

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to approve the Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Morris seconded.

Vice Chairman Walker opened the floor for any discussion/comments/questions.

With no discussion the agenda was approved as presented with a 4-0 vote.

(Attachments presented during the meeting will be attached at the conclusion of the minutes or available upon request from the Clerk to the Board.)

Vice Chairman Walker noted that he would like to welcome those watching at home through YouTube and noted that there were no individuals in attendance at today's meeting.

Commissioner Morris noted that he would like to request that the Board discuss some potential meeting dates to be added for Budget Work Sessions at the end of today's meeting.

The Board was in favor of discussing setting additional dates for Budget Work Sessions.

Department Head Budget Discussion

Economic Development Director Will Carter presented the Board with information related to the Economic Development Budget.

Economic Development Director Will Carter commented:

- There is \$500,000.00 in the Capital Reserve fund to allow Economic Development the opportunity to go out for grant funding that may require a match, feasibility study, or other funds needed.
- This would just be setting this aside and I would still come to the Board for approval.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- How was the amount of \$500,000.00 decided on?

County Manager Oakley responded:

- Looked at other projects completed in the past and based the amount on that.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- If you are going to do a water and sewer project, you are going to typically need to contribute at least 20 percent.
- I can see using the funds for this.
- We are going to need a project that is approved and well defined.
- The grant process is a lengthy one and if we want to do something we need to get started.
- What is the \$100,000.00 in professional services for?
- If we did a feasibility study for the Wellness Center would it come from here?
- Just curious because it went from \$18,000.00 to \$100,000.00.

Economic Development Director Will Carter responded:

- The professional services are to maintain current projects with consultants and others as well as new studies to be completed.
- With the Board's permission I would like to create an Economic Development Advisory Board sometime in the next year as well.

Commissioner Morris responded:

- I think that creating a Board would be an agenda item since this would be a formal Board.

Commissioner Yontz requested clarification on the Capital Reserve Fund.

Finance Director Julia Edwards provided information on what the Capital Reserve Fund is used for to the Board.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- The Board would need to decide which capital projects they are interested in and get started due to the process being so lengthy.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- We have to start somewhere and if not things keep getting put off.

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- This needs to be moved on as quickly as possible.

Finance Director Julia Edwards noted that she did not include the Water Project in the Capital Projects due to not having any figures at the time the budget was presented.

Vice Chairman Walker extended thanks to Economic Development Will Carter for being in attendance at today's meeting and noted that the Board would reach out to him if they had further questions.

Review of Budget Goals and Commissioners Priorities

Vice Chairman Walker noted that he asked that each Commissioner be given a copy of the priorities of each Commissioner from the Goal Settings meetings held in January.

Budget Deliberations

Vice Chairman Walker opened the floor for discussion on the budget.

Commissioner Yontz commented:

- We might consider doing a 3 or 4 percent COLA in place of any reclassifications and let the salary study be completed and then see where we are.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Would like to see more on battling the Opioid Crisis included in the budget.
- Would we want department heads to have a chance to dispute their budget cuts?
- Could go with a larger COLA depending on the final budget numbers.
- Would like to see part of the COLA go towards putting a merit program in place.
- Need to get deeper into the budget process before I commit to anything.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- Agree with other Commissioners that we don't get in front of the salary study and let that do the job it is intended to do.
- On new positions, some could be the new jail and we have no choice on those.
- Would be willing to go with the larger COLA

Commissioner Yontz commented:

- In favor of looking strongly at a 4 percent COLA.
- I would not be against looking at a merit program in the future.

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- I would like to get the County Managers thought on a merit based program.

County Manager Oakley responded:

- I am not against a merit based program but it can be a difficult thing to manage.
- The County could look at increasing the matching funds with 401K as an incentive program for employees.

(Vice Chairman Walker called for a short recess at 4:58 pm)

(Vice Chairman Walker called the meeting back to order at 5:10 pm)

Commissioner Morris commented:

- On the subject of bringing the BLS back in house, I would prefer not to do the BLS at the same time as the 6th ambulance.
- Sounds like the EMS Director would rather have the 6th ambulance at this time.
- Would like to add the additional ambulance and building and run budget numbers to see what this does to the budget

Commissioner Yontz commented:

- Not saying we shouldn't do the BLS, just not at the same time as the 6th ambulance.
- I am in favor of doing what makes the most sense for EMS right now.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Looking at a way to do both.
- The sixth ambulance is not going to produce any revenue.
- Will the BLS produce enough revenue to be worth it?

- I am guessing it will never be large revenue producer.
- We are not getting the revenues for calls we could be getting right now.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- Concerned with staffing since we can't seem to keep staff now.

County Manager Oakley commented:

- The problem with EMS is keeping Paramedics and not EMT's which is what BLS requires.

