

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held a budget work session on May 6, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex. Present were Chairman Milton Dalton, Vice Chairman Joe Barefoot, Commissioner Rickey Cain, Commissioner Ernest Rogers and Commissioner Charles Turk.

1. Call to Order

Ch. Dalton called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda

Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to approve the agenda. Comm. Turk seconded. All aye votes and the agenda was approved.

3. FY2011 Budget

32260-JAIL

Mr. Failyer stated there were no increases in salaries.

Insurance and benefits remained the same.

Comm. Cain stated that if the County was going to continue to contribute to the Defined Benefit Plan then the 401A Plan that is currently froze should start again. Comm. Rogers stated he wanted Ms. Greer to check with the attorney on the Defined Benefit Plan but didn't want to make a decision on unfreezing the 401A Plan until he knew where the budget would stand. He said he would like to make a minimum contribution of 1.5%.

33000-SHERIFF

Mr. Failyer stated there were no increases in salaries.

Insurance and benefits remained the same.

The budget included three clerks, six investigators and twenty-one deputies. In the past the school had reimbursed the County for two resource officers but no one knows if they are going to be able to do that this year.

Comm. Rogers asked Sheriff Chapman if gasoline could be cut to \$108,000 since the trend was \$109,000. Sheriff Chapman stated he was short three deputies during the hiring freeze and now he was fully staffed so he needed \$140,000. Commissioners thought he could go with \$135,000 and if the need arose they could amend the budget.

Sheriff Chapman stated he turned in a budget that was as lean as it could be. He understood we were in tough times.

35000-FIRE

Mr. Failyer stated there were no increases in salaries.

Insurance and benefits remained the same.

522201-Fire Chief Jeff Taylor stated communication equipment was for new pagers because the current pagers are tearing up.

522205-Mr. Failyer stated vehicle maintenance trend is \$31,000 and requested was \$35,000. Comm. Turk stated if needed more could amend the budget. Mr. Failyer stated if you amend an expense you have to adjust the revenue. Comm. Rogers thought he would leave it as is now and see where the bottom line is.

522211-Chief Taylor stated next year they would need to buy some hand tools for the trucks.

523240-Chief Taylor said they are certified and do pump testing themselves. He said every other year testing is due.

523700-Chief Taylor said the training officer is now part-time. He would like to purchase training software.

523800-Chief Taylor said ambulance license would be \$10,500 and some other licenses would be \$1,500. Mr. Failyer stated you could make the line item \$12,000.

531100-Mr. Failyer stated supplies were broken out this year into supplies, drugs and medical supplies.

531270-Mr. Failyer stated gasoline could possibly go to \$55,000.

542400-Chief Taylor said this was for internet at two stations that didn't have internet currently.

Mr. Failyer said the fire department didn't budget anything for grants this year.

37000-CORONER

Mr. Failyer stated the budget was based on cost.

Coroner Bobby Eubanks stated the assistant and himself had to have training this year.

Mr. Eubanks stated they needed internet connection because death certificates had to be filed on line now.

42000-ROADS

522202-Mr. Failyer stated the road department would have to replace the tires on the motor grader this year.

522320-Mr. Failyer stated if we buy out the lease agreement it would cost \$385,000. Comm. Turk asked if Mr. Andrews could do with one motor grader. The lease on new equipment would be \$270,000 for four years. Mr. Andrews stated he could do with one motor grader but it would be hard. Mr. Failyer stated if only one motor grader was included it would bring the lease down to \$212,000. Vice Ch. stated he wanted to replace the dump truck. Ch. Dalton said he had someone looking for a used spreader truck. Mr. Andrews stated that he would like to not replace the rubber tire loader and keep the motor grader and upgrade to a larger size backhoe. Comm. Cain stated that Mr. Andrews had been doing this job for forty years and should know what he needs.

531270-Decrease fuel by \$5,000.

43300-WASTEWATER

Comm. Rogers asked Utilities Director Steve Reece if he could rotate to avoid overtime. Mr. Reece stated you had to have a certified operator on site. Mr. Reece stated the reason for overtime was there is no automatic bar screen at the racetrack pump station and they have to man the bar screen.

522214-Mr. Reece requested a new aerator that would cut down on the chemical cost. This would eliminate duck weed which they were written up for because of the levels of duck weed in the pond. Mr. Reece also said they didn't have a back up pump. Comm. Rogers stated that he could buy a back up pump out of this year. Vice Ch. Barefoot wanted Mr. Reece to get some hard numbers on exactly how much an aerator would cost.

522215-Mr. Reece said that the two employees in wastewater are not capable of doing the repairs. He said in the past there have been clogged manholes and collapsed roads and this amount is to hire a contractor is needed.

523700-Mr. Reece stated they had to keep up hours of training.

44100-WATERADMIN

521200-Mr. Reece stated in the past this has covered consulting and engineering for dam work. Mr. Reece stated when EPD did the inspection on the dam they found some cracks. Comm. Rogers and Vice Ch. Barefoot stated they wanted to monitor the dam instead of doing any repairs.

44200-WATERPLANT

521200-521202-Mr. Reece stated this was calibrations that were required for all equipment and this year there would be additional calibrations because of the clear well.

522212-Mr. Reece stated this if for erosion control for the ponds.

531102-Mr. Reece stated the clear well will make an impact on chemicals.

531230-This includes three new pumps for the clear well.

542500-This includes a new generator for the clear well.

44400-WATER DISTRIBUTION

522201-Mr. Reece stated this was for a camera and security for the shop because it has gotten broken into so many times.

532320-Mr. Reece stated that Robin Thomas has requested to go up one size on the mini excavator because when they hit rock it is just not enough. They have to leave the site and go get a backhoe. Comm. Rogers wanted to know how many hours the mini cat had on it. Mr. Reece would get the hours. Mr. Reece stated that Mr. Thomas had suggested to not by back the mini excavator from Yancey Bros and look into other brands of equipment that are better.

531101-Mr. Reece stated they had twelve new meters in the shop. He said on average they put in four to five meters per month. Comm. Rogers asked Mr. Reece to put the meters that were on the shelf for six months back in service. This line item will be \$15,000.

531102-Mr. Reece stated they were no longer capable of boring because the compressor broke and it would cost \$15,000 to \$20,000 to replace. This amount is to hire a contractor to bore when installing a meter that is across the road from the waterline.

531103-Mr. Reece stated they only keep what is needed on hand. Commissioners stated make this amount \$75,000.

531105-This amount normally comes out of general supplies so move the amount to general supplies and do away with office expense.

541300-Mr. Reece stated this budget item was for moving to the old road department. Mr. Reece stated this includes a new roof, moving the heating and air unit, installing a bathroom with a lift station and making an office area. Comm. Rogers wanted Mr. Reece to get another estimate for replacing the metal roof.

4. Adjournment

Vice Ch. Barefoot made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Comm. Rogers seconded. All aye votes and the meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.

Chairman

Assistant County Clerk
