

Chairman Nickelston noted that the meeting was recessed from June 11, 2019 and the Board would continue where they left off.

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

Finance Director Julia Edwards went over the changes made to the budget after the meeting on June 11th to reflect the requests of the Board.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- I would like to go through my list and where I am on certain items to help move forward.
- My position on the schools has not changed and I would like to give them the \$188,370.00 which includes 2 social workers and the extra \$60,000.00 for supplies, or however they deem necessary to use it.
- I am at \$13,093,003.00 for a total for capital.
- In support of a 4 percent COLA
- In support of the Equipment List as currently recorded from a previous meeting.
- On the Economic Development budget, I am good with the \$200,000.00 and the \$50,000.00 as presented.
- I have a new position on the 4 cent fund.
- If we are only transferring \$285,000.00, I would just as soon not put anything in and put the full amount in next year.

Commissioner Mendenhall concurred with Commissioner Morris on the transfer to the 4 cent fund.

Commissioner Morris continued:

- I am good with all of the new positions on the list except the Human Resources Assistant.
- Wellness Center -yes to a feasibility study.
- Quarter cent sales tax- In favor if we use for SRO's and other school security measures advertise for this.

Chairman Nickelston commented:

- Would also like to include in safety as far as with structures since those can be a safety issue.

Commissioner Morris continued:

- Would think we could include that.
- Just want to be sure we are specific enough that the voters understand what they are voting for exactly.
- On the topic of Fee Schedule Changes, I don't think anyone wants to change any fees at this time.
- In favor of an Occupancy Tax.
- In favor of the library increase.

- In favor of true time and half for EMS
- Would like to see the County and School system bring us a 5 year unconstrained capital plan for next year's budget
- Like to see 4 processing assistant III's reclassified into IV's in DSS since we changed them in the Health Department and not in DSS.
- 3 department heads I would like to look at are planning, arts, and elections.
- I did a comparison and these seem the most out of whack, the rest I could wait on.
- Register of Deeds vs. Sheriff- large gap- should look at since elected official - big difference in the jobs.
- In support of the YMCA Contract and amount.
- Need to tell the Fire Commissioners how we want to handle these request for financing buildings outside the county.
- I think the Commissioner pay will stay the same for this year
- Want to see us stay at a 25 percent fund balance
- Walnut cove green box site only in this budget
- Water project in meadows – good with doing that
- HVAC in this building – some beyond repair, good with this and boiler repair
- Prison demo- good with or could wait.
- Jail – replace roof at old jail

(Chairman Nickelston called for a short recess at 7:00 pm)

(Chairman Nickelston called the meeting back to order at 7:30 pm)

Commissioner Yontz concurred that he is fine with not doing a transfer this year to the 4 cent fund

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- Would rather something go in and don't want to have to double up next year.

Assistant County Manager/Clerk to the Board Shannon Shaver commented:

- You don't have to double it.
- You just need to put it in as usual next year if you elect to not put any in the fund this year.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- This is not a deal breaker for me but I would rather put something in.

The rest of the Board concurred that they were in favor of not transferring any funds to the 4 cent fund this year.

Commissioner Mendenhall commented:

- I am still saying no to a tax increase and am in favor of keeping the fund balance at 25 percent.
- I am ok with the new positions and reclassifications as discussed and updated.
- I am good with the 100 percent funding of the Arts Place Manager.
- In favor of a 5-year capital plan for the county and school buildings.
- In favor of moving forward with the water project in Meadows.
- It sounds like the majority are in favor of the YMCA Contract as of now.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I am not in support of the Y contract.
- It is not fair to anyone including the Y.
- There is no way they can provide recreation for the whole county other than King for \$120,000.00.
- I agree with Commissioner Morris on the fund balance for the school's
- I don't like the idea of not transferring any funds to the 4 cent fund.
- It makes things harder for next year when it is going to be tough coming off of a budget this large.
- In favor of a 2 percent COLA.
- Equipment list as is
- Prefer to deal with any reclassifications in the salary study
- Yes to a Feasibility Study for a Wellness Center although I would prefer to just build it
- Would like County services and citizen satisfaction included in the study
- Capital Reserve Level is adequate
- Would rather not deal with reclassifications and let the salary study make those recommendations
- Want the fund balance to stay at a minimum of 25 percent
- No property tax increase
- Would like more information on the Occupancy Tax.
- In favor of the library increase.
- Want to keep the breakdown on the tax bills to show the breakdown of how the money is distributed between schools and county
- This budget has a several cent tax increase imbedded although we are not raising the tax rate.
- The next budget will be very interesting.

