

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
BUDGET HEARING MINUTES

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET HEARINGS

Monday, August 27, 2018

**Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack Anderson, Bradley Clemmons, John Clifford, Tracy Douglas, Jodi Eisenmann, Aaron Esry, Stephanie Fortado, Jim Goss, Stan Harper, Jim McGuire, Max Mitchell, Kyle Patterson, Patti Petrie, Giraldo Rosales, Chris Stohr, Steve Summers, Pranjal Vachaspati, C. Pius Weibel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lorraine Cowart, Jon Rector, James Quisenberry, James Tinsley

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Blue (County Engineer), Leanne Brehob-Riley (GIS Director), (Deb Busey (Interim County Administrator), Lynn Canfield (MHB/DDB Director), Gordy Hulten (County Clerk), Stephanie Joos (Animal Control Director), Kari May (Executive Director of Children's Advocacy Center), (Tami Ogden (Deputy Administrator/Finance), Dr. John Peterson (Board of Health), Kay Rhodes (Administrative Assistant), Dalitso Sulamoyo (CEO-RPC), Chris Ward (Fiscal Manager-RPC)

CALL TO ORDER

County Board Chair Weibel called the hearing to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Rhodes called the roll. Anderson, Clemmons, Clifford, Douglas, Eisenmann, Esry, Fortado, Goss, Harper, Petrie, Rosales, Stohr, Summers, Vachaspati and Weibel were present at the time of roll call establishing a quorum. The following County Board members entered the hearing after the roll call: Mitchell at 6:05 p.m., McGuire at 6:07 p.m. and Patterson at 6:09 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Esry to approve the agenda; seconded by Goss. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Deputy County Administrator of Finance, Tami Ogden presented the budget highlights for each department or fund and department heads were available for any specific questions. The department budgets and other funds covered via slide show presentation were: County Highway, Animal Control, Children's Advocacy Center, County Board of Health, GIS Consortium, GIS Fund, Mental Health

Board, Developmental Disabilities Board, Regional Planning Commission, Solid Waste Management, Courts Construction, Courthouse Museum, Public Safety Sales Tax, Capital Asset Replacement, IMRF, Social Security, Tort Immunity, and Self-funded Insurance.

Ogden began with a brief overview of the County's preparation of the levy in order to capture new growth revenue in the event that there is a favorable ruling in the hospital property tax case. If there is a favorable ruling, then the hospital properties will be added back to the tax rolls. If this happens before the Board of Review closes its books for revenue year 2018, under Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL), the County can treat this equalized assessed value (EAV) as new growth. The EAV associated with the hospital properties is approximately \$120 million and would result in approximately \$1 million in recurring revenue for the County. The new growth can only be captured in the year that the properties are added back to the tax rolls, which is why the budget has been prepared in this manner, in order to capture the possible additional revenue.

In the event of an unfavorable ruling, the County's liability exposure is approximately \$2.6 million. A reserve of approximately \$946,000 has been set aside by the Auditor's office to offset the County's potential liability.

County Highway

Goss asked about the condition of the current front-end loader, which is scheduled for replacement in FY2019. Blue stated that the loader is a 2002 John Deere, which is used to load salt and rocks into the trucks and the main reason for replacement is the resulting corrosion from the salt.

Anderson asked if there were any specific facility needs to be addressed in FY2019 for the County Building Capital Fund. Blue explained that this was based on the County's Facility Study on deferred maintenance. There are no specific plans, but funds are being set aside for future highway building maintenance needs.

Petrie asked Blue to investigate whether or not Motor Fuel Tax Funds could be utilized for highway building maintenance. Later in the meeting, Petrie indicated that Blue notified her that it was possible to utilize Motor Fuel Tax Funds for highway building maintenance.

Animal Control

Petrie asked if Champaign and Urbana had both the Animal Control Services Agreement and the Animal Impound Services Agreement with the County. Joos indicated that the City of Urbana only had an agreement for impound services.

