

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Special Meeting – Budget Hearing #3
September 5, 2018 @ 5:15 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kevin Greenfield
Jay Dunn
John Jackson
Tim Dudley
Debra Kraft
Greg Mattingley
Patty Cox

MEMBERS ABSENT

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Rocki Wilkerson, Workforce Investments
Pat Berter, Probation
Jennifer Gunter, P&Z
Nathan Pierce, Historical
Carol Reed, Auditor
Laurie Rasmus, Environmental Mgmt
Mary Eaton, Recorder
Steve Bean, County Clerk
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Chair Kevin Greenfield at the Macon County Office Building.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Cox made a motion to approve the minutes of prior meeting on 9/4/18, seconded by Mr. Mattingley, and the motion carried 7-0.

Budget Proposals

Historical Museum

Mr. Pierce explained that their budget is pretty much the same every year and is pretty simple. They get the property tax levy money which pays some of Mr. Pierce's payroll and benefits and everything after that is funded by their own funds.

Chairman Dunn asked if they are at the top of their tax levy. Mr. Pierce said yes, without it going to the ballot.

Chair Greenfield asked what percentage of raise Mr. Pierce, as Executive Director, had budgeted. Mr. Pierce said it has not been voted on yet, but it is accounted for in the budget. Even if there is a raise, it just means more money that is made up for by their own funds and it does not affect the county at all. Mr. Greenfield asked what percentage had been put in. Mr. Pierce said this year marks his 5th anniversary and in the past, it has been about \$1,500 to \$2,000 a year. Ms. Reed explained that the county will give them the \$33,000 and that is all. His board sets his salary.

Mr. Dudley made a motion to pass the budget proposal on to Display, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 7-0.

County Board

Chairman Dunn explained that the total expenses last year were \$402,298 and this year, it is \$367,514 for a cut of \$34,784 due to taking over the print shop and moving it upstairs. That is a pretty good savings.

Chair Greenfield asked if there is any money in the budget for appraisals. Chairman Dunn said no.

Mr. Dudley asked if the demolition fees are a part of the Kruse Road project. Ms. Gunter explained that they are not. The mitigation expenses are for Kruse Road. The demolition is if there are nuisance violations that require tearing a house down. Mr. Dudley commented that the grants had covered that and there was no expense to the county. Ms. Gunter confirmed. Chairman Dunn said that demolition is an in and out, but if we really had to do one, it would cost a lot more than \$2,000. He said they had wanted to put something in there where if a shed or something small had to be torn down, they could do it. Some money was added into the nuisance expense line because quite a bit was spent on mowing this past year.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to pass the budget proposal on to Display, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 7-0.

Workforce Investment Solutions

Ms. Wilkerson explained that the snapshot of their budget shows a little over \$2 million in revenue and expenditures.

Rapid Response Grant - \$14,940 was proposed. This money is specifically used for the individuals that lost their jobs through no fault of their own. For example, in the last couple of weeks, Kroger in Fairview Plaza, Convey, WalMart in Clinton, etc... She said she would probably be asking for more money. Dislocated workers are identified through that grant, but this is the money that had been allocated and when this was done, those businesses had not closed yet.

Trades Assistance Grant – This grant closes 9/30. \$18,000 has been proposed to be spent. Under vocational training, \$16000 of the \$18000 has been allocated just for training and that goes directly to the customers. Since it closes 9/30, the new grant can start 10/1.

A lot of the grants overlap.

Admin – Most grants usually give 5% to 10% for admin costs. \$181,909 has been budgeted. That is 8.5% of the total revenue coming in. That's a pretty effective way of spending that money, especially with administrative costs.

The Adult Formula – this is the one where quite a bit of money is being spent on. Sometimes dislocator funds are put in the adult streamline. That is the dislocated or disadvantaged adult. \$693,687 has been allocated here. This includes some of the Career Planner salaries along with a small bit of admin. This is one of the most challenging groups to help get reemployed because they face so many barriers.

The Youth – this is the one that causes the most challenges. \$385,671 has been allocated here. \$96,000 will be utilized in two youth contracts; one in Clinton and one with the Regional Office of Education. The rest is used in going out and finding the youth that meet the eligible requirements. That is how the two short term vocational programs, the 8 week welding for out of school youth and the 8 week CNA. 9 of the 13 CNA's are employed and 9 of 10 welders are employed. It's a hard grant to work with, but there are some good outcomes from it.

Dislocated Worker – this goes back to the ones that have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. We want to get them employed as quickly as possible because they already have the work ethics and skills to move forward. Those are the ones that more of the Rapid Response dollars will be spent on. \$251,595 was proposed on that grant.

The formula for the MOU and One Stop Operator page shows their expenses, but the partners will use that to fund the facility and offset any expenses that may come through the One Stop. That is a cumulative effort.

\$6,469 has been accumulated in incentives and will be used on marketing throughout the community for job training.

Richland / Workforce Adult Education Consortium - \$65,563 is proposed. Ms. Wilkerson said they ended up with \$5,929 more than last year. This is Workforce's pathway to helping those adults that don't have high school diplomas, have never had jobs before.

