The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia met in a Special Called Budget Workshop on Friday, May 25, 2007, at 8:40 a.m. in the Commissioners' Conference Room, Suite 100, at the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue West, Fayetteville, GA.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:	Jack Smith, Chairman Herb Frady, Vice-Chairman Robert Horgan Eric Maxwell Peter Pfeifer
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:	Jack Krakeel, Interim County Administrator Mary Holland, Director of Finance Sergio Acevedo, Budget Officer Carol Chandler, Executive Assistant Karen Morley, Chief Deputy Clerk

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FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2008 CAPITAL/CIP BUDGET

Budget Review

Mrs. Mary Holland reviewed the changes to the budget that had occurred during the last four days of discussion between staff. She said her summary did not reflect a tax rollback, and said if the Board chose not to enact a tax rollback an additional $570,000 could be added to the general fund and to the fire fund. Some discussion followed regarding the millage rates.

EMS TAX ROLLBACK, RECREATION, INSURANCE PREMIUM ROLLBACK, E-911

Emergency 911 Center Expansion and New CAD System

Mr. Krakeel said he had received concurrences on the proposals he submitted to the municipalities regarding how to deal with the Emergency 911 issue and said he considered the issue resolved. Some discussion followed.

Mr. Krakeel said the county had $1.8 million currently allocated for Emergency 911 with $1.2 million identified for capital improvements such as a Center expansion, a new CAD system, and additional equipment for the new call-taker position. He said the remaining money was applied to the operating budget. Some discussion followed. Chairman Smith said he thought it was appropriate to place the reserve money into the Emergency 911 budget in order to begin the call-center expansion before the cost for the project grew, and Mr. Krakeel agreed. Mr. Krakeel asked if the Board wanted to do the same with the new CAD system. Commissioner Maxwell said they should do the same thing if the money was available, and Chairman Smith said he saw no reason to wait.

EMS Tax Rollback

Mr. Krakeel said this issue had been debated for a number of years and it was his recommendation to resolve the issue by creating a separate tax district for EMS that excluded Peachtree City. He further recommended that the county not enact an annual reimbursement to the city since the computations would change year after year. Some discussion followed. Chairman Smith asked if the consensus of the Board was to pass a resolution where no money would change hands in the current year, and whenever the Legislature acted on the issue, the tax rollback would be addressed at that time. The Board members indicated that was their consensus.

Recreation

Mr. Krakeel said an approach to take on the Peachtree City recreational issue was to offer Peachtree City a collectively developed financial methodology in order to reimburse the city for unincorporated Fayette County residents who participate in the city's recreational programs. Chairman Smith asked what would reimbursement be based upon. Mr. Krakeel sad he was suggesting that county staff develop a fundamental methodology that the county could attach some value to and be able to demonstrate it makes sense. After lengthy discussion, Chairman Smith said he had gone full circle and thought the County ought to give Peachtree City $150,000, as suggested, and the *pro rata* amount to the Town of Tyrone.

Insurance Premium Rollback

Chairman Smith suggested that the Insurance Premium Rollback should be enacted this year. Mr. Krakeel said the best way to approach the issue was to end discussion with the municipalities on HB 489 and tell them the county is researching the issue with the intent of bringing some resolution to it at some time during the year. He acknowledged this was not a solution but said, based on the Board's action on the other three issues, the municipalities should have some degree of confidence in the fact that the county is trying to resolve the issues equitably. He further recommended the County should get an opinion from the Attorney General's office before making a decision. Some discussion followed. Mr. Krakeel said the County had three months to reach resolution on the issue and asked if that was acceptable. Chairman Smith said it was acceptable.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Board discussed the requested Capital Projects for Fiscal Year 2008 as requested by various departments. The Board decided to allow most of the requests to remain in the budget. The Board asked for more information about Information Systems' request for Fire Suppression and Portable Air-Conditioners. The Board also requested more information about the Recreation Department's request for fence repairs at Kiwanis Park and replacing scoreboards.

CIP

The Board discussed the CIP budget as requested by various departments. During this discussion, the Board directed Mr. Krakeel to engage an attorney in order to acquire an easement allowing for a sewage tie-in at Kiwanis Park. The Board also requested more information related to the Water System's request to build new docks at Lake Kedron.

VEHICLE REPLACEMENT BUDGET

Mr. Holland said there was a request to replace 17 vehicles, 2 road equipment vehicles, and to augment the Fleet with six new vehicles. She said these vehicles would be paid for with money in the Vehicle Replacement Fund. Some discussion followed regarding the amount of money in the Vehicle Replacement Fund and how the Vehicle Replacement Fund operated. Mr. Krakeel asked if the Board's direction was to participate in the Vehicle Lease Agreement and purchase the vehicles as requested. Chairman Smith said that was the Board's decision.

TAX ROLLBACK

Chairman Smith asked if it was Mr. Krakeel's and Mrs. Holland's recommendation not o enact a tax rollback for Fiscal Year 2008, and they said that was their recommendation. Some discussion followed. Mr. Krakeel asked if it was the Board's consensus not to enact a tax rollback. Chairman Smith said that was correct. Commissioner Maxwell said he would not support a tax rollback until he saw the final budget numbers and revenue forecasts, but added if the final numbers justified a partial tax rollback, he would want it.

YOUTH PROTECTION HOME

Chairman Smith said his concern was the perception that the Board was cutting money from children. Commissioner Frady said he would like to fund the Youth Protection Home and had argued for funding it during the discussion about the Promise Place.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mr. Krakeel asked if the Board would like the Health Department to come back with their fee request. Chairman Smith said he thought that would be good. Commissioner Maxwell said he needed a better presentation given to him, adding the request would be so easy to approve if only the proper presentation were given.

EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION

Commissioner Horgan asked if the budget included a COLA raise for employees. Mr. Krakeel said it did include the COLA raise, but it did not include pay for performance raises since $500,000 was placed into a contingency budget to address the Compensation and Class study. Some discussion followed.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Smith thanked the other Commissioners and staff for their diligence. He then adjourned the Special Called Budget Workshop at 12:50 p.m.

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Floyd L. Jones, Deputy Clerk Jack Smith, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Geogia, held on the 10th day of April 2008.

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Floyd L. Jones, Deputy Clerk