

Approved April 19, 1994

LANE COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE

May 20, 1993

Harris Hall Main

5:25 - 7:40 p.m.

BOOK 156 PAGE 1172

ACTION SUMMARY

Members Present:

Citizens: Laney (Chair), Bell, Jones, Stewart, (Bartel excused)

Commissioners: Cornacchia, Frazier, Dumdi, Roberts, Rust

Staff: Van Vactor, Drivas, Garnick, Schulz (recorder)

Previous Action Summary for May 18, 1993 was approved with an amendment to the Public Safety Decision section ("Tentative Approval" was deleted and replaced with "Any decision on Public Safety's budget").

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEWS

GENERAL EXPENSE

FUND 24

Discussion: Staff gave an overview of the 93/94 budget.

Committee Member Rust moved, and Committee Member Roberts seconded, that the proposed budget be tentatively approved with the additional \$34,000 in revenue from the Assessment & Taxation grant. Discussion then ensued on other unresolved issues and the timing for when they should be addressed.

Committee Member Rust moved, and Committee Member Roberts seconded, that the proposed budget be amended to restore the \$100,000 of funding to the Intergovernmental Human Services (IGHS) Fund. Bill Van Vactor emphasized that this would put the General Fund \$100,000 out of balance. Committee Member Bell commented that matching funds from the community, and contributions of time, are difficult to estimate and the fall out from not putting the \$100,000 back into the budget could affect the work of the IGHS Fund by more than the \$100,000. Committee Member Dumdi expressed her discomfort in deciding upon an amendment when they did not know what other issues were pending which would impact the budget. Margo Drivas pointed out a schedule in their packets (handed out tonight) that recapped those issues that committee members had indicated that they wanted to come back to.

Decision: Approval of amendment: Vote 7 to 1 (Stewart dissenting, Cornacchia had left the room for a moment).

Discussion: Committee Member Roberts moved, and Committee Member Rust seconded, that the proposed budget be amended by \$25,000 for Veterans. The amendment is to add \$25,000 to the General Expense budget and reduce the Appropriated Reserve from \$50,000 to \$25,000.

Decision: Approval of amendment: Vote 9 to 0.

Discussion Committee Member Cornacchia wished to discuss predator control. Staff indicated that we would have options on this later. Committee Member Cornacchia raised the issue of AOC Land Use dues stating that they are voluntary, we did not pay the current year's dues because we did not have enough appropriation, and asked if there was enough money in the 93/94 budget to pay 2 years of the land use assessment. Staff pointed out that the Budget Committee would not address the 92/93 budget and Committee Member Cornacchia indicated that he would address the issue, as it relates to the 92/93 budget, at a Board session.

Decision: Tentative approval of Fund 24 (which now has 2 amendments): 9 to 0.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FUND 35

Discussion: Staff gave an overview of the 93/94 budget.

Decision: Tentative approval of Fund 35: Vote 7 to 2 (Cornacchia and Frazier dissenting).

BUDGET ISSUES GENERAL

Discussion Staff gave an overview of several issues including:

- 1) Termination payouts for those positions cut in the 93/94 budget (because these employees' last day is 6-30-93, their time management payouts occur in the 92/93 fiscal year - net cost expected to be ~\$140,000).
- 2) Cash balance and the difficulties in projecting this number in certain departments (projected numbers at this time indicate ~\$148,000 higher cash balance than previously projected but this number can change very quickly). Bill Van Vactor reminded Committee members that cash balance is projected as a revenue in the year subsequent to its being generated so department heads

expressing a desire to keep this resource within their department are tapping an already budgeted resource.

- 3) Percentage increase for renewal of the health insurance package is coming in at a lower percentage than was used in the 93/94 budget.
- 4) Budget Decision Issues spreadsheet (handed out tonight) - staff clarified that the Public Safety revised budget (presented the 18th) uses \$322,373 more of the General Fund than the proposed budget submitted by the Acting County Administrator.

