

**COLUMBUS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Tuesday, June 02, 2015

5:30 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 a Budget Workshop.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

APPOINTEES PRESENT:

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

WORKSHOP CALLED to ORDER:

At 5:31 P.M., Chairman Burroughs called the Budget Workshop to order. Chairman Burroughs stated he would let William S. Clark, County Manager, tell us about the budget. Bobbie Faircloth, Finance Director, has handed out some revisions about the budget since we released the original budget, as follows:

1. We included a paging system for the County which is through EMS, and the estimated cost is about \$150,000. We had \$36,000 that was in a fund that could be used for a pager system, and we lowered that cost to \$114,000;
2. We removed the roof on the Library;
3. There is \$5,000 for each depot;
4. We reduced the amount given back to the Tax-Revaluation Fund by \$5,000;
5. We added in the Rope Rescue for consideration for \$10,000;
6. We added back the Fund Balance for Cooperative Extension for \$17,000;
7. We added in the budget for the Governor's Highway Patrol (Page 37) \$12,707, and that is grant money;
8. We decreased the Home Health budget by \$288,851 and that is the deficit that we are projecting;
9. We got two (2) new positions for EMS;
10. We got one (1) new position for Parks and Recreation;
11. We have got a contract part-time worker in Economic Development, a code enforcer;
12. We have got \$5,000 for each depot;
13. We have got \$10,000 for the Science Museum;
14. We have a Fund Balance Appropriation of approximately \$1.9 million;
15. We recommended that we pay off the vehicle leases that we have (\$600,000);
16. The pager project and the schools came to \$408,000;
17. The salary increases come to \$460,000; **and**
18. We had \$250,000 for the Healthcare Reimbursements accounts.

CHANGES to BUDGET PRESENTED:

1. Added the cost of the pager project of \$113,997, Page 109
2. Removed roof repair for Library of \$40,000, Page 31;
3. Added Tabor City Depot Center allocation of \$5,000, Page 108;
4. Corrected the amount given to the Tax Revaluation account fund 25 - reduced by \$5,000
5. Added in the Rope Rescue allocation of \$10,000 for consideration;
6. Added back in the fund balance appropriation for Cooperative Extension special program in the amount of \$17,652, Page 55, Page 9;
7. Added the budget for GHSP, Pages 36 and 37, **and**
8. Decreased Home Health's budget by \$288,851.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Prevatte: I think we should go page by page in the budget until we get our questions answered and then we will not have to flip from page to page. Commissioner McDowell has a few questions on the Special Appropriations, Page 108.

Commissioner McDowell: stated the following:

1. On the Veterans Park, I need clarification on the \$25,00;
2. On the Forest Service Special Appropriation of \$197,190, I would like to know what this is used for; **and**
Mr. Clark replied stating that the County has to fund part of their budget, and this is used for salaries and some capital equipment.
3. On education, would it be on this page, and if we make a special appropriation, would it fall into this category?
Mr. Clark responded stating that it had not in the past, it is always under education.

Commissioner McKenzie: Kimberly Smith, is there any sickle cell in the county. I don't think it has been funded for the last three (3) years.
Kimberly Smith replied stating we do.

Commissioner Byrd: The paperwork we have is saying Friends of the NC Museum of Forestry, and it is no longer this.

Commissioner McDowell: Page Number: 88 - Education

1. Our three (3) education systems have got more problems than they have money;
2. At the present time, we have a Fund Balance of \$23 million;
3. We need to allocate enough money to each school system to make a difference in their efforts of repairing the schools until a better method is determined; **and**
4. I would like to recommend that we allocate \$1 million to the County Schools, \$333,000 to the Whiteville School System and \$333,000 to Southeastern Community College, and this amount will be up and above the suggested allocation.

MOTION:

Commissioner McDowell made a motion to allocate \$1 million to the County School System, \$333,000 to the Whiteville City School System and \$333,000 to Southeastern Community College, up and above the suggested allocation, seconded by Vice Chairman Bullard.

In-depth discussion was conducted regarding the allocation to be used for capital outlay only, and making use of the money until a more suitable manner could transpire for the betterment of our schools.

AMENDED MOTION:

Commissioner McDowell made an amended motion to allocate \$1 million to the County School System, \$333,000 to the Whiteville City School System and \$333,000 to Southeastern Community College, up and above the suggested allocation, with stipulations placed on the allocation for capital outlay, seconded by Vice Chairman Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.

