

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN RECONVENED ITS RECESSED SESSION OF MAY 21, 2013 ON MAY 24, 2013 AT 8:30 A.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS' ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO CONDUCT A BUDGET WORK SESSION.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Scott C. Dacey
Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner Jefferey S. Taylor
Commissioner Steve Tyson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Vice Chairman Thomas F. Mark

STAFF PRESENT:

Jack B. Veit III, County Manager
Gene Hodges, Assistant County Manager – Operations/Facilities
Richard F. Hemphill, Assistant County Manager – Finance/Administration
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
Amber Parker, Human Resources Director

Review of the following lines was pending:

- Memberships
- Special Appropriations
- Banking Fees
- Early Voting Cost Analysis
- Contingency Audits
- Sheriffs written documents regarding vehicles
- Health – Preparedness Contract with Wayne County
- Mental Health
- Meals Program
- Parks and Recreation
- Planning – Land Use Review

Assistant Social Services Director, Alfreda Stout, explained how HCCBG impacts the DSS budget. Craven Aging Planning Board Chairperson, Linda LeDrew, stated that the current year reduction equals \$9,000. The FY 14 known reduction equals \$7,000, with additional pending reductions.

Ms. LeDrew reviewed with Commissioners the Craven Aging Planning Board Budget Committee process and results. Havelock and Harlowe Senior Congregate Meals Programs are not included in the budget.

The analysis of the Budget Committee showed that the Havelock site had 12 clients out of 183 who met a one impairment threshold according to eligibility priorities set by the Craven Aging Planning Board. The Harlowe site had seven out of 29 registered clients who met the threshold, while George Street and Vanceboro had 69 out of 159 and 24 out of 26 respectively.

The Chairman allotted a few minutes for Havelock representative to speak about their numbers. Dave Smith, Havelock Parks and Recreation, quoted from their annual assessment:

- 22/day clients served congregate meals on average
- 127 clients are at high risk for malnutrition
- 34 are moderate risk for malnutrition
- 36 are below poverty level.

HCCBG

Havelock requested \$33,243 plus 10% match; Harlowe requested 27,477 plus 10% match for a combined total budget request for Havelock and Harlowe congregate meals program of \$66,792, with the County to match \$6,072.

Ms. LeDrew stated that the Senior Companion Program requested a match in the amount of \$10,000; however, the match amount is reduced to \$3,418 as the result of a reduction in the grant allocation to Senior Companion Program.

The Board encouraged exploring other options to provide in congregate meals in Havelock and Harlowe, such as churches, the CarolinaEast Hospital Foundation and other non-profit organizations.

Membership Fees

ACT – It was determined that Mark Finlayson’s role would be for interlocal coordination. His dual role in ACT and Highway 17 Association produces economies of scale. The County has a vacancy to replace Harry Blott on ACT. It was the consensus of the Board to maintain membership and keep ACT in the budget.

NCABCO – Commissioners Taylor and Dacey expressed philosophical concerns with membership.

Special Appropriations

It was the consensus of the Board to fund special appropriation requests as follows:

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|-----------------------------|----------|
| • Beaver Management Program | \$ 4,000 |
| • Structured Day Reporting | \$ 7,500 |
| • Promise Place | \$20,000 |
| • Coastal Women’s Shelter | \$25,000 |
| • Senior Companion | \$ 3,418 |
| • Merci Clinic | \$25,000 |
| • RCS Homeless Shelter | \$10,000 |
| • Red Cross | \$ 5,000 |

Contingency Audits

Mr. Hemphill recommended \$30,000 instead of \$50,000 based on the last experience, to see the first group of results. It was the consensus of the Board to concur with Mr. Hemphill’s recommendation.

Economic Development

The Board was advised of the consultant’s recommendation to create a non-profit entity to manage Economic Development. This concept will be presented to the Strategic Work Group for discussion. The Wayne County Economic Developer will be invited to talk concerning their model. County Manager, Jack Veit, recommended proceeding with hiring an Economic Developer and operating a parallel plan for putting the structure in place. It was the consensus of the Board to leave the recommended budget as is.

Sheriff’s Vehicle

The department requested ten marked Dodge Chargers and two unmarked Dodge Chargers. No additional “different” vehicles are expected.

“Land Use Review” in Planning Department

This line item reflects an application fee for the plan review checklist for compliance with land use regulations.

Preparedness Contract

Language regarding access of external staff, which caused concern, has been changed. The only access is to e-mail. A formal bio-terrorism plan is the only data involved.

DSS – “Other Transportation Providers” are Executive Medical, Specialized Transportation, Right Choices Transportation, and Carolina Cab.

Recreation

Commissioner McCabe requested that the Recreation Advisory Board meeting meals be put into the budget. Regarding municipal requests for funding from Havelock and Dover, it was clarified that the County is no currently providing any supplements to municipalities.

Chairman Dacey inquired if the Parks and Recreation Board can conduct an economic development analysis to see what is the economic impact of developing more facilities of certain types. It was the consensus of the Board to ask the Tourism Development Authority to take on this task.

Rhems/West New Bern #2 Fire Department

The department wishes to reduce the fire tax rate from .041140 to .00389, rather than .03650, as was first proposed, which will generate an additional \$12,000 to apply to debt.

HCCBG

It was the consensus to follow the recommendation of the Craven Aging Planning Board.

At 11:05 a.m. Commissioner Tyson moved to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6), regarding a personnel matter, seconded by Commissioner Taylor and unanimously carried.

At 11:15 a.m. Commissioner Tyson moved to return to regular session, seconded by Commissioner Allen. The Board had nothing to report.

At 11:17 a.m. Commissioner Taylor moved to adjourn to reconvene on June 3 at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Scott C. Dacey
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board