

BUDGET WORK SESSION
MAY 6, 2013

The Pender County Board of Commissioners met in Budget Work Session with County Departments on Monday, May 6, 2013 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.

Dr. Duvall gave highlights of the overall budget, including: The proposed General Fund budget is \$51,559,963; Fund Balance is estimated at 28.32%; tax rate remains at 0.5120 per \$100; and collection rate of 96.00% is recommended this year based on the previous year audited collection rate of 96.59%.

Each Department explained their various requests and needs for increases in Employees, Salary/Benefits, Operating and Capital. Dr. Duvall demonstrated and explained each line item for each department. The Board held discussion and asked questions after each department's presentation.

The following departments reported:

DSS – Director Reta Shiver and Accounting Specialist Jackie Jordan-McLeod. Discussion included: Universal Worker; Child Support Program; NC Fast Program; serving clients in a timely manner; unfunded mandates; reimbursements for Foster Care; State cuts; additional positions request; and findings of the Auditor. Dr. Shiver explained the numbers she is presenting were sent from the State and the reason she is requesting increases is because of State Mandates. Dr. Shiver also explained that with respect to Child Support, the DNA testing fee and Civil receiving fee may be passed down to counties. Mr. Brown requested Dr. Shiver get information to the Board on this new law.

Health Department – Director Carolyn Moser, Accounting Specialist Donna Ramos and PHN Director Shirley Steele. Discussion included: Training line item; Environmental Health Staff training; Registered Nurses; new federal food and lodging laws; billing issues; number of clients; WIC Program; and plans to increase Animal Shelter fees. Ms. Moser explained the increases requested in this year's budget are based on State figures and that over the years, State and Federal trickle down more funding responsibilities to the local level. Discussion ensued concerning the Animal Shelter. Ms. Moser said we seriously need a Shelter Manager. Discussion ensued concerning \$6,000 a year compensation for Ms. Moser assuming supervision of the Animal Shelter. Mr. Tate asked how they derived at \$6,000 and said he thought we were going to look at other counties and compare with them. He said we need to follow guidelines and policies. Dr. Duvall requested Human Resources Director Denise Mulhollen to follow-up with other counties in the state to make certain Mrs. Moser's increase regarding her assuming supervision of the Animal Shelter was not out-of-line. Mr. Ward was concerned that adding a Shelter Manager would mean even more cost to the County.

Sheriff's Office/Jail – Sheriff Carson Smith, Administrative Assistant Annette Applewhite and Public Safety IT Director Bruce Sandy. Discussion included: IT needs; Animal Control; School Resource Officer; Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT); and the Sheriff's Administrative Assistant position. Mr. Sandy explained the needs for additional computer support at the Sheriff's Office, noting he has been the only computer person there for years, and that with changing technology, they have a need for additional staff. The Board gave a nod for the following for the Sheriff's Department: Add \$43,641.62 to fund a Deputy Sheriff GREAT; add \$43,862.56 to fund a Technical Support Specialist; and add \$3,975.72 to reclassify Administrative Assistant to Administrative Assistant II. Dr. Duvall indicated we could pull this increased funding from the Sheriff's Jail Budget 510030 Contract Detention (Line Item 404517), and Medical Expense (Line Item 404600). Dr. Duvall further indicated that if these line items needed extra funds in FY 13/14, we could pull from the 999 General Fund Contingency.

Cooperative Extension – Extension Agent Mark Seitz. Mr. Seitz explained his requests for increases. No increases were affirmed by the Board of commissioners.

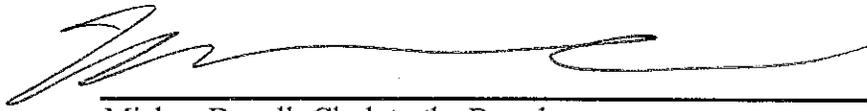
The Budget Work Session recessed at 4:09 p.m. and the Board went into its regular meeting. The next Work Session is scheduled for May 20, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Glenda Pridgen, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By:



Mickey Duvall, Clerk to the Board