

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
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COUNTY OF STOKES)
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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS
STOKES COUNTY GOVERNMENT
DANBURY, NORTH CAROLINA
JUNE 16, 2004

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Stokes, State of North Carolina, met for scheduled budget work session for the proposed Fiscal Year 2004/05 County Budget in the Council Chambers of the Ronald Wilson Reagan Memorial Building (Administrative Building), located in Danbury, North Carolina, on Wednesday, June 16, 2004, at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Chairman Sandy McHugh
Vice-Chairman John Turpin
Commissioner Howard Mabe
Commissioner Leon Inman
Commissioner Joe Turpin

County Manager Richard Morris
County Attorney Jonathan Jordan
Darlene Bullins, Clerk to the Board

Others in Attendance:
Finance Director Julia Edwards
Assistant Finance Director Lisa Lankford
Mr. Jack Veit - Stokes Intern

Chairman McHugh called the meeting to order.

County Attorney Jonathan Jordan delivered the invocation.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT-GOVERNING BODY-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman McHugh opened the meeting by inviting the citizens in attendance to join the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

YVEDDI

Jo Ann Larkins - Executive Director
Chris Campbell - Finance Director
Kathy Payne - Head Start Director
Pearl Clearly - YVEDDI Transportation Coordinator-Stokes
Sherlene Bailey - Board Member - Stokes County
Lelia Crowder - Board Member - Secretary

Director Larkin requested the funding allocation of \$30,401 as specified in the Budget request. The following programs are included in the funding allocation:

Legal = \$242
Administration General = \$362
Public Transportation Services = \$15,564
Head Start Program = \$6,031
Weatherization Assistance Program = \$8,202
Total Request = \$30,401

Head Start Director Kathy Payne presented information concerning the YVEDDI Head Start Program which operates 4 facilities in Stokes County. Head Start Program offers services that include medical, dental, health and nutrition, and transportation services based on the needs of each child. Ms. Payne noted that the Head Start Program requires a 20% local match or \$6,031.

Chairman McHugh requested the amount of in kind contributions that the Head Start Program in Stokes County receives each year such as donations, volunteer hours, fund raisers etc. (total value amount of the in kind contributions to be sent to the County Manager)

Finance Director Chris Campbell stated that for all the in kind contributions that is applied against Federal monies, YVEDDI has to pay a certain local cash against that in kind which is what YVEDDI is requesting.

Ms. Lelia Crowder, Board Member, commented on the excellent job being performed by YVEDDI and the need for the requested amount.

Chairman McHugh also requested the required County match for the following YVEDDI requests:

Elderly Legal Assistance = \$242
Administration General = \$362
Public Transportation Services =\$15,564
Head Start Program =\$6,031
Weatherization Assistance Program =\$8,202
Total Request = \$30,401

STOKES COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

The following members were in attendance representing Stokes County Schools:

Vice Chairman Ty Boles
Yvonne Rutledge, School Board Member
Ernest Lankford, School Board Member
Sonya Cox, School Board Member

Dr. Larry Cartner, School Superintendent
Finance Director Lynette Moore

Dr. Cartner presented information concerning the requests from the Board of Commissioners at the June 7th budget session.

Commissioner Joe Turpin requested where the additional increase of funding is being expensed?

Dr. Cartner stated the gap is not \$6 million, but only \$2.2 million. Dr. Cartner explained the difference in a handout detailing estimated/actual of state/federal. The figure last year was an estimate of state and federal funding. The handout included an estimate of increases - retirement contributions, hospitalization insurance, salaries increases, etc. Handouts also included a three-year history of funding for Stokes County and comparisons of benchmark counties similar to Stokes County. (does not include federal)

County Manager Rick Morris requested information concerning the Low Wealth Calculation Formula.

Dr. Cartner provided the Board with a handout detailing the actual Low Wealth Supplemental Funding formula which is calculated by Department Public Instruction. (DPI) Dr. Cartner reiterated the \$1.39 importance which is a three-year rolling average.

*Chairman McHugh requested the following information:
Out of the \$49 million in funding, what % goes into the Classroom for teachers, teacher benefits, supplies, etc?*

Dr. Cartner presented a handout, which details the percentage of budget that goes directly to the classroom. The handout also includes function code explanation, fiscal year 2003/04 personnel summary, employee review, number of teachers as compared to benchmark counties, number of teachers as compared to benchmark counties, number of clerical employees system wide as compared to benchmark counties, and central office benchmarks.

Chairman McHugh requested information concerning recent renovations at the

Central Office Building in Danbury, cost of renovations, cost of furniture, and funding source in current school budget.

Dr. Cartner presented a handout, which summarizes facts concerning the renovations recently completed at the Central Office totaling \$23,291.74.

(all handouts pertaining to questions will be attached to the original meetings)

County Manager Rick Morris suggested that possibly a written agreement should be completed to outline the County's responsibilities and the Board of Education's responsibilities.

Dr. Cartner reiterated the critical need for the requested additional \$380,000 in funding, which without would be possible cuts instructional, increase in combination classes, etc.

Vice Chairman Ty Boles also reiterated the need of the \$380,000 in funding.

Board Member Yvonne Rutledge noted the complicated budget with the mandatory requirements.

Board Member Ernest Lankford noted the need for funding for instructional.

Board Member Sonja Cox had no comments.

Dr. Cartner concluded that with everything earmarked to fund balance would drop the balance below \$400,000. Fund balance is used for emergencies such as a need for a specialized teacher, unexpected air conditioning problems, etc.

Veteran's Services

Veteran's Services Officer Ernest Lankford

Mr. Lankford noted the following concerning the proposed Veteran's Services Budget:

- Veteran Population slightly increased from 2003 to 2004
- Benefits for veterans and dependents remain about the same
- Annual contacts with veterans increased from 950 (2003) to 1500 (2004)
- Training for computer system continues
- Benefits income for Stokes County increase from \$4,162,000 (2003) to \$6,365,000 (2004)
- Increase of 5% for Veteran's Service Officer in proposed budget
- Increase of veterans moving into Stokes County
- Increase in medical coverage for veterans during last year
- WWII Veterans benefits decreasing with the number of Korean War and Vietnam War increasing
- Need for direct line for veteran's to be able to access veteran's office easier

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman McHugh moved to adjourn the budget work session.

Commissioner Inman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Darlene Bullins
Clerk to the Board

Sandy McHugh
Chairman