

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET PLANNING SESSION

HELD TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017 AT 8:30 A.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a Budget Planning Session for the 2018 Fiscal Year on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Vicki Mays, and County Clerk Shanda Murphy.

Chairman Turner opened the meeting with an invocation.

Ms. Dena Adams, Clerk of Superior Court, presented the proposed budgets for the departments' under her responsibility. She noted that increases related to these budgets are associated with her request for one (1) additional full-time position which would concentrate on accounting functions within her department and with criminal filings. Ms. Adams also explained that the budget related to the Board of Equalization would also be increasing as a result of the newly added clerk's supplement and training. She emphasized to the Board that the county is a low priority within the collections and distribution of fines and forfeitures.

Mr. Matt Bidwell with MSI Benefits Group, presented information to the Board for the 2017-2018 Employee Benefits Renewal, effective July 1, 2017. He noted that Alliant Healthcare had presented a renewal increase of 20.81% (\$322,440.00 net increase to White County) due to the paid loss ratio of 101.03%. He further stated that a plan design change increasing the deductible, co-insurance, and office visit co-pays could reduce the increase to 12.46% (\$193,098.00). Following discussion, Mr. Bidwell offered an option of making the current plan a buy-up option for which employees would pay the difference, however this would keep the lower deductible / co-insurance plan as an option. By making the current plan a buy-up option this would hold the county's net increase to 12.46% (\$193,098.00) without increasing employee premiums unless they elected to buy-up to the lower deductible / co-insurance plan. He noted that the dental insurance renewal was currently pending. The Board discussed other options with Aetna, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and CIGNA – and there was a consensus that the Board would consider the renewal options for action at the upcoming Board meeting. ***Presentation made included in meeting file.***

Coroner Ricky Barrett presented the proposed budget for the Coroner's Office. He noted that the increase reflected a request he is making for funds to contract with a 3rd party for autopsies in the case of White County residents when the crime lab would be very delayed in processing cause of death and toxicology results. There was also discussion regarding the need to add a roof to the breezeway at the Administration Building which Mr. Barrett utilizes for transport.

Magistrate Judge Joy Parks presented the proposed budget for Magistrate Court which included an increase related to the addition of a part-time position that would be working on a scanning project and would be filling in at the front desk as needed.

Mr. Bryan Payne, Chief Assessor, presented the proposed budget for the Assessor's Office for Fiscal Year 2018. He noted that proposed increases were related to the inclusion of a personal property audit for the upcoming year. He stated that top commercial accounts would be audited by a third party in order to verify the inventory value being reported. He stated that the projected rate of return on this type of audit was 3:1 or more. He also stated that he had included funds for renovations to the meeting space in their office area. Chairman Turner offered the use of the Administrative Building Board Room for the Board of Assessor Meetings. Mr. Melton advised Mr. Payne to include one-half of the aerial photography cost in his budget – which was estimated to be \$13,000.00. ***Presentation made included in meeting file.***

Mr. Michael Humphrey, White County Library – Cleveland Branch Manager, presented the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget for the library. He noted that increases to the Department 580 Budget were related to the request for \$2,250.00 for eBook provider fees and that increases to the agency contract (paid from Department 110) were reflective of an increase (\$3,676.00) to cover a 5% pay raise for the two branch managers paid through the Library Board. Mr. Humphrey did confirm to the Board that the two branch managers do have State Benefits including membership in the Teacher's Retirement System. ***Presentation made included in meeting file.***

Sheriff Neal Walden presented the proposed budgets for the Detention Center and Sheriff's Office. He stated that the proposed increase of \$17,315.00 to the Detention Center Budget was related to an increased cost in the food service contract and in the health services contract. Sheriff Walden presented the Sheriff's Office proposed budget which included an increase of \$141,655.00 related to the request for one (1) additional full-time position and equipment (laptops, ammunition, bullet proof vests, tasers, and vehicle equipment). Sheriff Walden stated that no increase was reflected in the Bailiffs Budget. He stated that his 2018 SPLOST request included seven (7) Ford Explorers / equipment and two (2) dash cameras for the School Resource Officers – totaling \$304,719.00. The Board did discuss the possible option of lease-purchase on the vehicles. Sheriff Walden did mention a future need for the replacement of security software at the Detention Center which was not included in the budget or the SPLOST request – he estimated this would cost approximately \$100,000.00. He also emphasized that the 2.5% cost of living allowance (COLA) which he had submitted in his proposed budget was not included in the information the Board received. ***Presentation made included in meeting file.***

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the budget planning session.

The minutes of the April 11, 2017 Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget Planning Session were approved by the Board of Commissioners.

May 1, 2017

s/ Shanda Murphy

Shanda Murphy, County Clerk