

March 10, 2015

County of Greene, Virginia

THE GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MET ON TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015, BEGINNING AT 12:00 P.M. FOR A BUDGET WORKSHOP WITH THE REGULAR MEETING BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COUNTY MEETING ROOM.

Present were: David Cox, Chairman
 Jim Frydl, Vice Chairman
 Eddie Deane, Member
 Davis Lamb, Member
 Bill Martin, Member
 John C. Barkley, County Administrator
 Ray Clarke, County Attorney
 Patti Vogt, Deputy Clerk

RE: BUDGET WORKSHOP

The Board met at 12:00 p.m. to continue discussion of the proposed FY 2015-2016 budget.

Remaining budgets were reviewed and adjustments discussed.

The budget workshop was continued to Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the County Meeting Room.

RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session was not held.

RE: PUBLIC MEETING

The Chairman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

RE: USE OF CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDS – SCHOOLS

Dr. Andrea Whitmarsh, Superintendent, was present to request authorization to use capital project funds for the request for proposals for the School Facility Study.

The biggest issue is the High School cafeteria. Need plan for increasing enrollment in all schools. A committee comprised of ten members who were representative of the population was appointed. The objectives of the committee included: to define scope of growth/facilities planning, to define scope of cafeteria expansion, and to make recommendations to School Board to move study to RFP and execution.

The School Board has reviewed and approved the RFP.

The Board of Supervisors agreed to allow the Schools to retain any unencumbered funds at the end of budget year for capital projects. Would like to use some of the funds to complete this facility study. Hope to have selected vendor by May.

Mr. Frydl said the study needs to be specific as to how to maximize space and space needed. Goal is to have plan that is actionable, achievable, makes sense and is the most efficient thing to do to save taxpayer money but also reduce overcrowding and efficiency issues at the Schools.

Mr. Lamb asked about possible expansion of the cafeteria. Dr. Whitmarsh said there is an issue with impervious surfaces (so many buildings on one campus) and they don't have a lot of space which places limitations on what can be done.

Mr. Deane asked if there is an estimate on the cost of the study. Dr. Whitmarsh said the carry forward amount is close to \$500,000. They want a really good study done but want the money to go into the projects themselves rather than the study.

Upon motion by Bill Martin and unanimous vote, the Board approved the request from the Schools to use capital project funds for the RFP for the School Facility Study.

Recorded vote:	David Cox	-	Yes
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	Yes
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: EXTENSION OFFICE – REQUEST TO HIRE SUMMER INTERN

Mr. Barkley, County Administrator, said the request is to use funds in the current budget for a summer internship position in the Extension Office.

Upon motion by Bill Martin and unanimous vote, the Board approved the request to use \$4,250 in local funds for a summer intern position at the Extension Office.

Recorded vote:	David Cox	-	Yes
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	Yes
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: CENTRAL VIRGINIA REGIONAL JAIL

Mr. Lamb briefly reviewed the proposed budget for the Jail. Greene County's share for FY 2015 including the reserve amount is \$1,208,087. The reserve amount of \$91,957 may be eliminated thereby reducing the figure further.

Mr. Barkley said the Finance Committee has come up with several options for a reduced budget. The figure is whittled down from an 84% to a 39% increase which brings Greene's figure down to \$970,000. That would be a 13% increase in the operating budget. This version is both manageable and realistic.

Mr. Lamb said he remains concerned about the safety of inmates and staff. There are currently 102 employees at the Jail, many who live in member jurisdictions.

The Jail recently transferred 70 inmates to another facility at a cost of \$36 per inmate per day.

Mr. Lamb questioned the use of reserve funds as proposed by the Finance Committee.

Mr. Martin said he sees an opportunity to save taxpayer dollars by supporting the lower budget figures. Mr. Lamb felt that budget proposal compromises the safety of inmates and staff.

Mr. Deane said it is a hard decision either way as the argument on both sides is good. What are our choices? Mr. Deane said he will have to trust members know which way to vote.

Mr. Martin said he hopes, when it comes to the vote, Greene County representatives will support what best protects our interests which is the smaller number.

Mr. Lamb said he supports the recommendation from the Superintendent because he puts people first. He doesn't want to put anyone in danger. Localities have not had to pay any operating costs at the Jail for 18 years thanks to revenue from federal inmates.

Mr. Martin said member localities will be insisting on multi-year budgets so this will not happen again. There are means for extra budgetary allocations during the fiscal year.

