

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORKSHOP #2**

Monday, June 11, 2018

6:00 P.M.

The Honorable Columbus County Commissioners met on the above stated date and at the above stated time in the Dempsey B. Herring Courthouse Annex Building, located at 112 West Smith Street, Whiteville, North Carolina, for the purpose of conducting Budget Workshop #2.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Amon E. McKenzie, **Chairman**
Trent Burroughs, **Vice Chairman**
James E. Prevatte
Giles E. Byrd
P. Edwin Russ
Ricky Bullard
Charles T. McDowell

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

Mike Stephens, **County Attorney /
County Manager**
June B. Hall, **Clerk to Board**
Bobbie Faircloth, **Finance Officer**

CALLED to ORDER:

At 6:00 P.M., Chairman Amon E. McKenzie stated this Budget Workshop #2 was resumed from the workshop on June 05, 2018.

INVOCATION and PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:

The invocation was delivered by Commissioner Ricky Bullard. Everyone in attendance stood and pledged Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America which was led by Commissioner Charles T. McDowell.

PROCEDURE to FOLLOW:

Chairman McKenzie stated the procedure that would be followed is going page by page and questions answered by page, and this procedure would be led by Bobbie Faircloth, Finance Director.

Bobbie Faircloth stated I would like to address the three (3) questions that were presented at the last Budget Workshop and they are as follows:

Question #1: Utility cost being included in the Maintenance Department? There really isn't no clear answer. That is the way that Bladen County has always handled it. We do get our share from the DSS Department through our indirect cost.

Question #2: Do we have full coverage on our vehicles? We do have full coverage on all of our vehicles. Our deductible is \$1,000 for each incident. If we remove the vehicles that are over 7 years old, the savings on our insurance policy is \$12,131.00. The difference is if the vehicle is worth more than the blue book value. That is a decision the Board will have to make.

Question #3: The status of the vehicles for the Fire Marshall's Office? Shannon and Josh both drive their vehicle home.

Pages 43 - 122 were covered with explanations, and the following Reduction in Budget Proposed were made.

DEPARTMENT / LINE ITEM	REDUCTIONS
Fire Marshall Expenditures:	
Gas	(\$5,000)
Office Supplies	(\$1,000)
Departmental Supplies	(\$3,500)
Travel	(\$1,200)
Telephone	(\$1,650)
Postage	(\$225)
Maint & Repair - Equipment	(\$2,500)
Uniforms and Clothing	(\$750)
Training - Employee Educational Expenses	(\$460)
Dues and Subscriptions	(\$200)
Non-Capitalized Outlay	(\$8,929)
Animal Control Expenditures:	
Departmental Supplies	\$5,000
Travel	(\$1,000)
M&R Bldg/Grounds	(\$400)
Capital Outlay	(\$15,000)
Airport Expenditures:	
Utilities	(\$900)
Building Inspections Expenditures:	
Gas	(\$2,000)
Travel	(\$1,000)
Department of Social Services Expenditures:	
Professional Services	(\$10,000)
Office Supplies	(\$10,000)
Travel	(\$20,000)
Postage	(\$5,000)
Miscellaneous Expenses	(\$2,500)
Non-Capitalized Outlay	(\$160,000)
Education Expenditures:	
Co Schools Curr Expense	(\$743,983)
City Schools Curr Expense	\$18,258
Comm College Curr Expense	(\$21,529)
Comm College Capital Outlay	(\$600,702)
Co Schools Capital Outlay	(\$1,181,498)
City Schools Capital Outlay	\$1,905
Parks and Recreation Expenditures:	
Non-Capitalized Outlay	(\$10,000)
Minor home Repair Expenditures:	
Repair Supplies	20,000
Special Appropriations Expenditures:	
Forest Service	(\$13,534)
Water Rescue	(\$4,000)

SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

Anthony Clarke, President of Southeastern Community College, stated the following:

1. The \$140,000 per year allocation will take 50 years;
2. We need to maintain and improve our buildings, and at that amount we cannot; **and**
3. I am requesting the amount be increased to \$353,920 per year, and we can maintain and improve our buildings at that level.

After discussion was conducted, it was the general consensus of the Board to increase the funding for Southeastern Community College to \$353,920.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS RECENT ALLOCATION OF FUNDS:

Discussion was conducted relative to some of the fire departments in Columbus County recently receiving a \$3,000.00 allocation of funds. The fire departments that did not receive the \$3,000.00 allocation of funds would like to know why.

MOTION:

Commissioner Byrd made a motion for a letter to be sent to Representative Brenden Jones to ask why all the fire departments in Columbus County did not receive the \$3,000.00 allocation of funds, seconded by Commissioner Russ. The motion unanimously passed.

COLUMBUS COUNTY SCHOOLS and WHITEVILLE CITY SCHOOLS ADDITIONAL 3% DISTRIBUTION:**MOTION:**

After discussion was conducted relative to the additional three (3%) percent increase to Columbus County Schools and Whiteville City Schools, Commissioner McDowell made a motion for the two hundred twenty-four thousand, one hundred forty-one and 73/100 (\$224,141.73) dollars be for the direct use of Capital Outlay, seconded by Commissioner Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

After lengthy discussion was conducted, Bobbie Faircloth, Finance Director stated the following:

-The new distribution of the three (3%), \$224, 142 recommended in current expenditures for the school systems, has been divided by the percentage of ADM. The County Schools' percentage is 71.1437% which equates to \$159,463 which is now budgeted in fund 29 School Capital Outlay account. Whiteville City Schools' percentage is 28.8563% which equates to \$64,679, which is also budgeted in fund 29 School Capital Outlay account.

-The new current expense budget based upon fiscal year 2017/2018 figure of \$7,471,391 is as follows:

-Columbus County Schools will receive \$5,315,425 and Whiteville City Schools will receive \$2,155,966. This is an \$82,801 decrease from the current expense for the County School system and an \$82,801 increase to Whiteville City Schools due to the projected change in ADM figures.

BUDGET WORKSHOP CLOSED:

At 7:51 P.M., Chairman McKenzie stated the Budget Workshop was closed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

AMON E. MCKENZIE, Chairman