

Columbia County Finance Committee

MINUTES

September 25, 2006

PRESENT: Chair John H. Tramburg, Supervisors Debra L. H. Wopat, Susan Martin, and Robert L. Hamele

ALSO PRESENT: County Board Chair Harlan Baumgartner, Lois Schepp, Mary Saunders, Helen Wruck, Judiciary Committee Chair Richard Boockmeier, Joseph Ruf III, Susan Raimer, Marc Playman, Jane Kohlwey, Joan Maxwell, Pat Beghin, Sheriff Rowe, Darrell Kuhl, Mike Babcock, Supervisor Sarah Lloyd, Dennis Richards, Supervisor Barry Pufahl, and Dave Knapp

EXCUSED: Supervisor Robert R. Westby

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. and was legally noticed and published.

BUDGET HEARINGS

BUDGET NO. 93 CHILD SUPPORT

Corp. Counsel/HR Director Joseph Ruf III, Judiciary Committee Chair Richard Boockmeier, Child Support Administrator Mary Saunders, and Deputy Child Support Administrator Helen Wruck joined the meeting to review the budget request.

Performance measures, increasing caseloads and the corresponding effect on the Court Commissioner's schedule, and interstate reciprocity were discussed.

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Hamele, Budget No. 93 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$222,866

BUDGET NO. 89 HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL

Ruf provided a recap of the budget request and discussed upcoming projects and other issues/activities in the department.

In correlation with the ever-present budget/levy constraints, the Committee expressed frustration with increasing costs of health insurance and binding arbitration.

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BUDGET NO. 89

HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL, continued

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Martin, Budget No. 89 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$272,055

BUDGET NO. 90

UNEMPLOYMENT CONTROL

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Hamele, Budget No. 90 was approved.

No County Appropriation

BUDGET NO. 91

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PAYOUT POOL

The budget was reviewed.

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 91 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$60,000

BUDGET NO. 92

SAFETY & OSHA COMPLIANCE

Ruf explained that this budget provides for defibrillators, CPR training, safety training/workshops, and batteries.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Wopat, Budget No. 92 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$12,600

BUDGET NO. 94

CORPORATION COUNSEL

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Martin, Budget No. 94 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$145,021

BUDGET NO. 95

COURT COMMISSIONER

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Hamele, Budget No. 95 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$51,120

BUDGET NO. 96

CLERK OF COURTS

Clerk of Courts Susan Raimer joined the meeting to present her budget request. Department goals and objectives were reviewed.

Collection methods, duplication of forms/services, updated procedure manuals to enable other clerks in the office to fill in when someone is away from their desk, and including additional information on the jury website were all examined.

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Martin, Budget No. 96 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$156,195

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Requested outlay was reviewed. Raimer noted that the videoconferencing equipment cost might be offset by a grant and CCAP. The equipment would alleviate transportation costs for hearings from other locations and provide a training venue for clerks and bailiffs.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Hamele, requested outlay was approved.

Total Outlay: \$20,000

BUDGET NO. 97

MEDICAL EXAMINER

Coroner Marc Playman provided a recap of his budget request, noting that he was constantly trying to increase revenues, encourage other counties to utilize our facilities, and update department equipment and efficiencies.

Discussion continued regarding training costs and potential overnight stays, electronic death certificates, and morgue and other fees.

BUDGET NO. 97

MEDICAL EXAMINER, continued

PERSONNEL

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Wopat, the amount paid to the Chief Deputy Medical Examiner was increased from \$12,000 to \$15,000 with the intention that this amount be continued in 2008.

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 97 was approved as amended.

Line Item 511000 – Wages was increased to \$70,933

Line Item 512000 – Fringe Benefits was increased to \$14,399

Total Amended County Appropriation: \$57,448

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Playman noted that the request for a mobile data computer would better coordinate his department's tasks with the Sheriff's Department, allowing for easier site location through the mapping feature, less time for dispatch services, and lower cell phone usage.

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Martin, requested outlay was approved.

Total Outlay: \$3,946

BUDGET NO. 98

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

The Committee reviewed the budget request, with District Attorney Jane Kohlwey present to respond to any questions or concerns.

PERSONNEL REQUEST

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Martin, the request to increase the legal assistant hours from 20 to 25 hours per week was approved.

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Hamele, Budget No. 98 was approved as amended.