Ms. Wilkerson said that the snapshot of the budget she just gave along with the Year in Review packet that she distributed should give a good idea of how Workforce money is spent.

Mr. Dudley made a motion to pass the budget proposal on to Display, seconded by Ms. Kraft and the motion carried 7-0.

Recorder

Ms. Eaton reported that the general fund was left at last year's numbers. She said any increase came from union wages and those costs are now coming from the automation. Some of the numbers have been moved around between the lines, but the bottom line is the same.

Mr. Dunn made a motion to pass the budget proposal on to Display, seconded by Ms. Cox and the motion carried 7-0.

County Clerk

Mr. Bean reported that the general fund budget is down \$93 from last year. The automation fund has about \$52,000 of costs transferred into it. This pays for an employee and various other stuff. This fund is actually down a little (\$674) from last year. There has been a little decrease in the amount of automation funds received.

The Elections budget is down \$637. A big concern right now is that there seems to be three candidates at least for Mayor and if there are two more, there will have to be a primary which hasn't happened for a long time. That is a costly thing to the new clerk. That is part of the reason that money was left in the budget. Chairman Dunn asked how many it takes for City Council to require a Primary. Mr. Bean said 13 – double the number plus one. He said he did not think there would be one for that. Next year, the Clerk's Office will have to do a mailing for the biannual purge which there is \$20,000 in the mail line, but it is about a \$30,000 venture to do the mailing and cards and all. It is a costly thing for the county. We should get an allocation for election expenses from the state of \$62,000 so that will pay for the VoTech expenses of running the voter registration system and the purge.

The problem, and there's a meeting to go to next week where they're going to talk about what they expect to be done to increase security on the Elections. There are some things that are going to have to be changed in Election Night procedures. Hopefully, the costs can be handled in the budget.

Chair Greenfield asked if, in the event of a Primary, what the costs would be. Mr. Bean said it depends on the new clerk. Mr. Greenfield asked him to assume he would be the clerk. Mr. Bean said it is going to be . . . part of this the way the thing is set up, we pay You're going to end up spending close to that or less than \$90,000 for election judges. There will be some savings there. The ballots cost the same amount of money no matter what. We've gotten hundreds of requests for absentee ballots by mail and are not usually had in the primary. If no primary, some of the supply costs will go down because of a refund of about 3 months of payments from Liberty Systems. Mr. Bean said he really thinks there will be a primary from the way everything looks right now.

Mr. Jackson made a motion to pass the budget proposal on to Display, seconded by Ms. Kraft, and the motion carried 7-0.

Probation

Chair Greenfield asked about the picture and article in the Herald & Review and how much it costs to serve warrants. Mr. Berter explained that those were not warrants. He said he had been approached by the Sheriff's Department. He said they do some stuff with the Decatur Police Department and it is compliance checks. There are individuals on probation who are on for gun offenses, trafficking, etc.. Some of these higher risk field appointments are tag teamed with law enforcement. A couple of days after that picture, one of the officers went out with the Sheriff's Department and found a loaded AR that a minor had hidden in the basement. Those are the kinds of things that happen. The reporter that wrote the story in the H&R knew that there was going to be a cut in the allocation and instead of them doing a story about the cut, Mr. Berter said he wanted her to do a story about the department. He said he thinks the community does not understand what the department does and this is putting a spotlight on the good work the department is doing.

The budget is \$150,000 over the allotted amount from last year due to the state cut of \$257,989. The reason for that cut is that the Supreme Court line was flat funded. Mr. Berter said he had elected to not fill three positions to save money within the county budget and not only did they cut the \$160,000 on that, but an additional \$97,000 which comes to about a 24% cut from the state. He said he was very fortunate to receive money again this year from the Howard Buffett Foundation to pay for two Drug Court positions. The reimbursement from Probation fees is a lot more than what is being brought in. It is almost \$200,000 more than what is being brought in. Mr. Berter said he had outlined a plan he put into place last year as far as probation fees and staffing levels. Looking at invoices from this year and projections, some money will be saved out of this year's budget so not as much will have to be spent out of Probation fees, but ultimately that number has to come down. He said he had done a resolution for a \$10 Probations Operations fee that will go into that account.

Everything that can be cut from the budget has been cut. Radio Dispatch is up. The Probation Department is #3 for calls for service. The fee is \$27,500 to have portable radios for the officers. Telephone, travel, training, contractual services, electronic monitoring have all been

cut. There is a 3 % increase in the juvenile detention line due to the contract with Peoria County. They do really good work. They transport and have the officers, etc.. The only other line item that has been raised is the uniforms. Every other year, the line staff has money budgeted for uniforms. Going through the proposed budget, the hope is that money can be saved throughout the year, maybe there will be some good news from Springfield that will bring in some supplemental funding.

