

**MINUTES
DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET HEARINGS
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113
THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2006
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Deb Schorr, Chair
Bernie Heier
Ray Stevens

Commissioners Absent: Larry Hudkins
Bob Workman

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Melissa Koci, County Clerk's Office

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF BUDGET HEARING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2006

This item was held.

2 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None were stated.

County Clerk (602)

Present were County Clerk, Bruce Medcalf; Chief Deputy County Clerk, Trish Owen; and Tim Genuchi, Accounting Manager.

Genuchi indicated there was an overall increase of 1.04% and there were no significant changes to the budget. He indicated \$800,000 was put into the Board of Equalization budget for the protests and there were monies put into the same fund for the temporary positions. He said there may be some additional costs at the end of the protest process.

Intensive Supervision Probation (675)

Kroeker indicated Steve Rowoldt is requesting more space because they are getting additional employees and they will also have some construction costs to come from the Building Fund. Kroeker suggested having Intensive Supervision Probation come in and visit the Board.

County Treasurer (603)

Present were County Treasurer, Richard Nuernberger; and Terry Adams, Deputy County Treasurer.

Adams indicated \$300,000 can be added to the revenue portion of the budget due to an increase in interest.

Nuernberger noted the Motor Vehicle Department may need to replace an air conditioner because it has been having problems at least once a month.

Kroeker suggested Nuernberger speak with Killeen about the replacement of the air conditioner. He also asked the County Treasurer to look into the amounts the 2 retirees will be paid out to make sure they have enough in their budget to pay them out this year.

County Assessor (605)

Present were Scott Gaines, Chief Administrative Deputy; and Rob Ogden, Chief Field Deputy.

Gaines indicated there is a decrease in Information Services costs because of the new Orion software and revenue has also gone down because there are less filings. He said there is an increase in office supplies because of in-house printing costs, copying of the door flyers, toner and paper.

Gaines noted they recently were informed about an employee retiring and will hire someone at a considerably lower rate of pay.

Stevens asked about temporary salaries.

Gaines said they are continuing to utilize the temporary staff until all of the information is entered into the new database. He said once the information is entered into the system, the temporary salaries will go away, except for the college intern students that still works on a temporary basis.

Kroeker indicated they budgeted 86% of the projected revenue from the previous years.

The Board agreed to reduce the memberships and subscriptions category.

Schorr asked about the number of FTE's.

Gaines said they are looking at how to restructure the staff with the vacant positions at the level the employees exited, except for the appraiser.

Stevens asked about the status of the joint City/County GIS Program Manager position.

Ogden indicated the position is being advertised at this time. The \$16,000 that is to be contributed by the Assessor is in next years budget.

GIS/County Engineer (615, 703)

Present were Don Thomas, County Engineer; and Jim Langtry, GIS Manager.

Langtry distributed documentation regarding the GIS budget (Exhibit A) and indicated he is requesting an upgrade on the GPS Equipment in the amount of \$80,538. Also included in the budget is \$16,000 for the joint City/County GIS Program Manager.

Thomas distributed documentation regarding the County Engineer's budget (Exhibit B) and indicated only a 1.94% increase in the budget. He also noted there are 2 employees that are retiring early and he will not replace one of the positions.

Property Management (066)

Present was Don Killeen, Building Administrator.

Killeen distributed documentation regarding the *Revenue/Rent Breakdown* (Exhibit C). He said the utilities at the Mental Health Center and Juvenile Detention Center have increased considerably and it's possible there may be a design flaw and how it is regulating the temperatures. Killeen briefly went over the capital improvement projects and also noted liability insurance has increased because of the Mental Health Center vehicles and the pro rata share that had not been allocated.

Records Management (648)

Present was Brian Pillard, Records Manager.

Pillard distributed documentation regarding upgrading the Kofax Ascent Capture software and cost comparison of renewing the Kofax Software License Maintenance agreement (Exhibit D). He said there were no other significant changes to his budget.

The Board and Pillard agreed that Option 2 is a better package because it is renewable until September 30, 2007 and it is cheaper.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to request the Budget & Fiscal Officer to take the \$6,808 out of the microcomputer fund for this fiscal year for the Kofax Software Maintenance agreement. Schorr, Stevens and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

Sheriff (651)

Present were Terry Wagner, County Sheriff, and William Jarrett, Chief Deputy Sheriff.

Wagner briefly discussed the increases in Personnel Services, Motor Fuels and Capital Improvement Projects. He said he budgeted \$60,000 for Mobile Radios and \$35,000 for the Mobile Data Project including the Mobile Data Terminals.

The Board and Kroeker agreed that Mobile Data Terminals should have its own line item and should not go under radios since it is on-going.

Jarrett indicated they will need another car because one was recently wrecked in Omaha.

County Attorney (652)

Present were Gary Lacey, County Attorney; and Eileen LeGrande, Administrator.

LeGrande indicated they have one attorney that is retiring which will require a pay out of \$56,074 and other miscellaneous fees and services have increased because of more printing costs. LeGrande also noted in the Capital Outlay they are asking for three new credenzas for a few Attorney's that are running out of space.

Lacey indicated he needs another Attorney now to help out with the misdemeanor cases because the current Attorney is handling at least 500 cases and is working about 70 hours a week. He believes the County Attorney's Office shouldn't be handling the bad check program, which may cause some problems with Diversion Services who gets paid monthly for the program. Lacey said he would like to see bad check writing be a crime.

Eagan reported other states have different models on the collection of bad checks and the County Attorney is not the collection agency. He said maybe some Legislation can be drawn up so that the County Attorney doesn't have to handle the bad checks, but it would take a couple of years.

Lacey noted the amount of money the County Attorney's Office receives for child support will be decreasing 66% over a period of years because of the Homeland Security and War Against Terror.

Lacey also reported his office has been having a problem with the way the District Court docket is managed ever since they went to the "country" docket. He said a few of the Judges believe more than one attorney should handle sexual assault cases, rather than just one attorney.

Agricultural Society

Present were Ron Snover, President of the Agricultural Society; Wayne Venter, Managing Director of the Lancaster Event Center; and Wayne Heyen, Treasurer for the Agricultural Society.

Snover distributed documentation regarding the Fair and Event Center's budget (Exhibit E) and indicated they are predicting \$186,586 for tax receipts for this year.

Eagan said the Ag Society is not getting the maximum levy because the budget lid only allows them to go up so much.

Stevens noted he would support changing the State Legislation to get the maximum levy.

Snover indicated the Event Center showed a profit and the Fair showed a loss. He said they are asking for \$109,000 for capital projects for 2006/2007, but it might be amended if Phase II starts, which has not been budgeted.

Stevens asked the Agricultural Society to provide the Board with a copy of their financial statements.

The budget meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Patricia Owen
Chief Deputy County Clerk