Budget Committee Member Cornacchia expressed concern over the reduction of one of the personnel analysts at a time when the County might arguably need more personnel analyst service. As an option, he wondered if each personnel analyst might be reduced to .75 or .8. Bill Van Vactor, explained that he had chosen to keep employees at full-time as opposed to part-time because the County pays full benefits to every employee that works .5 time or more. Budget Committee members asked other clarifying questions about what the impact of this cut might be, how it compared to the cuts in 1982, and how the department director felt about the cut. George Russell, the department director, indicated that there is work that will not get done along the lines of consultation to departments and studies performed by the analysts.

LAND MANAGEMENT Fund 24

Discussion: Committee Member Cornacchia withdrew his question to the Division Manager regarding eliminating the Senior Administrative Analyst position. There was some discussion regarding the pending fee increases which are not included in the proposed 93/94 budget but will be added once they are approved by the Board of Commissioners.

PUBLIC SAFETY Fund 24

Discussion: Sheriff McManus wanted to discuss his budget from the service end. Committee Member Cornacchia wanted to know if the Sheriff was recommending a reduction of \$1.1 million or \$800,000. The Sheriff replied that he was recommending reductions of \$800,000, but if the Budget Committee wanted to go deeper, he would recommend cutting the contracts for rural patrols and 40 beds in the jail.

Committee Member Roberts moved, and a couple of Committee members seconded, tentative approval of Public Safety's budget as proposed by

Sheriff McManus in the revised version, i.e. \$800,000. Committee Member Bell wanted to hear from the Acting County Administrator on Public Safety's budget. Bill Van Vactor endorsed the Sheriff's new proposal (\$800,000) and observed that the proposal was constructed in such a way that the other County Administration reductions were no longer feasible. The Acting County Administrator offered to work with the Sheriff to identify other reduction and close the gap, if the Budget Committee desired.

Committee Member Cornacchia supported Bill Van Vactor's idea with regards to closing the gap and was concerned that otherwise the Committee would have to go through department by department to find the money. Committee Member Roberts clarified the direction he was going by stating that he wanted to take from the 5% Prudent Person Reserve \$323,000 for the Sheriff's budget, \$100,000 for the Intergovernmental Human Services fund and add back the \$34,000 in additional Assessment & Taxation Grant for a net draw down of the reserve of \$389,000 (the \$25,000 for Veterans is from the Appropriated Reserve, not the Prudent Person Reserve). This still represents a \$3 million cut to the General Fund and the 5% Prudent Person Reserve will be intact once the lapse funds from 92/93 are added in. He then asked that the Board take any additional revenues during the year and use them to shore-up the 5% Prudent Person Reserve. Further, he asked that the Budget Committee look at additional revenue sources during 93/94.

Committee Member Cornacchia was thrilled that the idea of using the Prudent Person Reserve was being raised by someone else. The Acting County Administrator asked about Land Management revenues. Committee Member Roberts, with much support from other Committee members, indicated that the Land Management revenues would go to support Land Management operations but other unanticipated revenues were what he was talking about. Committee Member Stewart agreed with Roberts' proposal with one exception. Committee Member Stewart felt that the Board should not commit now to how the dispensation of new revenues would be handled. Committee Member Roberts responded that he did not intend it to be an ironclad rule but a rather a statement of intent.

Committee Member Roberts clarified that his motion is just on Public Safety's Fund 24 budget. Committee Member Cornacchia stated that he wanted to talk to the Sheriff at the Board level with regards to using General Fund dollars for rural law enforcement contracts. Sheriff McManus responded that he was working on 3 issues from the May 18th Budget Committee meeting: 1) work with Veneta and Creswell on rural

law enforcement contracts, 2) Law Enforcement Service Districts, 3) feasibility of consolidation of 911 dispatch. Committee Member Cornacchia wants to add to the list the way in which the beds in the Work Camp are utilized, electronic bracelets in the surveillance program, and the Community Corrections Center. Sheriff McManus responded that he was working on much of this now.

Decision Tentative approval of Fund 24: 9 to 0.

**LEVY
FUND 18**

Discussion: Committee Member Roberts moved, and Committee Member Rust seconded, tentative approval of Fund 18 with the changes to Fund 18 that must follow from approval of Public Safety's Fund 24 budget.

