

BUDGET WORK SESSION
MAY 20, 2013

The Pender County Board of Commissioners met in Budget Work Session with County Departments on Monday, May 20, 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: Chairman George Brown; Vice Chairman Fred McCoy; Commissioners Chester Ward and David Williams; County Manager/Clerk to the Board Mickey Duvall; Finance Officer Butch Watson; Human Resource Director Denise Mulhollen; Deputy Clerk to the Board Glenda Pridgen; other staff and members of the Press and public.

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:

Planning and Community Development – Director Kyle Breuer and Parks and Recreation Planner Dee Turner. Discussion included: Building permits; building and construction; focus on training Building Inspectors, ie. from Level 1 to Level 2; continuing education required for inspectors; training line item; potential infrastructure improvements to improve permitting software; personnel, including employees retiring; and use of credit card to accept payments. Mr. Brown asked if Planning pays for their advertising and Mr. Breuer responded no, it comes out of the County Manager's line items. Dr. Duvall spoke concerning separating Parks and Recreation from Planning. His comments included: We want to develop a strategy for Parks; he left the grounds workers under Public Works; Ms. Turner will concentrate on park design, and look at where there is a need for new parks in the County; and Ms. Turner will report directly to him. Ms. Mulhollen explained the new grade, classification, duties, and salary increase. She explained it is a supervisor position versus a director and she does not recommend the top pay grade because Ms. Turner will not have people reporting to her. Dr. Duvall said Ms. Turner needs to focus on the Parks Master Plan and her Advisory Board instead of having to worry about grounds maintenance. In response to Mr. Ward, Mr. Breuer and IT Director Erik Harvey explained software needs in more detail, particularly permitting software for Planning, Environmental Health, and Utilities. Mr. Breuer noted fees may have to be increased in order to make software improvements.

Public Buildings/Vehicle Maintenance – Utilities Director Michael Mack and Administrative Officer Pat Simmons. Discussion included: **Public Buildings**-maintenance, repairs, reroofing, HVAC & paving; **Mosquito Control**-chicken flocks testing and mosquito borne diseases, larviciding, mosquito spraying schedules, Mosquito Awareness Week, and getting mosquito control information out to the public; **Vehicle Maintenance**-4 Wheel Drive vehicles, Sheriff's vehicles, Dodge Chargers replacing Crown Vics, and replacement vehicles; **Parks & Grounds Division**-Parks guys keeping parks and other areas in great shape, and Pender Memorial Park greatly improved. Mr. Ward thanked Mr. Mack and Ms. Simmons for holding the vehicle auction.

Register of Deeds – Due to illness, Register of Deeds Faye Prevatte was not in attendance. Dr. Duvall said he had gone over Ms. Prevatte’s budget with her, it came in pretty much flat, and she agreed to what they came up with.

Clerk of Court – Clerk of Court Robert Kilroy. Mr. Kilroy said he can now save the County \$500 a month because he left Time Warner and the IT Department hooked them up to wireless. Other improvements included: New sidewalks; repainted gazebo; roof repaired; landscaping; back entrance repaired; Courthouse Annex painted; DA’s Office; Jury Room; and Judge’s chambers. Mr. Kilroy said the Board should thank Jimmy Basden (husband of former Clerk of Court Frances Basden) for portraits he donated. He thanked the Board for the new air conditioning and said he can’t say enough to praise Pender County Maintenance. Mr. Kilroy said the next project will be to wash windows, and said having a Bailiff present in the Courthouse really helps. He also spoke concerning filming on the Courthouse Square.

ITS – Director Erik Harvey. Discussion included: New technology; live videos; training; network upgrades; staff working on number of projects; key positions in the department; cameras at the Animal Shelter; and Courthouse and York House technology improvements.

Tax Assessor – Tax Assessor Tony Masiero. Dr. Duvall said he is recommending adding one full-time Appraiser. Mr. Masiero explained they currently have one full-time appraiser and one part-time one that comes in on Mondays and some week-ends. Mr. Masiero also said their software is out-of-date, but it is not good to change programs between revaluations.

Tax Collector – Due to illness, Tax Collector Barbara Murray was not present. Dr. Duvall said Ms. Murray can be added to the June 3 Work Session.

Pender County School Board – Schools Superintendent Dr. Terri Cobb, Finance Officer Betsy Chestnutt, Board of Education members Karen Rouse and Tom Roper, and other staff. Dr. Cobb distributed handouts, delivered a PowerPoint presentation and explained each topic. The presentation was entitled “2013-2014 Pender County Board of Education Local Budget Request” and included: A letter from Chairman Karen Rouse; a letter from Dr. Cobb; Student Learning Overview; North Carolina End-of-Grade Tests; Components of the ABCs at the K-8 Level; More Background on the WEB; No Child Left Behind Act; Components of the ABCs at the High School Level; North Carolina End-of-Course Tests; Common Core State Standards and Essential Standards; Achievement Results 2011-2012; Comparison of Student Achievement; Average Daily Membership; Budget Priorities; Budget Assumptions; Comparison of Per Pupil Funding; Combined State and Federal Reductions/What’s Next; Position Reduction/Impact of State/Federal Reductions; Local Budget Request; Local Funding and Student Enrollment Current Expense & Capital Outlay Improvement; Local - Current Expense - Personnel; Current Expense - Operations/Maintenance; Capital Improvement 2013-14 Category 1 Projects; Capital 2013-2014 Category II; Capital Improvement 2013-2014 Category III Purchase of Vehicles; Capital Outlay and Bonds; Local Teacher Supplements; 2012-2013 Local Funding; Increase for Enrollment; Increase for Inflation; Increase for Instructional Program (JROTC); Increase for Staff Supplements; and 2013-2014 Local Funding Request. The Schools are requesting \$14,187,170 in Current Expense and \$1,132,977 in Capital Improvement, for a total of \$15,320,147. The entire presentation is on file with the permanent records in the Clerk to the Board’s Office. There was discussion and questions by Board of Commissioner members during

and after the presentation. Discussion included: Dropout rate, graduation rate, staggered bus times, School Resource Officers, ADM, shifting purchasing buses from state to local, charter schools, cameras on buses, talk with legislators, and salary rates set by government. Mr. Williams noted the School Board and the Board of Commissioners always strive to appreciate each other's roles.

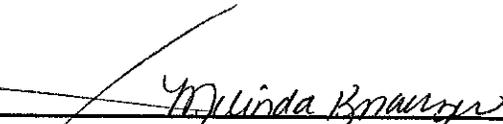
The Budget Work Session recessed at 4:05 p.m. and the Board went into its regular meeting. The next Work Session is scheduled for June 3, 2013 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Glenda Pridgen, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By:

Mickey Duvall, Clerk to the Board/Melinda Knoerzer, Deputy Clerk to the Board