

TERM OF COMMISSION: October Session of the August Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Hearing Room One, Boone County Courthouse

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Don Stamper
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Linda Vogt
Deputy County Clerk Michelle Malaby
Auditor and Chief Budget Officer June Pitchford

The budget hearing was called to order at 3:34 p.m. Budget hearing minutes consist of discussion not addressed in budget narratives and spreadsheets, copies of which are on file in the office of the Boone County Clerk.

Ms. Pitchford stated this year, departments were asked to present core and supplemental budgets.

SUBJECT: Medical Examiner (Organization 1280)

Ms. Pitchford noted the budget contains substantive changes and is treated as a whole, rather than core and supplemental budgets.

Jay Dix, M.D. presented the request. Dr. Dix stated when he began as Medical Examiner in 1980, it was under a fee for service system. For example, the pathologist fee for an autopsy was \$250. At least 60 autopsies will be performed this year. Other counties charge approximately \$500 per autopsy. Doubling the professional fee over fifteen years is fairly reasonable. He added \$10,000 for his services as Medical Examiner and for the provision of 24-hour coverage by a pathologist. The other significant increase is for toxicology services. It is not appropriate for University of Missouri lab to subsidize the County. Almost every case needs some type of drug screening for a variety of legal reasons. Next year he will request a significant increase for investigators. They are on call 24-hours a day.

In response to a question from Commissioner Stamper, Dr. Dix replied if the toxicology services increase is approved, he may have the lab use a set fee for each drug screen, regardless of type.

Subject: Treasurer (Organization 1140)

Treasurer Kay Murray stated she lowered the amount budgeted for overnight interest. A change in law will require the overnight market to be broken out to all funds.

Turning to mail services, Ms. Pitchford stated personnel, postage machine maintenance and administrative costs are in the Treasurer's budget. Postage is in the non-departmental budget.

Ms. Murray noted postage is also included in the Assessor and IV-D Program budgets. They receive State reimbursement.

In response to questions, Ms. Murray replied the mail clerk does not perform other work for her office. The position is budgeted at 1,350 hours per year. The position does not require a lot of direct supervision. A supervisor is needed to secure compliance from departments.

Commissioner Stamper commented it could be placed under purchasing.

Ms. Pitchford stated it could be combined with a central copy center.

SUBJECT: Self Health Administration (Organization 6051)

Ms. Murray noted the Health Trust Committee recommends a \$4.00 premium increase. The deductible and Prescription Card Service co-payment may also change.

In response to a question from Ms. Pitchford, Ms. Murray replied the Health Trust Committee does not anticipate providing employee assistance programs until 1996.

SUBJECT: George Spencer Trust (Organization 7530)

Ms. Murray stated the projected amount of interest has been increased.

SUBJECT: Union Cemetery (Organization 7540)

Ms. Murray stated the projected amount of interest has been increased slightly.

Ms. Pitchford stated previously Public Works requested bids on mowing services. Will that function be assumed by the Facilities Maintenance Division?

The Commission replied yes.

SUBJECT: County Commission Administration (Organization 1123)

County Commission Administrative Coordinator Rebecca Jackson assisted Commissioner Stamper with the presentation of the Commission budget.

Ms. Pitchford stated not considering the large amount budgeted in 1994 for the long range planning consultant, this budget has increased fifteen percent in classes 2 through 8. However, the entire increase is attributable to the increase in the mileage line item, which includes reimbursement for 31,000 miles.

Commissioner Vogt asked what is the source for the mileage estimate?

Ms. Jackson replied they used historical data of reimbursement to those claiming mileage.

Commissioner Miller stated she needs a pager.

Ms. Jackson replied service costs \$9.94 per month. The pager costs \$160. It may be possible to purchase the pager in 1994.

Ms. Pitchford stated since the mileage budget is presented in this manner, she assumes it represents the consensus of the Commission.

Commissioner Stamper replied it reflects consensus to date. There has not been a public discussion of alternatives.

Commissioner Vogt stated she looks forward to that discussion.

The Commission agreed to discuss the issue at a future date during a lull period, after further review of documentation previously provided by the Auditor.

Commissioner Vogt asked where should funds for a long range planning survey be included? She estimates the cost at \$7,000.

The Commission agreed the amount should be added to the Planning Department's supplemental request. In light of his absence, Ms. Jackson will draft an outline of the supplemental request.

Turning to the supplemental request, Ms. Pitchford asked would the County Commission recruit the proposed purchasing coordinator as it did the human resources coordinator?

Commissioner Stamper replied it has not been debated. A current employee could be upgraded to that position or a job description could be developed and posted. He believes Ms. Jackson should be designated as purchasing coordinator.

SUBJECT: County Association Dues (Organization 1122)

Ms. Pitchford noted budget guidelines stated this budget would be used to pay travel costs for elected officials representing the County on issues apart from those pertaining only to their office.

Commissioner Stamper stated the Commission's intent was to include funds for two officeholders to attend the NACO annual conference and one to attend the NACO legislative conference.

Those present agreed the amount included in the budget may be inadequate.

SUBJECT: Auditor (Organization 1110)

Ms. Pitchford reviewed the budget narrative.

SUBJECT: Non-departmental (Organization 1190)

Ms. Pitchford reviewed the budget narrative.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Attest:

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Linda Vogt
District II Commissioner

June Pitchford
County Auditor