Decision: Tentative approval of Fund 18: 9 to 0.

**PUBLIC SAFETY
FUNDS 25, 19, 28 & 39**

Discussion: Staff gave a brief description of these funds. Committee Members moved and seconded tentative approval of these budgets without further discussion.

Decision: Tentative approval on funds 25, 19, 28 & 39: 9 to 0.

GENERAL

The Budget Committee was reminded that they need to make 2 motions: 1) To approve the proposed budget with any amendments that they choose, and 2) To set the tax levy.

Committee Member Rust raised the issue of closing the Cottage Grove Public Health Clinic and asked that the Committee get some activity going with regards to options. Committee Member Frazier indicated that she was working with staff to find an alternative site for the clinic.

Committee Member Bell commented that the trend is that fewer and fewer dollars are available, and more and more services are needed in the community. She went on to say that she felt access was the key attribute of providing service. Committee Member Bell then proposed that travel and training expenses for the County could be cut in half if employees were required to pay for half. Her feeling is that employees are allowed

to keep materials from classes they attend, and that they take this training with them when they leave the County's employment. Also, Licenses & Memberships should be paid for by the employee when it is a requirement of the profession as opposed to a request of the County. Lastly, there are 4 positions being eliminated that she feels strongly about saving: 1) Senior Prosecutor, 2) Deputy District Attorney, 3) Senior Counselor, and 4) Intake Counselor (the first 2 are in the District Attorney's office and the second 2 are in Youth Services). These positions could be saved with across the board cuts of 2% in Materials & Services.

Committee Member Rust indicated that the Policies and Procedures Committee could take up the Licenses & Memberships issue. Committee Member Roberts commented that the bargaining units' contracts renew next year so perhaps the sharing of training costs, an idea he likes, could be raised at the next negotiations. He did not feel the 2% across the board reduction in Material & Services was possible because we have been cutting in this area for years, but his priorities for add backs are the same as hers. Staff pointed out that there is a reliance on under spending in the budget which is a revenue in the subsequent year. Committee Member Rust made a motion, and Committee Member Roberts seconded, that travel & training co-pay and licenses & memberships be reviewed by a County committee, and a report of the results of that review be returned to the Budget Committee. Committee Member Cornacchia wanted to clarify that training was not being changed in this budget. All agreed that this was correct.

Decision: Approval of a study by a County committee, and a report back to the Budget Committee, on travel & training co-pay and licenses & memberships: 9 to 0.

Discussion: The dollars attached to Committee Member Bell's add backs were clarified. Committee Member Cornacchia was asked again about his request for an add back of the personnel analyst position, but he responded that as there seemed to be no support from the other Committee members, there was no point in pursuing it.

The Cottage Grove Public Health office closure was discussed further. Committee Member Cornacchia wanted to make sure that this issue was not passed up to the Board without it being completed. The consensus of the group seemed to be that if the Cottage Grove office is to be kept open, the dollars should be found within the existing budget. Although there may be some potential to move dollars around within the existing department budget, Committee Member Cornacchia wanted to make sure

that the Budget Committee was not overriding the judgement of the Health Care professionals in the department of Health & Human Services who had decided that closing the Cottage Grove Public Health office was the best way to make their cuts.

Committee Member Roberts moved, and Committee Member Rust seconded, approval of the entire budget with all of the changes that had been made up to this point. Committee Member Cornacchia clarified that his position was that if the public health services in Cottage Grove could be restored within the existing department budget, he was all for it and would support this motion. If, on the other hand, the intent was to change the budget to increase the funding for the Cottage Grove office outside of the existing department budget, he feels that the budget should be changed at the Budget Committee level. As the motion seemed to be indicating the former rather than the latter, he was supported of the motion.

Decision: Approval of the entire budget with all of the changes that have been made up to this point: 9 to 0.

Discussion: Committee Member Roberts moved, and Committee Member Frazier seconded, approval of the tax levy as presented in Attachment B (handed out tonight).

Decision: Approval of the tax levy as presented in Attachment B (handed out tonight): 9 to 0.

ADJOURNED 7:30 p.m.

Schulz, 5/20/93
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