

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, May 16, 2005

Meeting Rm. 1, Brookens Administrative Center

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: McGinty, Betz, Doenitz, Gross, Tapley, Wysocki

MEMBERS ABSENT: Avery, Bensyl, O'Connor

OTHERS PRESENT: Deb Busey (County Administrator), Joel Fletcher (State's Attorney's Office), Dan Walsh (Sheriff), Sandy Lewis (CEO of Mental Health Center), Shelia Ferguson (Mental Health Center), John Sullivan (Mental Health Center), Mike Munson (Press).

Call to Order

Chair McGinty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Recording Secretary called the roll. Declaring a quorum present, the Chair proceeded with the meeting.

Approval of Agenda/Addendum

MOTION by Betz to approve the agenda for the meeting; seconded by Wysocki. Motion carried.

Public Participation

There was no one for public participation.

Budget Amendments/Transfers

MOTION by Wysocki to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #05-00056 from Regional Planning Commission – Family & Community Development – Odd Years; seconded by Betz. Motion carried.

Sheriff

Recommendation Regarding Funding for Additional Mental Health Services at the Champaign County Correctional Center/Satellite Jail

The Sheriff passed out a comparison of the proposals from Health Professionals and the Mental Health Center. The proposals had to at least meet the requirements set in Judy Cox's report along with linkage to local mental health when an inmate is released and willingness to work with the University of Illinois's Department of Psychology. The Sheriff compared the proposals and negotiated with the providers. Health Professionals offered the lower cost of services.

Tapley entered the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Health Professionals already provides the medical services to the jail facilities and the Sheriff felt there was benefit to having the same medical and mental health provider. It eliminates friction between the two programs if both come from the same employer. Health Professionals has experience in a number of correctional centers. The Sheriff stated the Mental Health Center has provided good service to the jail in the past. But he recommended choosing the Health Professionals proposal due to cost, as well as other factors. An additional \$75,000 will be needed by the

Sheriff's Office to pay for the Health Professionals contract for the rest of this fiscal year. Health Professionals requested at least a one-year contract. The County Board can transfer the additional funds into the Sheriff's budget and Sheriff Walsh has the authority to contract without the County Board being involved because it is not an intergovernmental agreement.

In response to questions as to whether mental health at the jail is an ongoing problem, the Sheriff stated that over the weekend a new correctional officer noticed an inmate acting strangely. Officers examined the inmate's cell and discovered he had been working on the overhead light fixture to try and find an anchor point. Therefore, it is an ongoing problem.

Tapley apologized for being late and asked the approximate full year increased cost of the contract with Health Professionals for mental health services. Busey stated the increased cost would be \$163,540 for one year.

The Sheriff said the inmate population continues to rise. The number on home confinement is fifty-three. This is a record number for home confinement. The Sheriff might have to come to the County Board with a request for dedicated offers just for CHIPS if this trend continues.

Tapley asked if Busey had identified funds that could be used for the increased services at the jail. Busey put together an overview of the FY2006 Budget and presented it to the committee. She designates line items that are expected to need additional funding this year above their budgets. Based on the current estimate of revenue and expenditure, the County is facing a \$196,000 shortfall in the FY2006 Budget without including the increased contract with Health Professionals. The committee discussed the budget for this year through FY2006 and Health Professionals experience in correctional institutions.

Fletcher noted the County Board's authority in this matter is strictly budgetary. It is ultimately a decision of the Sheriff how to spend the money within his budget in terms of selecting the vendors. The committee discussed who the vendor would hire and contract details.

MOTION by Gross to increase the Sheriff's current budget by \$75,000 for mental health care of inmates at the Champaign County Correctional Center/Satellite Jail; seconded by Betz. A budget amendment in the form of a resolution budget amendment will be prepared for the County Board meeting on Thursday. Tapley abstained from voting due to a possible conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Designation of Items to be Placed on County Board Consent Agenda

The Chair designated no items for the Consent Agenda.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Administrative Secretary