

**BUDGET WORK SESSION
JUNE 4, 2012**

The Pender County Board of Commissioners met in Budget Work Session with County Departments on Monday, June 4, 2012 at the Pender County Public Assembly Room, 805 South Walker Street, Burgaw, North Carolina.

Chairman Brown called the Work Session to order at 1:00 p.m. In attendance were: All Board members; County Manager/Clerk to the Board Mickey Duvall; Finance Officer Butch Watson; Deputy Clerk to the Board Glenda Pridgen; other staff and members of the Press and public.

Board members discussed and asked questions of each department.

The following departments reported:

ITS

ITS Director Erik Harvey was present. Discussion included: Requests for new positions-one position funded by Health and DSS combined, and Tech position funded by Utilities; new and updated equipment; ration of staff versus number of computers; going live with Board meetings; archiving; 5-year Strategic Plan. Mr. Harvey said he had been State certified as a Chief Information Officer, wants to be reclassified to reflect that, and deserves a salary increase.

Tourism

Tourism Director Monique Baker was present. Dr. Duvall explained the reductions he had made in Tourism's line items. Discussion included: TDA Funds; all money left over at end of the year rolls over to reserve fund; room occupancy tax; and reproduction of County maps.

Veterans Services

Veterans Services Officer Roy Horne was present. Discussion included: Needs more put back into training; has to maintain state and national accreditation by attending all required training and testing; lots of younger Vets coming, mostly Viet Nam Vets; and lots coming in with mental health issues.

Utilities

Utilities Director Michael Mack presented updates on the following: Rocky Point/Topsail W&S District-Water; Rocky Point/Topsail W&S District-Sewer; Maple Hill W&S District-Water; Maple Hill W&S District-Sewer (they are now doing final testing and are sixty days from having the Maple Hill sewer system on line); a rate increase of 32 cents per thousand gallons of water used is proposed for both the Rocky Point Topsail Water System and the Scotts Hill W&S District; the Water Treatment Facility is within weeks of startup; discussion of positions at the facility; and Solid Waste Management with no rate increase proposed. Mr. Tate said he would like for Mr. Mack to research setting up a tire trailer and a small electronics bin at the Willard Convenience Center.

Emergency Management & EMS

Emergency Management Director Tom Collins and EMS Director Woody Sullivan were present.

Emergency Management discussion included: A vehicle was cut; phone bills gone up because there are more phones at EOC than old building; trying to keep fuel costs down; put in for ½ position; now share ½

with EMS; contracted services; Delta Alert updated; FEMA reimbursement; fire fatality this year; comp time; and trying to go paperless.

Mr. Sullivan said his budget basically remains the same and he is not asking for any additional funding. He distributed handouts and said all the things he promised to do have been done.

Mr. Ward made remarks concerning Mr. Sullivan remaining within his budget for the two years he has been on the Board, and asked why fire departments can't do the same. Mr. Ward asked what we can do to help fire departments. There ensued a discussion of fire departments, including what would happen if one went out of business. Mr. Collins reminded the Board that Cape Fear Council of Governments is putting together a Master Plan for all the fire departments.

Planning

Planning Director Kyle Breuer and Planner Dee Turner were present. Discussion included: 23% increase in permits since last year; reduction in supplies and training-find middle ground; needs training for certifications; tuition reimbursement; permitting software; capital for the three parks-\$10,000 year for each; and money used that doesn't come from PARTF grant.

Mr. Tate spoke concerning parks and recreation in western Pender County.

Mr. Brown spoke concerning Parks and Recreation becoming its own entity again.

Housing

Housing Director Judy Herring said basically, there were no changes in her budget, and USDA approved a rent increase. Mr. Tate commended Ms. Herring for her work in Housing.

Library

Library Director Mike Taylor distributed a handout. Mr. Taylor spoke concerning State funding, saying they have to have a threshold level of funding in their budget in order for the State to give them funds. Mr. Tate commended Mr. Taylor for acquiring the Herring Collection.

Because of time constraints, the remaining departments did not report.

Human Resources, Finance, County Manager, Board of Commissioners, County Attorney

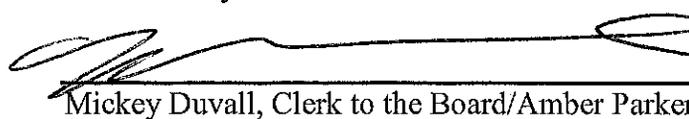
The Budget Work Session recessed at 4:10 p.m. This is the last Budget Work Session for the FY 2012-2013 Budget. Formal adoption of the Budget will be June 18, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,



Glenda Pridgen, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By:



Mickey Duvall, Clerk to the Board/Amber Parker, Human Resources Director