

MINUTES & NOTICE OF BOARD ACTION

APPROVED May 14, 1996

LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

This document, upon approval in a public meeting by the Board of County Commissioners, serves as official minutes of such meetings as required under the Open Meetings Law, ORS 192.650.

Pursuant to notice made by mailing agendas to news media, a selected list of jurisdictions and individuals in Lane County, a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held.

Questions should be directed to The Board Office Specialist 3, ext. 4203.

April 25, 1996
7:00 p.m.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Harris Hall
Main Floor

PRESENT: Peter Bartel, Marie Bell (arrived at 7:32 p.m.), Steve Cornacchia (arrived at 8:20 p.m.), Ellie Dumdi, Bobby Green, Sr., Carol Jones, Del Phelps, Bud Stewart and Cindy Weeldreyer. Jerry Rust absent. Sharon Giles, Recording Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Peter Bartel called the meeting to order and reviewed the evening's agenda.

MOTION: Approval of the minutes of the March 18, 1996 and March 20, 1996 Budget Committee meetings. Phelps MOVED, Dumdi SECONDED. VOTE: 7-0.

II. BUDGET MESSAGE

Bill Van Vactor, County Administrator, presented the annual budget message (see material on file) using overhead visuals. He highlighted the County's continuing declining timber revenues and the planning efforts that have taken place over the last year. Van Vactor briefly outlined the upcoming levy options which will go before the voters in May which would replace a similar existing levy and cover the general fund deficit. Van Vactor explained some significant events which affect the budget, including 1) the strategies to meet an estimated \$1.8 million shortfall in the Waste Management Division; 2) planning/steps being taken to address declining revenue in the Road Fund; 3) changes in local and state corrections; 4) consolidation of the functions of computer services throughout Lane County departments; 5) implementation of the measures outlined in a full cost indirect study; and 6) the need for planning for funding sources for operation of the Juvenile Justice Center. He concluded by recognizing the dedication and commitment of Lane County employees who

have received a cost-of-living increase only once in the last four years, while inflation is running about 2.7%.

Bell arrived at 7:32 p.m.

III. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE LEVY MEASURES

Sheriff Bob McManus explained what will happen if the levy fails, including its effects on the cities and the County. He reviewed the last two pages of the Budget Summary which describe the maintenance of services that the levy would support (see material on file). He summarized that 60% of rural law enforcement would be lost, 84 jail beds would close, the investment in the Forest Work Camp will be lost, elimination of a future community service program, jail security would be cut by 24.1 positions, the Psychiatric Hospital would likely close, etc. McManus reported that, in addition, another \$801,000 of reductions in Public Safety would take place as a result of the general fund shortfall. Rob Rockstroh, Director of Health and Human Services, highlighted the sanctions that would be lost if the levy fails, including adult and juvenile alcohol and drug treatment, in addition to \$77,000 in general fund support of Health and Human Services. Chuck Ryer, Assistant Director of Youth Services, explained the effects of closure of the Pathways program. McManus concluded that the A levy strictly maintains status quo.

There was clarification that the existing levy represents 39 cents per thousand, the A levy would bring the amount to 60 cents per thousand and the A Plus levy would cost 85 cents per thousand (an additional 25 cents per thousand over the A levy.) McManus discussed the portion of the programs and services within the Sheriff's Department which are included in the A Plus levy. He explained the items that would be added, including 48-bed double bunking at the jail, reopening of 60 beds at the Forest Work Camp and an increase in rural patrol by 6 positions. Bob Gorham, District Attorney's Office, provided an overview of the consequences of losing \$202,601 if the A levy does not pass and then outlined the addition of five positions and updated computer system that would result by passage of the A Plus levy.

Cornacchia arrived at 8:20 p.m.

Rockstroh reviewed the two programs that the A Plus levy would fund for his department, including provision for a domestic violence coordinator and assistance with the high risk infant services.

Ryer explained the inclusion in the levy of funding for six beds for juvenile girls' alcohol and drug treatment, which will actually go on line in FY97-98.

Teresa Wilson, County Counsel, explained that both measures are independent and that if both measures pass, only the A Plus will be levied.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON FY 96-97 PROPOSED BUDGET

Bartel opened the Public Hearing.

Linda Weston, Executive Director of CVALCO, reported that the Board of Directors of CVALCO voted unanimously to support both levies and discussed methods to offer support for their passage.

Tamina Benedict stated that she works with Children First, indicating that she has been working on public information pieces to educate the public on the necessity of passing the levies. She also spoke briefly in support of prevention.

John Tatos offered to donate some material to help build necessary County buildings. He observed the recent lack of rural patrols.

Bartel closed the Public Hearing.

This meeting recessed at 8:58 p.m. to reconvene at 9:05 p.m.

V. BEGIN BUDGET REVIEW

There was concurrence to provide an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of each of the upcoming 5:15 p.m. budget meetings.

a) Regional Information Systems

Rick Schulz, Management Analyst, briefly reviewed the agenda material for this department (see material on file). Bill Hoyt, RIS Director, provided a brief explanation of the \$30,000 addition for a Microsoft Exchange Server and a \$20,000 addition for a Microsoft System Management Services Server. Schulz explained that these are not additions that Lane County pays for as RIS is funded through payments from user departments outside Lane County government.

MOTION: Tentative approval of the Regional Information Systems proposed budget. Weeldreyer MOVED, Dumdi SECONDED. **VOTE:** 9-0.

b) Board of County Commissioners and County Administration

Tanya Heaton, Management Analyst, reviewed this item, explaining that this budget is basically status quo (see material on file). She explained that the proposed budget reflects changes related to the indirect cost allocation plan, the new Information Services Department and Parole and Probation revenue and expenses.

Bell expressed concern that the total figures give the impression of a large revenue increase, suggesting that the Parole and Probation figure should be placed in the Sheriff's budget. There was consensus to leave this figure in place as a "placeholder," noting that it will probably be moved to another department upon finalization of the planning phase.

MOTION: Tentative approval of the Board of Commissioners and County Administration proposed budget. Phelps MOVED, Bell SECONDED. VOTE: 9-0.

c) County Counsel, All Funds

Schulz briefly reviewed the three funds within this department, including the self insurance fund, the law library fund and the general fund (see material on file). He discussed the impact of changes related to the indirect cost plan, the Information Services implementation and the restoration of an Assistant County Counsel 3 position.

MOTION: Tentative Approval of the County Counsel proposed budget for all funds. Cornacchia MOVED, Weeldreyer SECONDED. VOTE: 9-0.

VI. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, April 30, 1996
5:15 p.m.
Commissioners' Conference Room.

VIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.


Sharon Giles
Board Secretary