

TERM OF COMMISSION: November Session of the November Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Hearing Room One, Boone County Courthouse

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Don Stamper at 1:30 p.m.
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Linda Vogt at 1:12 p.m.
Deputy County Clerk Michelle Malaby
Auditor and Chief Budget Officer June Pitchford

The budget hearing was called to order at 1:10 p.m. Budget hearing minutes consist of discussion not outlined in budget narratives and spreadsheets, copies of which are available for inspection in the office of the County Clerk.

Ms. Pitchford noted hearings are scheduled only for outside entities who request additional funds.

SUBJECT: Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District

Suzie Forbis and Scott Crumpecker presented the budget request. An extensive narrative had been provided.

The Soil and Water Conservation District's role in subdivision site reviews was discussed.

Mr. Crumpecker stated most of their funding comes from the State. There has been no increase in three years. Some additional support was provided to urban counties. Boone County is not considered an urban county.

Ms. Pitchford asked is the request for increased funding for ongoing needs or a short term need.

Mr. Crumpecker replied he feels the increase represents ongoing needs.

In response to a question from Ms. Pitchford as to how other counties fund soil and water conservation services, Mr. Crumpecker replied most counties are more agriculturally oriented than Boone County. In St. Charles, the county funds two employees. They are an exception. Most of the remaining counties in Missouri provide a lump sum for services. Some counties provide no support due to a lack of resources. St. Louis County recently stopped supporting their District. The State was petitioned for support, which they provided for one year. Their future is uncertain. They had to reduce their staff.

User fees and alternative forms of funding were discussed.

SUBJECT: Boone County Historical Society

Boone County Historical Society President and former County Commissioner Don Sanders introduced Finance Chairman Jim Givens; Boardmember Helen Wulff; immediate past Finance Chairman Cletus Baurichter; and 1st Vice-President Tony Lampe.

Mr. Sanders reviewed the narrative provided. Mr. Sanders stated they are soliciting corporate memberships at a cost ranging from \$50 to \$500. A newspaper advertisement will be published listing corporate members.

SUBJECT: Boone County University Extension Council

Chairman Bob McConnell, Boardmember Marie Pasley, and County Program Director Don Day were present.

Mr. McConnell stated funds have been included in the budget to contract for an audit. A panel of people who do not have the necessary professional skills prepared the audit in the past.

In response to a question from Commissioner Stamper, Mr. Day replied the State funds professional staff salaries, training, some equipment, about half their computer equipment and technical support.

Mr. McConnell noted funds are not included for equipment replacement or storage. That will have to be addressed in the future.

SUBJECT: Community Services Advisory Council and Office of Community Services

Chair of the Community Services Advisory Commission Dianne Miller; Director of the Office of Community Services Phil Steinhaus; Boardmember Richard Clark; and Boardmember Kevin Collins, both who represent the County, were present.

Ms. Miller made opening remarks.

Commissioner Stamper asked is the Ann Carlson Emergency Food Pantry the only food pantry which is funded?

Mr. Steinhaus replied yes, they are the only food pantry which requested funding.

Mr. Clark stated all entities who requested funding are listed in the narrative under County Funding Recommendations for FY95 (Fiscal Year 1995).

In response to a question from Commissioner Stamper, Mr. Steinhaus replied the City of Columbia provided funding directly to day care centers until they had a problem. They now have contracts with fourteen child care vendors which are administered by the Division of Family Services. In the County, all child care services are funded directly through Harrisburg Preschool and Day Care. They have made improvements by expanding their facility. They have strong community support. There are a great number of low income single parents in the area.

In response to a question from Commissioner Vogt, Ms. Miller replied funding is recommended for the Life Training Institute, for two very tasteful commercials encouraging teenagers to abstain from sex. The CSAC felt it is a good educational tool to help prevent teen pregnancy and transmission of AIDS.

Commissioner Vogt asked is better than the Teen-to-Teen Theater?

Ms. Miller replied it is not necessarily better, but a different avenue is used to reach a lot of people who would not necessarily attend or be involved in Teen-to-Teen Theater.

Commissioner Miller stated it is her understanding Dawn to Dusk declined the \$1,000 CSAC recommended be allocated to them for non-emergency medical transportation.

Mr. Clark replied CSAC recommends the funds be given to the Boone County Council on Aging for voluntary and support services. They provide the same service.

Commissioner Stamper stated it appears the City of Columbia provided \$8,500 for Reality House. It is recommended the County provide \$14,400. Has the City of Columbia decreased its funding?

Mr. Steinhaus replied no, the City maintains that Reality House serves mostly County clients.

Commissioner Stamper stated he served on the board at one time. It appeared that they support a lot of out of county residents.

Mr. Clark commented Reality House provides documentation as to where their clients live.

Ms. Pitchford commented Reality House bills the Department of Corrections for out of county residents.

At the request of Commissioner Stamper, Mr. Steinhaus reviewed additional documentation provided to the Commission on City and County funding levels for the Office of Community Services. In the past, the County indicated it would provide 15 percent support of the Office with the City providing 85 percent.

Commissioner Miller commented this is another budget on which the County has no input on expenses, but is expected to provide funding.

Mr. Steinhaus stated his purpose in providing the additional information was to discuss it so the County Commission could decide how it wants to handle the budget. The Office provides support for City and County services. In many instances the services are very interrelated. He views his job as serving the community. He is not asking the County to lock into providing a certain percentage each year. The funding placed in his budget by the City for the needs assessment is not considered in the amount requested.

Ms. Pitchford stated there was some anticipation in the agreement included in the additional information that the County would review the amount provided annually.

Commissioner Stamper stated the Commission is developing heartburn over budgets which are promulgated and adopted without input from the Commission. The Health Department and Joint Communications budgets are probably better examples of that than this budget. Before the budget is solidified next year, the Commission would request a memo be submitted outlining differences from this year's budget.

Mr. Steinhaus stated CSAC used 5 percent as the level of increase in funding. It was not until the last meeting that County Commission Administrative Coordinator Beckie Jackson advised the County set the amount at 3 percent. The difference amounted to about \$2,000. CSAC decided to discuss it with the Commission.

Commissioner Vogt asked how can the County Commission make itself clear? The approach has been to have Ms. Jackson attend CSAC meetings. Ms. Jackson indicated CSAC would like more written direction. The Commission met with CSAC earlier this year and discussed the 1995 funding approach.

Richard Clark agreed the difference in the City and County budget cycles creates problems. It is helpful to have Ms. Jackson attend meetings. When CSAC met with Commissioner Miller and Commissioner Vogt earlier this year, they did not know what the guidelines for funding increases would be. Needs continue to increase and are not close to being met. The goal has been to secure the most services for the money.

Commissioner Stamper stated the system was designed to exempt political bodies from the funding decisions, with the exception of determining the total amount provided. The County Commission either needs to be uninvolved or very involved. He personally objects to some of the funding decisions.

In closing, Mr. Steinhaus suggested better communication between his office and the County Commission would help ensure he addresses needs the County wants addressed.

At Commissioner Stamper's instigation, funding of food pantries was discussed.

Mr. Clark suggested the Commission meet with CSAC just prior to final funding recommendations being made.

Mr. Steinhaus suggested a core/supplemental approach be used instead.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 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
Auditor