

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE ADVISORY  
COUNCIL AND THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE TULE LAKE CENTER  
January 24, 1944

A special joint meeting of the Advisory Council and the Co-ordinating Committee of the Tule Lake Center was held on January 24, 1944, at the Administration Building Room 15, from 4:05 p.m. Project Director R. R. Best presided.

Those present were: Project Director Best, Assistant Project Director H. Black, P. Robertson, Dr. Opler, Lt. Forbes, and L. Huycke.

Co-ordinating Committee members present were: B. Akitsuki, J. Naydo, M. Shimada, G. Yamatani, J. Nakao, and B. Mayeda.

Mr. Glick Counselor from Washington, Mr. Markley, new Reports Officer, Mr. Leckleider, new Project Attorney, and Mr. Lefler of the Washington staff were introduced to the assembled body.

Minutes of the Divisional Heads' meeting held on January 22, 1944, were read.

Executive Secretary Akitsuki first brought up a suggestion made by the Divisional Heads, whereby, new jobs for the purpose of increasing employment, such as a clean-up crew, composed of about 30, should be created. Project Director Best repeated that new projects such as the above-mentioned, are not yet in order; until such time that the Center reestablishes itself to its former sound normal stage and all old activities function as usual, such plans should be withheld. He specified that prior to the creation of a new clean-up crew as suggested, maintenance should precede, at least from the standpoint of order. However, all such plans will be duly considered, Mr. Best promised. Executive Secretary commented that newcomers, colonists who came from other Centers, have been deprived of work and therefore, opportunities should be offered to them as soon as possible. Nevertheless, Mr. Best thought contrariwise to the statement made by B. Akitsuki and suggested that a thorough analysis should be made. It was further suggested that there is a definite need for a job analysis to determine the number of workers, number of members working in a family, etc.

Discussion then followed regarding the advisability and practicality of a Fair Practice Board, which according to the Co-ordinating Committee's interpretation, will be functioning for the purpose of further study and investigation pertaining to employment problems, as well as fair distribution of jobs. Mr. Glick explained in details the organization and the functions of a Fair Employment Practice Board, established in the other Relocation Centers. This Board's jurisdiction only embodies the relationship of the employer and employee, not the question of who shall be employed; this final authority rests on the hands of the Placement Officer. Mr. Yamatani explained that this body shall act in an advisory capacity only and will make and give such informations, recommendations, or complaints to the Placement Officer, F. Fagan. Inasmuch as no decision was reached on



this matter, Mr. Akitsuki brought up the fact, as written in the minutes of the 22nd meeting of the Divisional Heads, that it was the Committee's desire to establish a sub Co-ordinating Committee, prior to this Fair Practice Board. This sub-committee will act as 'fielders' and act as a liaison body between the Co-ordinating Committee and the Divisional Heads and workers. Suggestions, recommendations, informations, and complaints compiled by this sub-committee will be 'thrashed' out with the Co-ordinating Committee, which will in turn refer such matters as it may deem necessary to the attention of the Project Director. Mr. Yamatani reiterated that inasmuch as the Committee is still encountering much difficulties with the antagonistic minority of pressure group, it is definitely imperative that this sub-committee be established immediately to accelerate the progress of this great task. It is urgent, Mr. Akitsuki admitted, due to the lack of a closer collaboration of the evacuee wardens with the Committee. However, upon Mr. Best's suggestion, the body concluded that the organization of this sub-committee should be withheld until the return of Mr. Schmitt on Wednesday. Mr. Black recommended that this committee (Co-ordinating) make up a list of some 50 names for Mr. Schmitt's selection as a preparatory plan if this plan should materialize. Mr. Glick further suggested that the names of the wardens also should be submitted and studied by Mr. Schmitt and Police Chief Farht for 'weeding' if deemed necessary.

Some of the details of the return-to-work program clarified were:

1. List of names of those former Personnel Mess workers were supposedly submitted to the Placement Office this morning, Mr. Huyeke stated.
2. Cost Accounting section will not employ a large staff as it formerly did, because of lack of space and lack of need for a large staff, since the cost accounting section is no longer on a divisional basis.

Mr. Robertson reported that Mr. Kawamoto, foreman of the night coal crew, was threatened by the boys who were refused passes by the Army. The boys contended that Mr. Kawamoto was responsible for turning in the list to the Army. They reproved Mr. Kawamoto and threatened that the passes by issued or otherwise Mr. Kawamoto's life will be endangered. Mr. Robertson therefore suggested that a member or two of the Co-ordinating Committee should sit in as counselors with the boys at tomorrow morning's meeting. After due deliberation, the general consensus of the Co-ordinating Committee was that it would be more advisable to stay out of this meeting, lest the Committee will be accused and censured. The boys will be given an alternative of either Stockade or probation on condition that in an event of any difficulty which may involve the boys, all 20 will be subject to pick-up.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Byron Akitsuki  
Executive Secretary