

TERM OF COMMISSION: December Session of the November Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center  
Commission Chambers

PRESENT WERE: District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller  
District II Commissioner Skip Elkin  
Deputy County Clerk Shawna Victor

The budget hearing was called to order at 3:36 p.m. by Commissioner Miller.

**Budget Hearing: Department 1420 (Social Services)**

Phil Steinhaus, Sarah Coats, Scott Cristal, and Lisa Scribner, were present on behalf of this budget hearing.

Lisa Scribner, 3605 Teakwood Drive, Columbia, Chair of the Community Services Advisory Commission, stated the Community Services Advisory Commission received request for almost \$200,000 in County funding for 28 programs. The CSAC recommended funding for 18 of those programs, with one new program for 2003.

Services for Independent Living Transportation is a program for transportation services for the elderly and disabled. Mrs. Scribner stated the CSAC did allocate new funding for this program for 2003.

Two programs received decreases in funding. Resource Mother's Program was incorporated into Advent's mentoring program. CSAC had previously recommended County funding for this program of \$1,000. The CSAC has tried to incorporate the amount of funding for programs where there was the most use of the program, for example the CSAC would recommend more City funds for a program that is used primarily by City residents and more County funds for a program that is used primarily by County residents. CSAC recommends no County funding for the Resource Mother's Program.

CSAC originally recommended zero County funding for Boys and Girls Town of Missouri but this agency did appeal to the CSAC. They explained to the CSAC that they find it important to have funding from the City and the County when they seek support from other sources. This amount was changed to \$1,000.

There is also a request for an increase for the Phoenix Programs Residential Detox Program. This is a substance abuse treatment program. Treatment programs are a vital service to the community and a service that is not met very well. This is the only publicly funded program in Boone County. Their waiting list is three weeks long and they are trying to expand their services in order to get people into treatment and keep them out of

jail.

Sarah Coats, 4400 Old Barkley Ridge Road, Columbia, stated a two percent increase in funding for Social Service programs in Boone County, the amount would only be a \$2,400 increase over 2002 funding. A three percent increase would only be \$1,150 more than the 2% increase in funding. The programs they have requested for a 2% increase are Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Phoenix Programs, Rainbow House, and Voluntary Action Center. Mid-Missouri Legal Services is the program they are requesting a 3% increase in funding for.

She noted these increases are very small compared to other budgets the County handles. If the Commission can decrease a few other budgets by a few hundred dollars each, these funds could be used for Social Service programs.

Mrs. Coats stated there have been a lot of State budget cuts that have affected Social Service Programs which affect local programs. There have been no increases for this budget for many years and since the State has made major cuts, she requested the County look at other budgets for additional funds that can be used by the Social Services programs.

Scott Cristal, 10650 West Kings Lane, Rocheport, Vice Chair of the Community Services Advisory Commission, requested the Commission to look at this budget as an investment. These programs are used as prevention. The little bit of additional funding they are requesting can make a big difference.

Commissioner Miller asked if Big Brothers/Big Sisters received \$2,000 in 2002. Mrs. Scribner stated that is correct. They did recommend an increase of \$1,000 for this program for 2003.

Commissioner Miller noted the County is looking at a Mental Health Court program and primary prevention and recovery is a significant part of what will make the Court successful.

Commissioner Miller noted this is a tight budget year and will do what they can to fund the additional requests.

Mrs. Coats stated they represent a group that is unable to speak for themselves.

There was discussion about how the State budget cuts are affecting local programs.

Commissioner Miller stated the Child Advocacy Center budget is funds received from the State.

Phil Steinhaus, City of Columbia Office of Community Services, stated the reason for the

Big Brothers/Big Sisters funding increase request is because this program received a large cut in federal funding. This program has also expanded into the County.

Commissioner-Elect Schnarre asked how much the City of Columbia contributes to these programs. Mrs. Scribner stated the City's contribution is approximately \$1 million.

Mr. Steinhaus stated the County also gives support to the Office of Community Services and his request for an additional \$500 was included in the proposed budget by the Auditor.

There was no public comment on this budget.

There was no further discussion on this budget.

The budget hearing was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Attest:

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Don Stamper  
Presiding Commissioner

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Wendy S. Noren  
Clerk of the County Commission

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Karen M. Miller  
District I Commissioner

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Skip Elkin  
District II Commissioner