

The Banks County Board of Commissioner held a work session/meeting on June 4, 2007 at 8:00 am, in the conference room of the Banks County Courthouse. Present were Chairman Gene Hart, Commissioner Joe Barefoot and Commissioner Rickey Cain. Also present were Jenni Gailey County Clerk, Angela Sheppard Administrative Officer and Randy Failyer Financial Officer.

Call to Order

Comm. Cain called the meeting to order.

Disability Voluntary Insurance

Ms. Gailey Stated that in order to cover paid employees from VFIS for disability it is \$233 and from Standard Life Insurance it is \$133 a month. Ms. Gailey and Ms. Greer recommend that the County go with the Standard Life Insurance Policy. Only full-time employees will only get the full-time disability.

Ms. Greer stated that she thought part-time and volunteers should get VFIS disability insurance. **(ASK)**

FY2008 Budget

Emergency Communications

Comm. Cain recommended making the power shift one employee and that would take off \$30,800, to take away \$50,000 for the redundant repeater and \$125,000 grant match. This would make the total budget \$825,138.

Ms. Moore stated that the 911 Administrative Server is old and slowly crashing. Mr. Burris stated that the equipment has been running 24/7 for nine years and recommended that E911 purchase a Dell Power Edge with 2GB RAM and a single large hard drive and a tape back up device. The commissioners stated that this was O.K. to move the funds around in this year's budget. Comm. Barefoot made am motion to approve the purchase of the server at the cost of \$2,661.45. Comm. Cain seconded. All aye votes and motion passed.

Governing Body

Travel and education is up because the finance officer will be getting his certification Salary increases are proposed at 3.5%. The proposal is to leave the governing body as it is at \$355,739.

Registrars

No changes were made to the Registrar's Office budget.

Water Dept Purchases

a. Sealed Bid Waiver

The sealed bid waiver is for all items.

b. Utility Truck

Mr. Reece stated that Water Distribution needs to replace the F-550 because it has 250,000 miles and needs a new motor and transmission. The quote from Jacky Jones Ford is \$45,900 and Akins Ford is \$46,500. The price includes the utility bed installed on the truck. Mr. Reece stated that there is enough money in FY 2007 infrastructure line to purchase the truck. Mr. Cain asked Mr. Reece how much it would cost to repair the truck. Mr. Reece stated that it would cost around \$13,000 and that was just for the motor and turbo. Mr. Thomas stated that he didn't think it would last another year. He stated that they have to put in 2 quarts of oil a day and the truck will not go into four wheel drive.

c. Admin Truck

Mr. Reece wants to purchase a truck for admin. He is proposing the truck be moved to the water plant. They will be using it to go to check tanks and other various duties. Commissioners want Mr. Reece to check on a four door Ford F-150.

d. Bush Hog – 2 Mowers

Mr. Reece stated one mower was for the water plant and one was for sewer treatment. Ch. Hart stated that you couldn't use a tractor and bush hog with the new spray field. Mr. Reece stated that the water

plant was taking over the grass cutting for the water tanks. Ch. Hart stated they wouldn't make a decision until they had checked further into what would be best for the new spray fields

Technology

Ms. Sheppard stated that Mr. Burris is getting a lot of calls during off time due to emergency communications going down. Part of what the assistant would do is to make up time where Mr. Burris doesn't have to be on call 24 hours. Ms. Sheppard is proposing to increase Mr. Burris to the midpoint salary range because of his qualifications and expertise. The commissioner decided to take the blackberry request out of the budget. Comm. Barefoot suggested giving Mr. Burris the increase and use a consultant when he is unavailable. Ch. Hart stated that he thought that would be mistake taking an additional employee away especially when we get the new buildings. Mr. Burris stated that he had 55 hrs overtime for the four day week last week. The main need for the overtime is the GCIC computers for the sheriff department and E911. Mr. Burris states that he hoped the problems with the states computers would soon be resolved.

Human Resources

Ch. Hart is proposing putting Ms. Greer to her midpoint which is \$33,000.

Tax Commissioner

Make legal fees \$2,000. Ms. Ausburn is adding a part-time employee that Ms. Ausburn and Tim Harper is going to use for scanning documents and the salary would be included in the Tax Commissioner's budget..

Tax Assessors

Proposing one new appraiser but Ch. Hart stated that last year he hired an additional employee in order to be a clerk that could do the job of an appraiser part-time. The commissioner's stated that they were taking out the new position since the clerk should be able to do the job of the appraiser part-time and since there would be a new position there was no need for a new computer. **(Postponed)**

Courthouse

Mr. Barefoot wants to take out \$5,000 in legal fees and that would bring it down to \$90,000. Comm. Cain wanted the office to call around and check out prices of attorneys. Building Maintenance came down because of the renovations that will be going on.