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BUDGET NO. 98

DISTRICT ATTORNEY, continued

Line Item 511000 – Wages was increased to \$251,761

Line Item 512000 – Fringe Benefits was increased to \$148,370

Total Amended County Appropriation: \$359,598

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Requested outlay was reviewed.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Wopat, requested outlay was approved.

Total Outlay: \$27,065

BUDGET NO. 102

REGISTER IN PROBATE

Joan Maxwell, Register in Probate, was present to review her department's budget request.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Hamele, Budget No. 99 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$130,556

CAPITAL OUTLAY

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Wopat, requested outlay was approved.

Total Outlay: \$600

RECESS FOR LUNCH 12:15 – 1:15 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Emergency Management Director Pat Beghin, Sheriff Steven Rowe, Jail Captain Darrell Kuhl, Chief Deputy Mike Babcock, Supervisors Sarah Lloyd and Barry Pufahl, and both Sheriff candidates (Dennis Richards and Dave Knapp) joined the meeting at this time. Introductions were made.

BUDGET NO. 103 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The budget was reviewed. Discussion was held regarding various grants, projects and all hazard mitigation plans.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Hamele, Budget No. 103 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$23,550

CAPITAL OUTLAY

A request for a used vehicle @ \$12,000 was deferred at this time.

BUDGET NO. 104 S.A.R.A.

Discussion was held regarding the Emergency Response Plans, outreach, and funding received.

MOTION: On motion by Hamele, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 104 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$16,459

BUDGET NO. 105 HAZ-MAT PROGRAM

The budget was reviewed. Beghin noted that they continue to apply for grants in order to obtain other funding for the program.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Wopat, Budget No. 105 was approved.

No County Appropriation

BUDGET NO. 106 SHERIFF ADMINISTRATION

The Sheriff's budget was reviewed, with comments and discussion held regarding:

- Development of a part-time special deputy unit
- The Mobile Video Recording (MVR) Program and the transition to a digital format
- Accident reconstruction training

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BUDGET NO. 107 SNOWMOBILE AND WATER PATROL

The volunteer group works to promote water safety and boating laws in cooperation with the DNR and other law enforcement agencies.

MOTION: On motion by Baumgartner, second by Wopat, Budget No. 107 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$10,627

BUDGET NO. 108 COLUMBIA COUNTY DIVE TEAM

Rowe commended the dedicated members of the team.

MOTION: On motion by Wopat, second by Martin, Budget No. 108 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$12,725

BUDGET NO. 109 DRUG EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT

The budget was reviewed. It was noted that this program lost its federal funding for 2007. Discussion continued regarding:

- Funding for other counties' programs
- Buy money
- Prescription drug (methadone and oxycontin) problems in the County

The Committee stressed the importance of funding for this program.

The budget request includes outlay of \$8,250 for a Sentinel Tracker which is used to "track" where a car has been.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Hamele, Budget No. 109 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$86,100

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BUDGET NO. 110

COUNTY JAIL

The Committee thoroughly studied the budget request and all line items. Discussion was held regarding the jail, including staffing shortages, the increasing County prisoner population, and implementation of the new prisoner classification requirements.

MOTION: On motion by Hamele, second by Baumgartner, Budget No. 110 was approved.

Total County Appropriation: \$3,359,812

CAPITAL OUTLAY

The Committee reviewed the items included in the \$47,682 outlay request. The request for a \$7,226 food cutter was removed.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Hamele, the outlay request was approved as amended.

Total Outlay: \$40,456

BUDGET NO. 111

9-1-1

Budget items were discussed. Rowe noted that there had been good cooperation between departments involved with the Wireless E911 Project.

Rowe outlined other issues and projects underway in this program, including the addition of a simulcast repeater, searching for a tower location in Sauk, and the need to put in a new repeater between dispatch and the Caledonia tower to switch the current one from analog to digital technology.

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Wopat, Budget No. 111 was approved as amended.

Line Item 523400 – Land Lease Payment was increased to \$11,000

Total Amended County Appropriation: \$152,192

Rowe stated that it was a pleasure working with the Finance Committee over the past 12 years.

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ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: On motion by Martin, second by Wopat, the meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Harlan Baumgartner, County Board Chair

Cindy Devine, Recording Secretary

cc: Finance Committee
Chair Baumgartner
Lois Schepp
Joseph Ruf III
Jeanne Miller
Internet