steps with Polimeni.

About 6:00 PM - H. Lincoln called P.K. -
concerned for Lankton's own safety and safety
after he is told, Lincoln waits minutes at
meeting, P.K. was not.

about 7:00 PM - P.K. called Rev. Child,
Lankton's. Rev. Child felt he should
~~not~~ ~~be at the~~ meeting but would be
available ~~if~~ if needed.

Later PM 9/23 P.K. talked to H. Lincoln
and told him of minutes meeting.

CONF009161

DYKES_I_007030

7/27 - 10:30am M. Torron arrived at Lewis Center,

10:45 R. Walkers joined.

11:00 J. Forkton comes.

~~R. Walkers~~ R. Walkers present in the meeting.

R. Walkers complimented J. Forkton on his great service to Hunting but said he needed to ask for Forkton's resignation because of Forkton's actions that were not acceptable to Hunting. No specific charges or situations were mentioned. After a variety of comments of a general nature, concern for Hunting, agreement that he would resign because of the press of business, Forkton signed the prepared resignation letter that he would reach his minister but miss church. M. Torron and R. Walkers took Forkton to Westminster church and stayed with Forkton until a little after 1pm when his minister arrived.

1:30 J. Forkton's action taken to Jim Baldwin.

1:30 - 2:30 R. Walkers with M. Torron -

line busy - 2:30 to 3:05 no answer.

R. Walkers to call

[REDACTED] + [REDACTED]

CONF009162

DYKES_I_007031

October 15, 1981

Mr. Ralph S. Kroehler
Council Executive
E. D. Boyce Council, No. 138

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Ralph:

Thank you for your detailed letter concerning James R. Lankton. This information will be most beneficial to us in refusing registration wherever Mr. Lankton tries to register.

Please send me the details which you have in your files. We have always asked that all the records in this type of situation be kept in the National Office and not in the local council office because of the embarrassment that could be incurred if the wrong individuals would read the file.

If any further matters come up or if Mr. Lankton tries to appeal this decision, please let us know and we will work with you in any way necessary. I shall look forward to receiving the additional material from you so that we may set up our file. Thanks again for the detailed letter explaining the action which has taken place.

Sincerely,

Paul I. Ernst, Director
Registration, Subscription &
Statistical Service

deb

cc: East Central Region

READY FOR FILE

OCT 15 1981

DAWN HARSELL

CONF009163

DYKES_I_007032