Superior Court

Ch. Hart stated the County would be partially funding a community based risk program for the juvenile court services. The cost to the County would be 14% which would be \$5,000 the commissioners cut jury script down to \$25,000. Total budget for superior court is \$257,555.

Clerk of Superior Court

The technical line item cost is for making the court computer system user friendly for the judges when they make orders.

District Attorney

The district attorney is budgeting \$1,000 in capital in case a computer goes down and the commissioners are making the District Attorney's supplement \$3,000 since there is going to be a new District Attorney.

Magistrate Court

Ch. Hart asked if the commissioners wanted to pay for Henry Banks Chief Magistrate Judge to go to training. Comm. Cain wanted to make the computers to \$1500 instead of \$3,000.. This amount takes out one computer. In general supplies and materials take out \$2,000 for miscellaneous court supplies since you we don't know if the money is going to be needed.

Probate Court

The technical line item is for testing voting machines.

Probation

There were no changes in the budget.

Jail Operations

Only add two jailors instead of four. Sheriff Chapman said he couldn't make it with just one.

Sheriff

Sheriff Chapman said he was adding one investigator, one school resource officer and two additional deputies. The school will reimburse the County \$75,000 for all three officers.

Make technical \$2500 for the computer support for the patrol cars.

Vehicle leasing includes one more existing lease payment and a new lease payment of an additional eight equipped patrol cars.

Make the gasoline line item \$140,000 because we don't know what gas is going to do.

Coroner

No changes were made to the budget request.

Recycling

No changes were made to the budget request.

Public Health

Public Health had sent a letter decreasing their budget by \$5,000. They were requesting a \$17,000 vehicle and the remainder was to replace their fund balance. Comm. Cain suggested taking the vehicle out and this will make the request \$88,000.

Public Welfare

They are asking for an increase of \$700.

Extension Service

They are requesting \$6,000 for carpet. The extension service wants to make Gina Gailey a full-time 4-H agent for Banks County and increase the amount of Haley Crumley's salary. Comm. Cain said that he didn't have a problem with making Gina Gailey a full-time 4-H Agent. Ch. Hart stated only give Ms. Crumley a 3% raise just like the rest of the employees. Comm. Barefoot stated that he couldn't see getting a new truck for the agent to drive. The commissioner cut travel back to \$5,500.

Senior Center

6.94% increase over last year.

Public Transportation

Public Transportation will be adding a new van. The budget is up 9.4% in which part is coming back to the County from a grant.

Recreation

The commissioners stated they were not going to fund new ball fields.

Historic Buildings

Ch. Hart stated that he didn't think that we should budget for the bridge since the bridge is not the County's property yet. Ch. Hart wanted to leave the budget the same as it was last year which was \$15,200.

Library

Comm. Barefoot stated that the library's main concern is for safety. The commissioners wanted to give them \$85,600 plus the membership dues for the Piedmont Regional Library and this would be able to give them another part-time employee.

Building Inspection

Ch. Hart stated that he wanted to make 27,046 for program assistant and make department head 50,000.

Thompson Street Turn Lane – Charles Sullivan Construction

Comm. Barefoot stated that he would like to make it policy to not have verbal agreements and change orders should be done in meetings. Ch. Hart stated that he had a problem paying an additional \$260,000 for Thompson Street when the bid was for \$1,389,000. Ch. Hart stated that he was going to meet with the DOT about the quantities used on Thompson Street to ensure we were being billed for the correct amount.

DOT Capital Improvement Contract – Mobile Radio – \$20 county portion

Comm. Cain made a motion to approve the DOT Capital contract in the amount of \$20. Comm. Barefoot seconded. Two aye votes and motion passed.

Change in Form of Government

Senator Nancy Schafer and Representative Jeanette Jamieson were present to talk to the commissioners about the change in the form of government. Comm. Barefoot stated that he would like to change the form of government from a three member board to a five member board. Representative Jeannette Jamieson stated that it would not come up in the house until 2008. Ms. Jamieson said it would not be able to happen until 2009. Ms. Jamieson said she would introduce the legislation. Ms. Jamieson recommended that the commissioners wait until the census was done in 2010 to better identify where the pockets of population are and this would be an election for the new members. Ms. Jameson said that a county administrator does not need to be a part of the referendum question. Ms. Jameison said the first step is for the commissioners to come up with there plan and then she could let the justice department look at it. Comm. Barefoot stated that they needed to have a work session and invite the public on how the wording should be.

Brent and Mary Greenwood - Family Fun Center

They have purchased the 84 Lumber building. They are marketing a Family Fun Center that would have Go Karts, Miniature Golf, Laser Tag, etc. They stated that they were not going to be able to attend the regular commissioners meeting so they wanted to come and talk to the commissioners personally.

Adjournment

Commissioner Barefoot made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Cain seconded. Two aye votes and the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk
