

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
BUDGET HEARING MINUTES

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET HEARINGS

Monday, August 27, 2012

Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christopher Alix, Jan Anderson, Astrid Berkson, Tom Betz, Lorraine Cowart, Aaron Esry, Stephanie Holderfield, Stan James, John Jay, Jeff Kibler, Alan Kurtz, Ralph Langenheim, Gary Maxwell, Brendan McGinty, Diane Michaels, Max Mitchell, Steve O'Connor, Patti Petrie, James Quisenberry, Michael Richards, Giraldo Rosales, Jon Schroeder, C. Pius Weibel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carol Ammons. Ron Bensyl, Lloyd Carter, Steve Moser

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Blue (County Highway Engineer), Deb Busey (County Administrator), Stephanie Joos (Animal Control Director), Cameron Moore (Chief Officer RPC), Elizabeth Murphy (Chief Operating Officer RPC), John Peterson (BOH Treasurer), Kay Rhodes (Administrative Assistant), Peter Tracy (MHB/DDB Director), Michael Williams (Children's Advocacy Center Director)

CALL TO ORDER

County Board Chair Weibel called the hearing to order at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Rhodes called the roll. Alix, Anderson, Berkson, Betz, Esry, James, Jay, Kibler, Kurtz, Langenheim, Maxwell, McGinty, Michaels, O'Connor, Petrie, Quisenberry, Richards, Schroeder, and Weibel were present at the time of roll call establishing a quorum.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Betz to approve the agenda; seconded by Petrie. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Cowart and Mitchell entered the hearing at 6:05 p.m.

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Champaign County Board of Health

Peterson explained the agency contracts with the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District and the results have been good. He explained the core concerns of the Board of Health are

sanitation, sewage, and water quality. Peterson said the Board of Health budget is incremental and the overall percentage increase for FY2013 is 5.9%. This is largely due to grant activity. He said although support had lessened, they are still able to assist the Smile Healthy Program with \$45,000. In the past, it had been \$55,000. Maxwell asked what the projected increase over the original budget in Food Protection Permits was based on. Peterson explained that they were doing a better job of collecting fees. Busey added this year there was a spike in permits, but she did not want to carry this over to FY2013, in case this was an anomaly.

Petrie asked if the budget had increased 5.9% due to grants, why did the funding for the Smile Healthy Program decrease. Peterson said it was a 5.9% increase to the overall budget, not an increase in revenue.

Petrie asked how the Cherry Orchard situation became so out of hand. Peterson explained that most members on the Board of Health felt that the district handled it very well. He was not addressed sooner due to the legal limitations.

Kurtz asked about the progress of posting restaurant inspection reports on the website. Peterson said they discuss this topic at every board meeting now and review different models to post the reports. Schroeder asked for further explanation of the VECTOR Grant. Peterson said this grant is due to the West Nile Virus and mosquito control. He added that if evidence of an infection is found the district receives additional funding. Schroeder inquired if the lack of funding affected the number of children served through the Smile Healthy Program. Peterson said a cut back in funding results in a cut back in services.

MOTION by Kurtz to receive the budget report and place on file; seconded by James.
Motion carried with unanimous support.

RPC, Head Start, GIS Consortium, & USDA Loans

Moore stated they expected revenue and expenses totaling approximately \$20 million for FY2013. RPC encompasses over 105 active funding sources or departments. Each fund has its own reporting requirements and fiscal years. Federal and State Grants account for approximately 85% of the budget. Moore said 65% of RPC expenditures are salaries and fringe benefits. Some of the funds have a “pass through” component, meaning that RPC receives the funds and passes them on to people in the community who need assistance.

Moore explained the current FY2013 Budget presented is at this time their best guess since 85% of the budget comes from State and Federal contracts. Two factors could affect the outcome: 1) Congress passed a 6-month continuing resolution, which will provide funding for federal programs through March 2013 instead of adopting a new budget in October 2012. The programs that RPC receives funding for did well. 2) Sequestration calls for budget cuts to be implemented by January 2, 2013. If this occurs, cuts would be made to programs.

Moore said Administrative costs would remain around 7% of the budget. This is well below the maximums for Federal and State costs.

Moore said RPC would assume the role of Grant Recipient, Fiscal Agent, and Administrator for the Federal Workforce Development Programs for Ford, Champaign, Piatt, and Iroquois Counties, effective October 1, 2012. The base funding for this program is \$1.9 million per year. There are four supplemental grants, which may not be available every year, but these would bring the total up to approximately \$2.5 million per year.

Murphy explained how RPC's budget would affect the County of Champaign.

The Champaign County Planning contract for professional services has been budgeted at \$71,922, which represents a 1.95% increase effective December 1, 2012. The budget will support the long-term planning function for various countywide projects. Specific goals, objectives, and performance indicators for 2013 are detailed in the budget document.

Champaign County's portion of the RPC's membership dues for 2013 is budgeted at \$21,640, which represents a 6.3% decrease resulting from a decline in county population. The dues structure consists of a base and per capita contribution utilizing adjusted 2010 census data. The dues structure has been designed to ensure full cost recovery for enhanced membership services.

Champaign County matching funds for the Senior Services program are budgeted at \$22,248, which represent a 0% increase. These local matching funds support over \$100,000 in additional federal and local support for enhanced senior services.

Champaign County support for CUUATS through the Highway Department totals \$27,598 representing a projected 5% increase from the prior year. These matching funds support an additional \$600,000 in federal and state funding for transportation planning, engineering, and research functions.

Champaign County's support for the Court Diversion Project is budgeted at \$161,000, which represents a 13.9% increase from the prior year. The Mental Health Board provides additional support in the amount of \$26,000. Grant funds support a total project cost in excess of \$228,000 providing expanded juvenile justice diversion services through mediation strategies.

Holderfield entered the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

The Police Training match is budgeted at \$7,334 with the annualized 5.0% increase tied to state grant contributions. The County's match is used to leverage nearly \$400,000 in state funding for law enforcement personnel training.

Rosales entered the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

The Geographic Information System (GIS) continues to advance toward service bureau status for its member agencies. Champaign County's portion of the Consortium budget includes the base allocation of \$255,790, which is now inclusive of funding for the assessment-mapping project. These funds will be combined with the Champaign County GIS Special Projects budget of \$9,356. The County Recorder fee for GIS has been designated as the funding source for these initiatives.

MOTION by Betz to receive the RPC Budget report and place on file; seconded by Langenheim. **Motion Carried with unanimous support.**

Mental Health Board Funds & ACCESS Initiative

Tracy explained their office maintains five separate budgets. These are the Mental Health Board, Developmental Disabilities Board, ACCESS Initiative Grant, Drug Courts Program Grant, and Delinquency Prevention Grants.

Tracy said the fact that the State of Illinois had fallen behind in its payments to community agencies placed the burden of determining how best to use their resources to support programs when the State cannot be counted on to do its part. Tracy said the ACCESS Initiative Grant was a federal grant that comes through the state and had no impact at all on county government. Tracy said if a cash flow issue occurred, the program would be shut down, and no county funds would be used to support it.

Holderfield asked for an example of the type of expenditures for Public Relations line item under the Mental Health Board budget. Tracy explained these funds are used for the Anti-Stigma Campaigns. There are major two events: the Disability Exposition for people with disabilities and the Roger Ebert Film Festival. Films are selected that feature disabilities. Literature is passed out regarding anti-stigma and disabilities. These events are not fully funded by the Mental Health Board the expenses are offset by contributions.

Alix asked how one would obtain budgetary information in detail regarding ACCESS Initiative. Weibel explained to obtain this type of information Tracy would need to be contacted.

Petrie asked if it would be possible to place ACCESS Initiative's budgetary information on its website. She explained this action would be appropriate since this program is funded through a federal grant. Tracy was unaware of such a requirement, but he would check on it. Betz pointed out this request had been made before more than once. He stated although it may not be a federal requirement perhaps it should be done since it had been requested many times.

Rosales asked why interest and late fees were paid on the credit card account. Tracy explained they were unable to collect hotel and other expense receipts from the families they had sent for training. The Auditor's office does not process payments without receipts. Tracy said they spent a great deal of time collecting the needed documentation.

Tracy said the Mental Health Board manages the Drug Courts Program Grant through a memorandum of understanding with Champaign County. The CCMHB contracts with Prairie Center Health Systems to disburse Drug Court Fees in behalf of Drug Court clients. These disbursements are made under the supervision of and consistent with Drug Court Steering Committee policies for appropriate use of these dollars. In addition, the CCMHB provides funding to support clinical services for Drug Court clients through a separate contract with Prairie Center. The Drug Court Steering Committee, the CCMHB contracts with Prairie Center Health Systems to provide services as delineated in the Federal Grants Justice Drug Courts Program. This is a two-year grant for \$100,000 per year.

Richards left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Tracy explained his office also manages the Delinquency Prevention Grants through a memorandum of understanding with Champaign County. These funds are used to support juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention programs and services as prioritized by the Quarter Cent for Public Safety Administrative Team. This team includes the States Attorney, Director of Court Services, Superintendent of the Juvenile Detention Center, the ACCESS Initiative, and representatives of the Champaign County Mental Health Board.

MOTION by Rosales to receive the Mental Health Board Funds and ACCESS Initiative Budget reports and place on file; seconded by Kibler. **Motion carried.**

Children's Advocacy Center

Williams stated approximately 175-200 children pass through the center per year. Williams said they are overseen by a fourteen member governing board and there are two full-time employees consisting of himself and a case manager. They also contract with two licensed therapists to provide crisis intervention counseling services. He explained there are three primary revenue streams and these are a combination of local, federal and state grants, fund raising, and donations.

MOTION by Cowart to receive the budget report and place on file; seconded by Langenheim. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Animal Control Funds

Joos explained her budget was split into three areas to have a better statistical breakdown of the budget as a whole. It is split into Administrative-registration of all dogs and cats, Control Services-provided for 22 villages and the City of Champaign, and Impoundment Services-provided for county with the exception of the Village of Bondville and Homer. She explained there had been no change in personnel or in large administrative expenditures. Control Services purchased a new van in FY2012, but no large expenditures are expected in FY2013. No large expenditures are expected for Impoundment Services and no change in personnel.

James asked if there was a contingency fund for unexpected expenses. Joos stated she saves money wherever she can, but the budget is extremely tight. She compared her department to the Champaign County Humane Society. Joos explained that the nine employees of Animal Control take in 2,000 animals per year. The Humane Society handles the same number with 50 employees plus many volunteers. Joos said the facility is running in the most cost effective manner possible and she recognized that the lack of emergency funds was a problem.

MOTION by Schroeder to receive the budget report and place on file; seconded by Rosales. **Motion carried with unanimous support.**

Highway Funds

Blue explained the Highway department is funded by several different funds: the County Highway Fund-derived from property taxes, the County Bridge Fund-derived from the County Bridge Fund Levy, the County Motor Fuel Tax Fund-derived from the allotment of State Motor Fuel Tax funds, and Federal-Aid Matching Tax-derived from Matching Tax Levy. Blue said there were twenty-eight rural and two urban districts in Champaign County.

MOTION by Kurtz to receive the budget report and place on file: seconded by Langenheim.
Motion carried with unanimous support.

ADJOURNMENT

The hearing adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Rhodes
Administrative Assistant

Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.