

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL BUDGET WORK SESSION MEETING  
117 DICK STREET, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR, ROOM 118  
JUNE 13, 2011, 5:30 PM  
MINUTES

PRESENT: Commissioner Kenneth Edge, Chairman  
Commissioner Marshall Faircloth, Vice-Chairman  
Commissioner Jeannette Council  
Commissioner Charles Evans  
Commissioner Billy King  
Commissioner Ed Melvin  
James Martin, County Manager  
Amy Cannon, Deputy County Manager  
James Lawson, Assistant County Manager  
Rick Moorefield, County Attorney  
Howard Abner, Assistant Finance Director  
Kelly Autry, Accountant  
Bob Tucker, Accountant  
Todd Hathaway, Finance Department  
Howard Lloyd, Sheriff's Office/Budget  
Sally Shutt, Communication and Strategic Initiatives Manager  
Candice H. White, Deputy Clerk to the Board  
Kellie Beam, Deputy Clerk to the Board (In Training)  
Marie Colgan, Clerk to the Board  
Press

ABSENT: Commissioner Jimmy Keefe

Chairman Edge called the work session meeting to order and advised that Commissioner Keefe will not be able to attend this meeting nor the public hearing meeting tomorrow night.

Chairman Edge called on the County Attorney to present information on an item of unfinished business from the June 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. County Attorney Moorefield advised the architect's contract for the Detention Center was pulled from the June 6<sup>th</sup> agenda because the final contract document was not completed at that time. The county attorney further advised that he had received the latest proposal from the architect only last Friday and he had still not completed a final draft. County Attorney Moorefield requested it be presented for consideration after the public hearing on Tuesday night during the work session.

County Manager Martin reviewed several sections of the proposed budget, beginning with the Capital Outlay section breaking down the requested amounts as compared to the manager's recommendation.

Capital Outlay

Court Facilities	Recommends \$57,000 of the \$57,000 requested.
Tax Administration	No recommendation for funding the \$175,000 requested.
Public Buildings Other	Recommends \$150,000 of the \$150,000 requested.
Library	No recommendation for the \$279,783 requested.
Stadium Maintenance	Recommends \$60,000 of the \$60,000 requested.

County Manager Martin noted he will be proposing a way to fund the Library request through using funds from the Western Regional Library (multi-year capital projects).

Recreation and Parks	Recommends \$35,000 of the \$35,000 requested.
Civic Center	Recommends \$19,000 of the \$15,000 requested.
Solid Waste	Recommends \$131,000 of the \$131,000 requested

Total requests were \$906,783, with \$267,000 recommended from county funding and another \$185,000 from other funding.

New Vehicles

Sheriff's Office	Recommends \$409,500 of the \$409,500 requested
Social Services	Recommends \$117,239 of the \$117,239 requested.
Solid Waste	Recommends \$27,500 of the \$27,500 requested.

Amy Cannon advised the Social Services vans are not mini vans as listed in the proposed budget, they are full size vans.

Commissioner Evans questioned why the Sheriff's office is requesting 15 vehicles, and County Manager Martin explained these were vehicles that had the highest number of miles. The County tries to replace vehicles each year as needed. Howard Lloyd added that the Sheriff's office actually has more vehicles with high mileage, but due to the budget restraints, they did not ask for more than 15 to be replaced. County Manager Martin advised that in past years, they have tried to replace as many as 40 or 50 in a year. Chairman Edge confirmed that the vehicles being pulled go into surplus through GovDeals and the monies are placed back in the General Fund.

New Positions

Finance Office	Recommends \$28,968 of the \$28,968 requested.
Sheriff's Office	No recommendation for the \$50,844 requested.
Health Department	Recommends \$99,897 of the \$166,501 requested.
Social Services	Recommends \$85,353 of the \$85,353 requested (\$27,317 county; \$57,536 other).

County Manager Martin advised he understands that the Sherriff's office is presenting a request for reallocating an existing funded position to free up a slot for the Paralegal II position which was requested so he did not recommend budgeting that position. Commissioner Evans questioned how many people in the Sheriff's Office are considered double-dipping because they

have retired and went back to work and Mr. Lloyd advised there are approximately six that are working 19 hours a week.

County Manager Martin advised that under the Health Department, he did not recommend funding a Processing Assistant II position in the Child Health Clinic or the Processing Assistant III in the Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic. Commissioner King questioned if the Health Department requested more nurses as they are greatly understaffed, especially in the schools, but County Manager Martin stated no request had been made. Mr. Martin informed the members that the schools do reimburse the county for some school nurses, but not all. Mr. Martin commended the Department Heads for their restraint in terms of requests this year and for their sensitivity to the county's financial position.

