

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE FY 19-20 BUDGET WORK SESSION HELD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2019 AT 8:00 A.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a FY 2019-2020 Budget Work Session on Wednesday, May 2, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Jodi Ligon, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy.

Sheriff Neal Walden presented the proposed budgets for the Detention Center and the Sheriff's Office. The proposed budget for the Detention Center included a 4% increase from FY 18-19. He explained the increase was related to building maintenance needs, the COLA which had been included, and the addition of the Peace Officers Annuity (POA) contribution on behalf of the certified employees in the department. The FY 19 budget was \$2,448,228.00, the proposed FY 20 budget is \$2,557,379 - an increase of \$109,151.00 (4%). Sheriff Walden stated that even with recent pay adjustments it was very difficult to fill employee vacancies in the detention center.

The proposed budget presented for the Sheriff's Office included an 11% increase from \$3,604,985.00 to \$4,008,639.00. He explained that the increase was due to the COLA increase, the expenses associated with vehicle requests, and the addition of the POA benefit. There was a consensus of the Board that all of the capital expenses would be moved to SPLOST - with a total of five (5) vehicles to be lease / purchased through SPLOST.

Mr. Ricky Barrett, Coroner, presented the proposed budget for his department. He noted that the only change he is proposing would be to change the deputy coroner's pay structure from being paid \$175.00 per call to being paid \$6,000.00 per year (on a quarterly frequency).

Ms. Dena Adams, Clerk of Superior Court, presented proposed budgets for the following departments:

Board of Equalization: no substantial change

Clerk of Superior Court: an increase of \$67,752.00 mostly attributed to the COLA increase and a proposed merit increase for two (2) employees.

Clerk of Magistrate: no substantial change

Clerk of Juvenile Court - no substantial change

Ms. Adams did advise the Board of the continued decrease in fines being collected by state probation, as well as future costs associated with criminal e-filings.

Mr. Corey Hyde, Chief Magistrate Judge, presented the proposed budget for Magistrate Court. The proposed budget reflected a decrease of \$47,822.00 related to long time Magistrate Judge Joy Parks being appointed to Superior Court and the office now being staffed with 3 part-time magistrates (in addition to the full-time Chief Magistrate, full-time administrative assistant, and a part-time administrative assistant). Judge Hyde did state that he expected to see some increase in revenues due to SB407 which clarified which criminal cases were to be directed to Magistrate Court.

Mr. Michael Humphrey, Library Manager, presented a budget requesting the COLA increase and the annual membership for e-book distribution. The total budget increase was \$5,629.00. He also noted that the agency contribution (paid from dept. 110) included an increase of \$2,941.00 related to the increase for TRS (state retirement for Mr. Humphrey) and telecommunications expense increases. Mr. Humphrey presented a SPLOST

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request of \$16,000.00 for a replacement storage building and an eight (8) carrel computer desk. The Board supported the two (2) proposed SPLOST requests.

Mr. Garrison Baker, Probate Judge / Superintendent of Elections, presented budgets for Probate Court and Elections – neither included any substantial increases other than the budgeted COLA. Judge Baker updated the Board on new elections equipment which will be coming to the county through state level decisions. He noted that he is only 1 of 37 Probate Judges in the State who supervise elections and with his upcoming retirement, the Board may want to consider creating a Board of Elections which would cost approximately \$150,000.00.

Ms. Cindy Cannon, Tax Commissioner, presented a budget for her office that did not include any substantial increases. She did request and discuss the need for additional storage space. Mr. Melton was directed to begin the process for evaluating the best option for renovation to meet those storage needs.

Mr. Bryan Payne, Chief Appraiser, presented the proposed budget for the Assessor’s Office. He stated that the cost of a personal property audit was included (\$25,150.00) – which was the only substantial increase within his department’s budget. He also presented a request for \$28,000.00 in SPLOST funding in order to replace one (1) vehicle.

A brief discussion was had concerning the presentations which had been made and the meeting was adjourned.

The minutes of the May 2, 2019 Budget Work Session are hereby approved as stated this 6th day of May, 2019.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

s/Travis C. Turner

Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Terry D. Goodger

Terry D. Goodger, District 1

s/Lyn Holcomb

Lyn Holcomb, District 2

s/Edwin Nix

Edwin Nix, District 3

s/Craig Bryant

Craig Bryant, District 4

s/Shanda Murphy

Shanda Murphy, County Clerk