Chair Greenfield asked how much the Buffett Foundation gives the department. Mr. Berter said they help out with drug testing and electronic (GPS) monitoring of juveniles that are released from detention but still need some sort of monitoring. The big ticket items are the officers. Chair Greenfield asked about a total dollar figure. Mr. Berter said it is about \$180,000. When the drug court money that was given by the Buffett Foundation last year, it was supposed to be a one time grant. Mr. Berter said he had to go talk with the Sheriff and he has allowed it for this year depending on the financial situation with the department. Mr. Berter said he would rather not rely on that money. Mr. Greenfield said that without the Buffett Foundation and what the state has cut, it is about \$325,000.

Chair Greenfield addressed Ms. Reed, saying that they had spoken previously about where they are with the budget and if there might be some extra money that could be applied to make up this \$150,000. He said he didn't know that they were ready to make a decision yet and they could wait another month or so to see more closely where they will be. He told Mr. Berter that he, Chairman Dunn and he thought the committee, are all in agreement, that they would try to find that \$150,000, but he didn't know about next year. He went on to say that his concern is not really this year, but next year. He stressed that we cannot continue to rely on the Buffett Foundation. Mr. Berter explained that he has been very honest with his staff as far as this year and next year. One of the officers had wanted to apply for a deputy position. He is a good officer, but would be the one to be laid off. At that time, Mr. Berter had advised him that they looked really good at that time and so he had passed on it. Now, Mr. Berter said he is telling his staff that if they have opportunities they would like to try, they might want to do it. Of the three staff that were lost, one went to the Illinois Department of Corrections and one went to Millikin. They took different career paths. Mr. Greenfield commented that it is the County Board's responsibility to not send the staff out where they are not safe. He said he did not know exactly what the answer was, but felt that Chairman Dunn and the committee would agree that this year, they could probably find the money, but can't make that guarantee for next year. Mr. Berter expressed appreciation and said that he and his really good staff will continue to look at how they do business. Things continue to change and they continue to focus on that.

Chairman Dunn said that there is technically not going to be any surplus money. Last year, there was a .9 million deficit and there will be a deficit this year, but there are some reserves from the windfarm, etc and he, personally, would rather not wait on it because the numbers are not going to change. Mr. Berter has not filled three positions in anticipation of this budget, but if he doesn't get this \$150,000, he is going to have to lay off 3 more and still have those previous 3 empty spots. He said he would like to go ahead and approve this budget with the caveat that if the state does come back with any additional money, it is credited back to the County. Mr. Berter has ruffled some feathers over there and they are reevaluating their process because he did the right thing by cutting the budget and ended up getting penalized more than the cuts. Chair Greenfield said he had no problem with that, but said they all need to be in

agreement that we don't know what next year will bring AND we CANNOT keep relying on the Buffett Foundation. The Sheriff is going to be out of that office as of December 1st.

Mr. Dudley made a motion to pass the budget proposal on to Display, seconded by Ms. Cox and the motion carried 7-0.

The only other budget is the juvenile redeploy which is money in / money out from the state and the only changes to it is a transfer of money from the training line to a newly created tutoring services line for the kids in the program. It is the same amount that was in the budget last year. Mr. Dudley asked if that money was for sure. Mr. Berter said they had received a check that day and it was for 4 months advancement.

Environmental Management

Chairman Greenfield asked Ms. Rasmus about the article and the costs rising to \$7.5 million for the upcoming project. Ms. Rasmus said they could talk about that tonight or at another meeting. Mr. Greenfield asked if any of that was in this budget. Ms. Rasmus said no.

Ms. Rasmus reported this 2019 budget adheres to the guideline of holding expenses to this year's level.

001-086, General Fund -

The host fees from the landfill go to Revenue Line 4911. For 2019, the host fee is \$2.77/ton and ADS has projected that they will receive 172,300 tons, for an annual host fee of \$477,271. In first half of 2018, 83,022 tons have been received at \$2.69 ton for a host fee of \$223,329 – 57% of what was projected for 2018. In the other lines of the department's budget from the General Fund, a number of adjustments were made. However, the total expenses for 2019 are the same as for 2018 - for a flat budget with no increases.

086-000, the department's reserves-

Adjustments were made as compared to last year. However, the last line of the sheet shows that the net deficit to our reserves is the same as last year.

086-050 is also from the department's reserves but it is exclusively for the delegation agreement that we have with the IEPA for the enforcement program. Again, some adjustments were made but the last line, the net deficit, is the same as last year's.

Mr. Dunn made a motion to pass the budget proposal on to Display, seconded by Mr. Jackson, Chair Greenfield, again, wanted to clarify that the budget being presented does not contain anything about the proposed project. Ms. Rasmus confirmed and the motion carried 7-0.

Chairman Dunn mentioned that pages were missing from both the Probation and Environmental budgets and asked to have them included in the budget binders.

CITIZEN REMARKS – PUBLIC COMMENT - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

CLOSED SESSION - None

NEXT MEETING - Monday, September 10 – Budget Hearing #4
(Health Dept, Public Defender, Highway)

ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Ms. Cox, and the motion carried 7-0, and meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office