

BUDGET WORK SESSION

JUNE 4, 2015

The Pender County Board of Commissioners met in Budget Work Session with County Departments on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at the Pender County Public Assembly Room, 805 S. Walker Street, Burgaw, North Carolina.

In attendance were: Chairman David Williams; Vice-Chairman George Brown; Commissioners Fred McCoy, David Piepmeyer, and Demetrice Keith; Randell Woodruff, County Manager and Clerk to the Board; Melissa Pedersen, Deputy Clerk to the Board; Sylvia Blinson, Interim Finance Director; and Denise Mulhollen, Human Resources Director.

Chairman Williams called the Work Session to order at 4:07 p.m.

Each Department Manager was available to answer questions that they Board may have. Mr. Woodruff had provided advance copies of the Department Budgets as presented.

The following Departments reported:

Governing Body – At 4:19, Mr. Woodruff discussed the Governing Body's Budget budget. He stated that he has moved some dues from their budget to Non-Departmental such as the School of Government and the Cape Fear Council of Governments because he felt that the benefits of these organizations are shared throughout the county departments. Mr. Woodruff also stated that the funding for the Lobbyist contract is under Contracted Services. Commissioners requested that the \$10,000.00 for Group Insurance be removed since no Board Member participates in the County's Group Insurance Plan.

Mr. Woodruff stated that the County has been contacted by the Atkinson Library regarding funding in this budget. Ms. Blinson stated that the County has not provided funds to the Atkinson Library during the last two years and that they are requesting \$5,000.00 for FY 2015-16 as well as \$5,000.00 in arrears. After some brief discussion, the board gave a nod to approve \$5,000.00 in funding for the Atkinson Library under Outside Agencies. Mr. Piepmeyer asked that staff remind them of deadlines to submit budget requests.

County Manager – At 4:19, Mr. Woodruff discussed the County Manager Department budget. He discussed the changes relating them to the change in personnel during this past fiscal year. Mr. Woodruff also mentioned the request for an Assistant County Manager. Discussion took place regarding the vacant Finance Director's position. Mr. Williams asked staff to focus on the Finance Director Position and table the position of Assistant County Manager until FY 2016-17. Discussion also ensued regarding recruitment. After much discussion, the Board gave a nod for staff to proceed with Springstead for the Recruitment of a qualified Finance Director.

Human Resources – At 4:28, Ms. Mulhollen discussed the Human Resources budget. Ms. Mulhollen stated that the biggest change was in the Contracted Services. This addition is for assistance with the revision of the Personnel Manual from the School of Government for \$4,500.00. Subscriptions were also discussed. Ms. Mulhollen stated that under subscriptions is where certifications are budgeted for.

The tax rate was also discussed at length regarding the school bonds. After some lengthy discussion regarding the distribution of bonds, the Board asked that Mr. Woodruff set up a meeting with Ms. Keith, a few school board members, and Dr. Cobb to get information on the projects.

At 5:17 discussion ensued regarding all of the reclassifications that were requested as well as those that were recommended by the County Manager.

The Board requested an additional Budget Work Session. After brief discussion, the board decided to hold the next Budget Work Session after the Regular 4:00 p.m. meeting on Monday, June 8, 2015.

County Attorney – At 5:31, Mr. Woodruff introduced the County Attorney Budget stating that it is the same from the previous year. After taking a moment for reviewing the County Attorney Budget, Board Members stated that they had no questions on this department's budget. The Board stated that they value Mr. Thurman's work as the County Attorney.

Before adjourning, there was brief discussion regarding the 1.5% COLA that was recommended in the budget. Mr. Woodruff stated that a 1.5% increase equals \$265,000.00 per year. Mr. Woodruff recommended to the Board that the COLA stay in the budget.

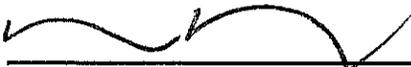
The Budget Work Session adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Melissa Pedersen, Deputy Clerk to the Board

Reviewed By:



Randell Woodruff, Clerk to the Board