#### Multi-Year Capital Projects

FY2011 Current projects budgeted at \$120,797,128; with the FY2012 proposed at \$121,925,155. James Martin, County Manager, explained to members that the projects shown in the proposed budget remain in the multi-year capital projects budget until the project is completed and ultimately closed out. Mr. Martin noted the funds in the Western Regional Library for FY2012 are the ones which he believes can be used to fund the Library request mentioned earlier. Mr. Martin also noted that an additional \$344,229 may be needed for the Landfill Construction which is proposed at \$655,771. It was noted that only two projects, the Landfill Construction and the Detention Facility Expansion, extend through FY 2013 and FY 2014.

Mr. Martin advised three potential estimated future projects as shown include the "former" Health Department renovations in the amount of \$13,500,000; the Pamalee Branch Library construction in the amount of \$7,542,992; and County Schools construction needs in the amount of \$118,348,900 for a total of \$139,391,892. Mr. Martin responded to Commissioner Evans' question regarding the status of the "former" Health Department stating the school system has looked at the building and the hospital has looked at the first floor, but there has been no final resolution from either organization. Commissioner Evans confirmed with Mr. Martin that should the school purchase the building, the renovations would be their responsibility as well as payment of some amount for the transfer of the building. Mr. Martin also reminded members that the funds that management had designated for the renovations of the "former" Health Department building have been basically targeted for the pay-as-you go jail project.

Chairman Edge welcomed and recognized Patrice Roesler, the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners' (NCACC) Deputy Director. Chairman Edge also welcomed and recognized Kellie Beam, the new Deputy Clerk who is in training.

County Manager Martin presented a handout listing items that have come to light thus far since the proposed budget was presented to the Board.

Fund Balance Appropriated-One Time:       \$4,050,258

Fund Balance Appropriated-Recurring:       \$4,730,269

Current Recommended Budget – before adjustments: \$291,406.154

Manager's Adjustments:

General Personnel Changes	(\$18,542)
General Operating Changes	887
Mid-Carolina	(\$ 6,156)
Library MotherRead	(\$146,142) with a state offset of the same amount
Library Raising A Reader	101,593 with a state offset of the same amount

County Manager Martin provided explanations for the above changes, stating that some of these numbers will continue to change until the budget is adopted. Mr. Martin requested the members approve his recommended adjustments.

Commissioner Adjustments (recurring):

Ft. Bragg Regional Alliance	\$ 20,500
Register of Deeds	\$ 7,500
Library-RFID	\$200,000
Dogwood Festival	\$ 3,100

Commissioner Adjustments (one-time request):

Spring Lake Chamber	\$ 35,000
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County Manager Martin reminded members the Spring Lake Chamber had made an appeal to the Board last year for \$35,000, which was approved as a one-time funding, and he has included the same amount under Commissioner Adjustments since it has been requested again.

County Manager Martin stated funds are in the Western Regional Library that can be allocated for the Library-RFID request. It was agreed that this request is a one-time expense, not recurring.

After discussion on the request from the Register of Deeds, it was agreed for the recurring to be listed as \$5,000 and \$2,500 to be moved to one-time requests.

County Manager Martin confirmed for Chairman Edge that the amounts proposed could be accommodated. Commissioner Evans voiced his concern regarding the Dogwood Festival request of \$3,100 stating that all citizens are not getting a fair because the festival only caters to a certain segment of the community. Commissioner Evans met with both Carrie King of the Dogwood Festival and their sponsor, but was told by the sponsor that they did not have any say in the groups booked and had actually sponsored a different group during the same weekend at a different venue. After further discussion, members agreed to withhold the funding at this time, revisit it after more information is obtained, and to have Ms. King explore the possibility of receiving funding from the TDA and/or the Arts Council. The consensus of the members was to remove the Dogwood Festival from the requested adjustments.

Commissioner King questioned the County Manager about the possibility of a pay raise for the employees. County Manager Martin stated he has been looking into it and the only areas they have looked at is the reallocation of some of the recommended expense items or finding some revenue accounts that can be tweaked. Deputy County Manager Cannon advised that the staff have looked at the revenue projections and they do not feel comfortable with increasing any revenue projections; therefore, the redirection of expenditures would be the only way to go. Discussion ensued regarding pay raises or a one-time payment to employees. Chairman Edge stated he believes that all Commissioners are in favor of doing something for the employees and expounded on areas in which employees of Cumberland County are better off compared to other counties; such as, no furloughs or layoffs. Chairman Edge praised the County Manager and his staff for their conservatism that has kept the county sound. Discussion ensued on how to find monies for pay raises and the County Manager was instructed to bring back a proposal on what to do for employees, if possible, at the June 14<sup>th</sup> work session.

MOTION: Commissioner Council moved to adjourn.

SECOND: Commissioner Melvin

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Approved with/without revision:

Respectfully submitted,

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Marie Colgan  
Clerk to the Board