Mr. Frydl said he also supports the recommendation by the Finance Committee and doesn't think it is taking away actual safety.

Mr. Cox said the Board of Supervisors, in 2011, agreed to support the expansion knowing there would be additional operating costs. He doesn't like these big numbers either. The Board has entrusted Mr. Lamb to look out for the best interests of the County on the Jail Board and he has to support Mr. Lamb.

Mr. Deane said he also supports and trusts Mr. Lamb and other Jail Board members.

Mr. Frydl noted the Board has made decisions in opposition to expert recommendation in other areas/departments such as E911, Schools, Economic Development and the Sheriff's Department. We're not experts in those areas either. This decision is different in that we are trusting this expert to a degree that we haven't trusted others.

Mr. Deane said Mr. Lamb has to decide how to vote and he would trust his judgment.

RE: MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Peter Benson questioned the \$10 across-the-board facility fee on his RSA bill. He could not find information on how this was derived. RSA told him the County said to charge the \$10 fee regardless of the amount of the actual bill. With no notification, citizens were completely blindsided by this. While he understands the need for capital improvement projects, Mr. Benson felt it would have been better to do a usage fee as opposed to an across-the-board tax. Mr. Cox noted it is the Board's policy to not engage in conversation on matters presented at this time and thanked him for his comments.

RE: CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Jim Frydl and unanimous vote, the Board approved the following items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of February 10, 2015 meeting.
- Minutes of February 24, 2015 meeting.

Recorded vote:	David Cox	-	Yes
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	Yes
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

Mr. Frydl questioned the local in-kind match required for the two grants on the consent agenda. He didn't understand the letter the way it is written. Mr. Cox said he was confused when reading the request also.

Sheriff Smith said operating costs, such as gas, can be used as in-kind contributions. Major Swingler, via phone, explained that budgeted operational costs are used as in-kind matches for grants. No additional local funding is required.

Upon motion by Jim Frydl and unanimous vote, the Board approved the request from the Sheriff's Department to apply for a DMV Alcohol Enforcement Grant and a DMV Speed Enforcement Grant contingent upon written clarification regarding in-kind match requirements.

Recorded vote:	David Cox	-	Yes
	Jim Frydl	-	Yes
	Eddie Deane	-	Yes
	Davis Lamb	-	Yes
	Bill Martin	-	Yes

Motion carried.

RE: OTHER MATTERS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Lamb said he has received a lot of calls regarding the facility fee. Mr. Deane said he also has received calls.

Mr. Frydl said the plan was based on a rate study done four years ago by Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates and the fee was derived based on their recommendations. The theory was a fee would be more understandable than a rate increase as a fee would go away when debt is paid whereas a rate increase would not. Even with the additional \$10 fee, there won't be sufficient revenue to cover the debt payments on existing infrastructure.

Mr. Deane said transparency goes a long way. Citizens feel the County did not give them notice and have questions about the fairness of the fee. Mr. Lamb agreed the public should have been better informed.

Mr. Frydl said the system has been subsidized by new growth in the past. For example, Wal-Mart paid \$800,000 in water availability fees. The economy has changed and there is little to no growth.

Mr. Cox said he had understood that advance notice would be provided when the billing format was changed to the new tri-fold format.

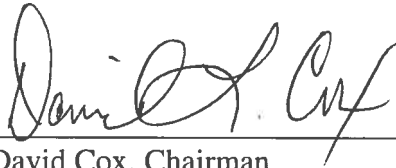
Mr. Martin said the Board has learned a lesson and will have to do a better job communicating increases in any fee or tax.

Mr. Frydl felt the Board needs to fundamentally change the way we budget. Reactive decisions are being made without any context of the big picture, past spending trends, financial documentation, etc. We are doing ourselves and citizens a disservice by not contemplating the future. We have no real capital budget because we don't plan ahead. The whole process needs to be changed.

Mr. Barkley said a routine reporting process needs to be developed. The Board needs to be able to budget in real time. The process starts with capability, versatility on staff's behalf, and technology. Those three elements combined will ensure an efficient financial reporting process.

RE: CONTINUED MEETING

The Chairman announced that a budget workshop will be held on March 17 at 4:30 p.m. in the County Meeting Room. The continued meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2015. The meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Cox", is written over a horizontal line.

David Cox, Chairman
Greene County Board of Supervisors