Minutes

Budget Workshop
Board of Commissioners
May 19, 2009
8:30 A.M.

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, met in Official Session on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia.

Commissioners Present:	Jack Smith, Chairman Herb Frady, Vice-Chairman Lee Hearn Robert Horgan Eric Maxwell
Staff Present:	Jack Krakeel, County Administrator Mary Holland, Chief Financial Officer Toni Jo Howard, Assistant Finance Director Sergio Acevedo, Budget Officer Carol Chandler, Executive Assistant Floyd L. Jones, Deputy Clerk

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Call to Order

Chairman Smith called the May 19, 2009 Board of Commissioners Budget Workshop meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Overview

Chief Financial Officer Mary Holland, Budget Officer Sergio Acevedo, and County Administrator Jack Krakeel gave an overview of Fayette County's Fiscal Year 2010 Budget to the Board before it heard requests from several department heads. A copy of the *Fayette County Budget Overview FY2010* document, identified as "Attachment 1", follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

Commissioner Frady left the meeting during a temporary adjournment, which took place after the overview, to attend to a previously scheduled medical appointment.

E911 Communications

Communications Director Cheryl Rogers requested her budget to be amended by $10,914 to allow two current Senior Dispatcher positions to be promoted to Supervisor positions. After some discussion, the Board unanimously consented to amend the budget and approve the request.

Public Health

Environmental Health County Manager Rick Fehr spoke about the budget cuts experienced by all the Public Health Departments. He acknowledged that budget cuts were not unexpected in the current economic climate, but the depth of the cuts from both State and County levels were significant, especially when a possible pandemic such as Swine Flu, and the panic it generates, increases needs and services. He asked the County to help Public Health as much as it possibly could. Discussion followed. The Board thanked Mr. Fehr for his update and for coming to them with his request, but took no action and made no decision on the request.

Commissioner Frady returned to the meeting following a temporary adjournment after Public Health's request.

Georgia Department of Human Resources Division of Family and Children Services

Ms. Susan Boggs, Director of Family and Children Services, or DFCS, presented to the Board a 2008 Annual Report and spoke about the impact budget cuts are having on DFCS. She stated the budget cuts are especially difficult for her department since the number and caliber of people requesting help in this economy have increased. Discussion followed. The Board thanked Ms. Boggs for her update and for coming to them with her request, but took no action.

Elections

Elections Officer Brenda Jones spoke on behalf of Elections Supervisor Tom Sawyer and made two requests. The first request was for Department of Elections budget to be amended by $27,328 to account for estimated salaries for part-time workers during the month of June 2010 in preparing for the General Election in November 2010. Discussion followed. The Board approved the request with the condition that the part-time workers are only utilized during the election itself and not periodically throughout the year.

The second request was to change a part-time position back to 0.6 hours which would equate to 24 hours per week. Discussion followed. The Board consented not to approve the request.

Discussion of Departmental Budgets

The Board and staff reviewed each department's budget and asked questions. Some direction was given.

Risk Manager Position

The Board, based on a recommendation by the County Administrator, consented to the creation of a Risk Manager position for Fayette County at an aggregate salary and benefits of approximately $82,000 per year, and discussed the duties to be performed by that position. The Board directed that the Risk Manager be assigned to the Human Resources Department and accountable to Human Resources Director Commie Boehnke.

Information Systems Strategic Plan

Upon recommendation and discussion by the County Administrator, the Board consented to hire an outside consultant for the Information Systems Department for the purpose of creating a long-term Strategic Technology Plan, including a strategy implementing the plan, at a cost of approximately $78,000 which was first approved in the Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

Pay-for-Performance

Commissioner Maxwell asked to discuss pay-for-performance, how employees would be evaluated, and who would be eligible to receive pay-for-performance. Discussion followed. The Board consented to the 1.25% pay-for-performance budget as recommended, but agreed, however, that this amount will be subject to the availabity of funds following the conclusion of the FY 2009 budget and is also subject to change. The Board also agreed that managment continue to work with the evaluation instrument approved by the Board of Commissioners at an earlier date, and to evaluate the pay-for-performance system once employee evaluations are completed.

Stimulus Money for Capital Projects

Chairman Smith announced that the second wave of the federal stimulus package was forthcoming and that the money would be distributed through the Atlanta Regional Commission, or ARC, to its constituent counties. He explained that the money could be utilized for previously scheduled projects, projects that have not been scheduled, and possibly for projects that are currently ongoing such as the West Fayetteville Bypass. He mentioned there are two projects in Peachtree City and one in Fayetteville that could be considered, but there would not be enough funding to complete all three projects. Discussion followed. The Board consented to consider what projects it desired to be funded at the May 28, 2009 Board of Commissioners meeting.

Adjournment

No further business came before the Board. Chairman Smith adjourned the May 19, 2009 Board of Commissioners Budget Workshop meeting at 4:11 p.m.

Floyd L. Jones, Deputy Clerk | **Jack R. Smith, Chairman**

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 11th day of June 2009.

Floyd L. Jones, Deputy Clerk