Commissioner Prevatte: stated the following:

1. With our school systems, we have from four (4) campuses to seventeen (17) campuses; **and**
2. Eleven (11) years ago, we were down to \$8 million and now we are at twenty-three (23) million.

QUESTIONS:

PAGE	QUESTION	ANSWER
12	519001 Contracted Services \$60,000	Wellness Program
13	Contracted Services \$54,000	Toshiba Copiers

15	Tax Administration Professional Services \$35,000	Cost of outside attorney handling our closures, letters, etc
18	Court Facility Expenditures \$109,000 for salaries and wages	New employees for the Courthouse
18	Contracted Service \$18,860	Bugs, Elevators. Landscaping
20	Software License Renewal \$9,368 Contracted Service \$14,500 Departmental Supplies \$27,500 Travel \$20,000	Staff heavier during presidential elections, additional training, pickup and deliver
22	Rent - Equipment \$90,000	Programs and operations of office
30	Salaries & Wages Regulars \$119,904	Housekeepers
31	Salaries & Wages Regular \$117,870	Housekeepers, Vanessa and Anthony
31	Capital Outlay \$45,000	Roof on Library but will be took out
35	Special Services \$50,000	Drug Funds
35	Capital Outlay \$322,761	Vehicles
35	Non-Capitalized Outlay \$25,450	1 Throw Away Phone and 6 defibrillators
39	Contracted Services \$563,927	Fire & Safety Sprinklers, Monitoring, Electronics, Drug Testing, Urgent Care, Software, Food Services, Time Picking System, Healthcare, Exterminating, Home Electric Agency, many contracts
39	Special Fee Juvenile Detention \$50,000	Housing Juveniles
39	Custodial Care - Raleigh \$250,000	Sick Inmates, housing of gang members and high-profile cases and more than one defendant
49	Salaries/Wages - P/T \$13,400	Part time person that does some mowing
53	Professional Services \$72,500	Code Enforcement Person for Abandoned Structures
57	Beaver Program	Add: \$4,000 (take out of \$40,000) Change \$25,000 to \$40,000 Fee: \$30.00
66	Professional Services \$128,000	Medical Director, CPA Firm, Care Anywhere which is our software, Mandated Consumer Assessment
66	Contracted Services \$655,000	RN's
66	Salaries & Wages Regular \$505,253	14 ½ Employees
66	Medical \$80,000	Supplies
71	Clinicians \$68,250	Doctors
73	Contracted Services \$114,000	Dentist
74	Salaries & Wages Regular \$121,074	3 Full-Time Social Workers and one part-time Social Worker, paid 100% by Medicaid

79	Salaries & Wages Regular \$69,496	3 ½ People
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Five (5) Minutes Recess:

At 7:09 P.M., Chairman Burroughs announced there would be a five (5) minutes recess.

WORKSHOP CONVENED:

PAGE	QUESTION	ANSWER
82	Rental Equipment \$42,000	Copiers and things of that nature
82	Contracted Services \$310,000	Covers SIP and networks that we have, also covers Assistant County Attorney, the Sheriff's Office
82	Jobs Transportation \$70,000	We have a Maintenance of Effort that we have to meet
82	Professional Services \$55,000	Drug Testing, DNA Tests for Child Support, Psychiatric Costs, Professional Witness
88	Clarification: Comm College Capital Outlay Co Schools Capital Outlay City Schools Capital Outlay	\$1,750,000 County Schools \$583,000 Whiteville City Schools \$583,000 Southeastern Community College
94	Contracted Services \$92,500	Ensure Program
108	MOTION: Commissioner McKenzie made a motion to allocate \$1,000 to Sickle Cell, seconded by Vice Chairman Bullard. The motion unanimously passed.	Give Funds to Health Department
108	Cape Fire River Assembly \$462	Will check into and advise
130	VA Transportation - Local Match \$22,000	Local Match

CHANGES to BUDGET:

1. Add \$1,666,000.00 to education;
2. Add \$4,000 BMAP;
3. Additional \$11,000 Beaver Program;
4. Add additional \$1,000 Sickle Cell;
5. VA Local Match Transportation \$22,000;
6. Check on Cape Fire Assembly; **and**
7. \$10,000 ROPE.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:59 P.M., Chairman Burroughs stated the Budget Workshop was closed.

APPROVED:

JUNE B. HALL, Clerk to Board

TRENT BURROUGHS, Chairman