Commissioner Morris presented the Board with a list of items for consideration in moving forward with the budget and noted that if the Board could begin to work through this list in the upcoming meetings they would be a lot closer to a final budget:

1. Determine if the \$1.1 Million from General Fund will be held out of the 4 Cent Fund
2. Determine what the 4 Cent Fund will be used for going forward
3. Determine the fund balance level for the school system for this budget and reporting requirements if any on how the fund balance was spent
4. Decide if an assessment of county buildings is desired and determine if the school system building should be included in the assessment
5. Determine amounts for school capital and current expense
6. Decide if COLA will be given and if so at what percentage
7. Go through equipment list attachment in the proposed budget and make decisions on equipment that will be approved in the final budget
8. Go through the personnel list attachment in the proposed budget and make decisions on recommended reclassifications, step increases and additional positions
9. Determine if a feasibility study will be approved in this budget for a wellness center
10. Review Capital Projects Fund and determine which if any projects will be funded in this budget
11. Determine if capital reserve levels are adequate for specified uses
12. Determine which if any projects recommended in the Public Buildings budget will be funded

13. Determine if water project for Meadows or other locations in the county will be approved for pursuit of grant funding
14. Determine if 5-year capital plans will be required from the county and school system for next year's budget
15. Determine if the county's fee schedule will be adjusted or remain the same
16. Determine if overtime or hourly schedules will be adjusted in any departments
17. Approve a property tax collection rate
18. Determine if an occupancy tax should be put in place for Stokes County
19. Determine if the librarians requested pay increase should be approved
20. Determine if departmental auto supplies budgets should be adjusted as a result of new vehicle lease program
21. Are any budget changes needed in anticipation of reinstating the DSS and Health Boards?
22. Are there any additional department heads that the board needs to meet with during the budget process?
23. Determine if the YMCA contract will be approved for this budget for recreational support to the county
24. Will a new policy be required to address the mortgage funding of fire department buildings constructed outside of the county boundaries?
25. Updated or new job descriptions will need to be approved by the BOCC for any approved reclassifications or additional positions in this budget
26. What is minimum acceptable General Fund balance for this budget?
27. Will property taxes be increased to support budget requirements if needed?
28. What budget actions can be taken to address the opioid issue in the county?
29. What number of SROs will be funded after further consultation with the School Superintendent and Sheriff?

After much discussion from the Board on various aspects of the budget, the Board discussed adding additional Budget Work Sessions. Vice Chairman Walker noted that the Board would meet tomorrow June 5th at 4:00 for a regular scheduled budget meeting.

Adjournment

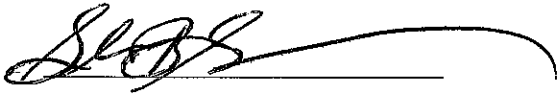
With no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chairman Walker entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to adjourn.

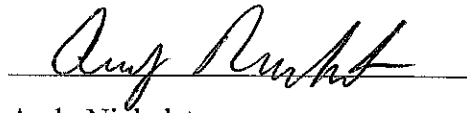
Commissioner Yontz seconded.

Vice Chairman Walker opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

With no further discussion the Budget Work Session was adjourned at 6:18 pm.



Shannon Shaver
Clerk to the Board



Andy Nickelston
Chairman

Attachments presented during the meeting

As of the 06/11/19 Board Meeting

Expenditures

Removed all reclassification and step increases except

Department	Position	Total	
Natural Resources	District Adm/Ed Specialist to Soil & Water Conservation Director	\$ 9,087.88	Increase is \$14,937.88 less \$5,850
Veteran Service	Increase hours 90 to 120 per pay period	\$ 6,689.68	
	Total	\$ 15,777.56	

New Positions

Department	Position	Total	
Administration	Human Resource Assistance	\$ 42,126.32	
Animal Control	Part Time	\$ 17,224.00	
Arts Council	Manager of the Arts Place 100% County	\$ 33,322.34	100% County
EMS	(2) Community Paramedic	\$ 104,316.80	Mental Health MOE Fund
	(6) Paramedic #6 Unit \$307,634	\$ -	Do EMS Station 20-21 staff
Finance	Finance Accounting Tech I	\$ 38,675.39	50% Finance/50% Purchasing
Forsyth Tech	Maint/Custodian/Security Supervisor	\$ 48,757.05	4 cent Fund/School/F. Tech Fund
Jail	Balliff/Transport	\$ 50,155.06	
Public Buildings	Custodian	\$ 31,873.18	
	Maintenance Tech I	\$ 36,540.11	
Register of Deeds	Deputy Register of Deeds (53.3333)	\$ 14,983.14	
Sheriff's Office	Records Clerk	\$ 42,126.32	
	Total	\$ 460,099.71	
	Total Reclassification/hours Increase and new positions	\$ 475,877.27	

4% COLA instead of 2%		\$ 607,440.00
Paying Time and half to EMS and Communications		\$ 423,350.00
Health Title XIX Fund	Using \$100,000 of this funds fund balance which reduces the transfer from General Fund	\$ 100,000.00
School/F. Tech Fund	Appropriating transfer from General Fund 2.5%	\$ 285,000.00
Capital Reserve	Economic Development Transfer cut	\$ (300,000.00)
Sheriff's Office	SRO part time	\$ 100,000.00

As of the 06/11/19 Board Meeting

Economic Development	Cut professional services	\$	(50,000.00)	
EMS	Left ambulance for #6 unit in the budget for financing	\$	260,000.00	
Solid Waste	Added roll off truck to capital-financed	\$	170,000.00	
Capital Reserve	Transfer for Public Buildings	\$	(200,000.00)	
Various Budget Adjustments in Departmental budgets				
School Current Expense	Maintain current level and add 2 Social Workers	\$	12,051,051	Last years approved budget
		\$	213,231.00	teacher supplement amendment
		\$	488,851.00	Maintain Current Operations
		\$	151,500.00	School revenue reduction
		\$	<u>128,370.00</u>	(2) Social Workers
	Less would require \$789,250 from general fund or 2.03 cents tax transfer from General Fund	\$	13,033,003.00	
School Capital Outlay		\$	1,780,000.00	
Fund Balance		\$	4,276,016.00	25.10%