

Approved March 10, 1993

December 10, 1992  
12:00 Noon

LANE COUNTY  
BUDGET COMMITTEE

Commissioners'  
Conference Room

PRESENT: Chair Karsten Rasmussen presided with Peter Bartel, Steve Cornacchia, Ellie Dumdi, Marie Frazier, Ron Hansen, Kate Jones, and Jerry Rust. Scott Bartlett arrived at 12:15. Jack Roberts excused.

1. Call to Order by Chair Rasmussen.
2. Approval of Minutes.

MOTION: Approval of the Minutes of August 10, 1992. Cornacchia MOVED, Dumdi SECONDED. VOTE: 8-0. (Scott Bartlett was not present for this vote.)

3. REPORT/Elected Officials Compensation Board.

Rasmussen indicated that due to possible quorum problems, he would prefer to discuss the Elected Officials Compensation matter first. Jim Johnson, County Administrator, introduced Louise Bilheimer and John Peterson, both members of the Elected Officials Compensation Board, who were available in the audience for questions. He noted that the recommendation on Page 3 of the memo suggested varying increases for the Sheriff, Assessor and the Justices of the Peace, and that the decision before the Budget Committee was to pass these, modify them or reject them.

Judge Simons, Springfield Justice Court, was invited to present his views to the Committee. He stated that he felt compensation for the Justices was out of line in time and function for the modern day and age. He indicated that the salaries should be increased by approximately 30%, due to the demand, work load, energy, pressure and product. He also noted that he receives 40-50 letters per day and responds to many, that his is a large volume, fast-paced, high pressure job and that he makes less money than the two clerks he supervises.

Jim Gangle, County Assessor, stated that the recommendations move his salary into a more comparable range with other department heads.

Dumdi noted that she had received a phone call from Cindy Cable, Florence Justice of the Peace, expressing her concerns about the need for a pay increase. Rust commented that the Board of Commissioners had directed the capping of overall personnel expenses for next year and that he was prepared to reject all of the recommendations. Cornacchia remarked that it sends the wrong message if there is a raise for supervisors, while not raising other employees' compensation and that he could not justify this to his Springfield constituency. Dumdi observed that while the compensation increases were deserved, the County is in an extreme financial downturn. Bartlett stated that an increase in the salary of the Commissioners should be considered (if any others were) as more than 200 employees in Lane County are now compensated higher than the Commissioners. Peterson noted that the Elected Officials Compensation

Board had simply compared the wages and salaries with other jurisdictions and were not advocating any position.

MOTION: Accept the work of the Elected Officials Compensation Board, but reject the recommendations for increases. Rust MOVED, Cornacchia SECONDED. In response to a question from Bartlett, Rasmussen stated that the salaries of the Justices of the Peace could be looked at during the next budget cycle. Bartel stated that, although he would vote for the Motion, he reserved the right to bring up the matter of a salary increase for the Justices at a later date if there was any salary increase for other County employees. VOTE: 9-0.

4. Supplemental Budget #1 FY 1992-93.

Rasmussen opened the Public Hearing. There being no one present who wished to testify, Rasmussen closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION: Approve the Supplemental Budget as prepared, except for Item #19 on page 2, Item 33 on page 10, and Item #35 on page 11. Cornacchia MOVED, Rust SECONDED. VOTE: 8-0. (Hansen excused at 12:53 p.m.)

MOTION: Approve the balance of the Supplemental Budget. Rust MOVED, Bartel SECONDED. VOTE: 6-2, Cornacchia and Frazier dissenting.

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

  
Sharon Giles  
Recording Secretary