Stohr questioned why the Villages of Mahomet and St. Joseph had opted not to renew their animal impound agreements. Joos explained that charges for animal impound services had previously been based on per animal/per day charges. In 2016, a new formula was implemented for the cost of impoundment services. The formula for the charges is now based on population and this significantly increased the impoundment charges for some villages. Villages without an impoundment services agreement handle their own impoundment.

Fortado asked why there was not any projected revenue for the Village of Fisher. Joos explained that it may have been added with other revenue under Local Government Reimbursement. Ogden and Joos would double-check.

Children's Advocacy Center

Vachaspati inquired about the demand for translation services. May indicated that translation services are covered by the VOCA grant. May added that the Children's Advocacy Center also works with the Refugee Center, which provides translation services at no charge.

Board of Health

Fortado pointed out that although the Board of Health's fund balance goal had been set at 25% of the expenditure budget, it appeared that it was actually at 42% and she requested further explanation. Peterson explained that the Board of Health's levy increased at a greater rate than budgeted prior to FY2017.

Goss asked for further clarification regarding budgeted amount for County services listed in CUPHD budget and the Board of Health budget. He stated that CUPHD listed County services at approximately \$734,000 and the Board of Health listed services at \$933,000. Ogden would investigate the differences between the budgets regarding services provided to the County.

Discussion followed regarding the necessity of additional services and programs.

GIS Consortium

Anderson questioned why the County's member contribution was so much higher than the other local government contributions. Brehob-Riley explained that the bulk of the funding per state statute is due to the Recorder's fee. She explained that when the consortium was set-up, the other local governments agreed to a base-cost and a per capita fee.

Goss asked why the GIS Fund was budgeted at 100% of the expenses. Ogden explained that the documentation states that the fund balance goal is the equivalent of one year of revenue, to offset years in which there may be major capital purchases or years in which the revenue is substantially diminished. Brehob-Riley added that the fund balance varied from year to year based on the number of property recordings.

Mental Health Board & Developmental Disabilities Board

Goss questioned the high fund balance reserve on each of the MHB, DDB and CILA budgets. Ogden explained that the funding cycle for many grants is July 1-June 30. This creates a large fund balance towards the end of the year, which will diminish until the County begins to receive property tax revenues in May of each year.

Canfield added that most of the payments to agency providers are divided into monthly installments and the MHB usually does not make payments in May and will wait until June, sending a double payment.

Petrie appreciated that the salary for the Executive Director was listed separately in the budget document from other personnel costs and the breakdown of MHB programs for July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019. She encouraged closer examination of each program for any overlap of services and opportunities for collaboration between agencies.

Eisenmann asked about the selection process for the CILA homes. Canfield explained that the State of Illinois maintains a Waiting List/Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) database.

Vachaspati asked if there any financial limitations on the grant funding to each agency. Canfield stated that the grant application process was open-ended. She added that the audit policies are under review.

Fortado asked for further explanation on why grant funding would be returned to the MHB. Canfield stated that sometimes an agency will go out of business or they may have staffing issues. It was difficult to redirect this funding mid-year.

The hearing recessed for a break at 7:41 p.m. and resumed at 7:51 p.m.

Regional Planning Commission

Anderson asked for more detail on the Energy Efficiency Database Development. Sulamoyo explained that Ameren has set aside funding for community-based energy efficiency programs and the Regional Planning Commission will develop a database and website portal to track and report metrics related to the energy efficiency initiatives. The database is up and running yet because many of the programs are not fully developed, but the goal is to be fully operational in FY2019.

Petrie expressed concerns over grant funding for community services and agency overlap of these services. Sulamoyo stated that under the Housing Authority's new leadership, discussions have begun regarding establishment of a Youth Build Program in the community and collaboration on the Workforce Development Program.

Capital Asset Replacement

Discussion focused on the purchase of software for Real Estate Tax Cycle, Jail Management, and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) to replace the financial and human resources systems.

The hearing adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Rhodes, Administrative Assistant

Assistant's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.