Commissioner Yontz commented:

- Agree with a lot of what the other Commissioners have said.
- I am not against leaving HR Assistant in the budget and having it also be Risk Manager.
- I am ok with waiting on the demo of the old prison camp.
- Other than that I am good with everything else in the public buildings budget
- Look to each department head on changing county fees
- Would like to proceed with the occupancy tax
- Ok with the library increase
- I am good with the reclassifications in Natural Resources and Veterans.

- Also need to add the deputy back in due to the call volume increase of the Sheriff's Department
- The salary study can handle the rest in my opinion

Chairman Nickelston commented:

- Ok with list updated as is with additional \$60,000.00 for supplies or other needs in the school budget.
- Would like to let the salary study take care of reclassifications and add the deputy back in that is needed.

County Manager Oakley noted that the tax rate is .62 cents and if you divide this out as appropriated it would show:

County tax 28.8

School tax 33.2

(Chairman Nickelston called for a short recess at 8:50 pm)

(Chairman Nickelston called the meeting back to order at pm)

There was much discussion among the Board and multiple scenarios ran in order for the Board to come to an agreement.

Approval of the FY 19/20 Budget

Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion on the FY 19/20 Budget.

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the FY 19/20 Budget with the reflected changes for a total budget of \$53,068,636.00 with a .62 cent tax rate reflecting the current appropriation of the tax rate being 28.8 for general fund and 33.2 for school current expense with no property tax increase and the fund balance remaining at 25.46 with the fire tax rate being .08 cents for King, Walnut Cove, Rural Hall and the Fire Service District, and the School / F-Tech Fund will remain at 4 cent.

Commissioner Yontz seconded.

Chairman Nickelston opened the floor for any discussion/questions/comments.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- Would like to go on record in stating that I am against the HR Assistant being included in the budget and that I am not happy with the Processing Assistant being different in one department than another.

- This is not something to me that we need to wait on a salary study for.
- I would have liked to look at the department heads grade levels but the salary study will address this.
- We know that the assessment of the buildings is going to cost twice as much if not more than we thought by adding the schools so I would like to have seen us budget for it.
- This can be fixed with a budget amendment later.

Vice Chairman Walker commented:

- I agree with a lot of what is in this budget.
- I feel I need to represent the conservative side of the county.
- We are looking at an 8 percent increase on top of an 8 percent increase 2 years ago.
- I feel this budget is a little bit heavy.
- I know we are trying to do some good things and I just feel we are trying to do too much too fast.

Commissioner Morris commented:

- In response to what Commissioner Walker stated I agree the number is up but average counties like Stokes are looking at \$60 million budget.
- This increase does not alarm me.

Vice Chairman Walker responded:

- I would like to know what those counties revenue stream is.
- We are predominantly a residential county and this is a large budget.

Commissioner Morris responded:

- We are under the same statues and are required to provide the same services as those counties.

Chairman Nickelston commented:

- I feel we are on the right track and this budget will continue the process of moving our county forward.
- I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish here over the last few weeks in coming together on this.

Commissioner Yontz commented:

- In response to what Mr. Walker said in that he can't support everything in the budget.
- As a public servant for 9 years I don't think there has ever been a budget that I supported every single item.
- Between the five of us here we would be hard pressed to agree on every item.
- While I might not agree with every single item in the budget, I do support the budget as a whole.

With no further discussion the FY 19/20 Budget was approved with a 4-1 vote with Vice Chairman Walker voting against the budget

Adjournment

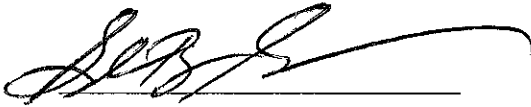
With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Nickelston entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to adjourn.

Commissioner Morris seconded.

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

With no further discussion the Budget Work Session was adjourned at 9:20 pm.



Shannon Shaver

Clerk to the Board



Andy Nickelston

Chairman