

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 10, 2008

**Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doenitz, Jones, McGinty, Nudo, O'Connor, Richards, Wysocki

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gross, Weibel

OTHERS PRESENT: Kat Bork (Recording Secretary), Deb Busey (County Administrator of Finance & HR Management), Denny Inman (County Administrator of Facilities and Procurement), Michael Moore (Jail Superintendent), Elizabeth Murphy (RPC), Dan Walsh (Sheriff), Dan Welch (Treasurer), Wanda Burnett (Mental Health Center), Kurt Froehlich (Bond Counsel)

CALL TO ORDER

McGinty called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Doenitz, Jones, McGinty, Nudo, O'Connor, Richards, and Wysocki were present at the time of roll call. Weibel had previously informed the Chair that he would not be attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Jones to approve the agenda; seconded by Richards. **Motion carried.**

McGinty requested to move agenda item VIIID to the top of the agenda. The committee concurred.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Wysocki to approve the Finance Committee regular session minutes of March 13, 2008; seconded by Doenitz. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS/TRANSFERS

Budget Amendment #08-00037, Budget Amendment #08-00038, and Budget Amendment #08-00041

MOTION by Doenitz to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #08-00037 from Fund 075 Regional Planning Commission – Department 684 Shelter Plus Care 2-Even Year for increased appropriations of \$10,000 for the Regular Full-Time Employees line and

\$45,000 for the Emergency Shelter/Utilities line with increased revenue of \$54,550 from the HUD-Shelter Plus Care line;

Budget Amendment #08-00038 from Fund 080 General Corporate – Department 071 Public Properties for increased appropriations of \$18,672 for the Temporary Salaries & Wages line with increased revenue of \$18,672 from the Reimbursement Building Improvement line; and

Budget Amendment #08-00041 from Fund 075 Regional Planning Commission – Department 715 IDOT Planning for increased appropriations of \$23,000 for the Professional Services line with increased revenue of \$23,000 from the IDOT-State Planning & Research line. Motion seconded by Wysocki. **Motion carried.**

Budget Amendment #08-00039

MOTION by Wysocki to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #08-00039 from Fund 850 Geographic Information System Joint Venture – Department 672 Aerial Photography Project for increased appropriations of \$79,653 for the Professional Services line with increased revenue of \$6,987 from the Champaign City line, \$3,866 from the Urbana City line, \$1,853 from the Village of Rantoul line, \$3,807 from the University of Illinois line, \$18,950 from the Champaign County line, \$41,000 from the Piatt County line, \$1,250 from the Village of Savoy line, and \$1,190 from the Village of Mahomet line; seconded by Richards.

O'Connor asked about the difference in revenue to expenditure in the budget amendment. Murphy said the revenue is budgeted by each unit of local government participating in the aerial photography contract.

Motion carried.

Budget Amendment #08-00040

MOTION by Wysocki to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #08-00040 from Fund 080 General Corporate – Department 016 Administrative Services for increased appropriations of \$32,542 for the Equipment Less Than \$1,000 line and \$9,560 for the Phone Equipment line with no increased revenue; seconded by Jones. **Motion carried.**

Budget Amendment #08-00042

MOTION by O'Connor to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Amendment #08-00042 from Fund 628 Election Assistance/Accessibility – Department 022 County Clerk for increased appropriations of \$50,000 for the Professional Services line with increased revenue of \$50,000 for the Election Commission-Help America Vote line; seconded by Richards.

Wysocki asked for an explanation of the budget amendment. Busey believed the County Clerk would be doing some work with technology. Wysocki asked where the money was coming from. Busey said the revenue is grant money as far as she knows.

Motion carried.

Budget Transfer #08-00008

MOTION by O'Connor to recommend to the County Board approval of Budget Transfer #08-00008 in Fund 080 General Corporate for transfers from Department 075 General County Salary Increase Limit line in the amounts of \$98,570 to the Department 051 Juvenile Detention Center Regular Full-Time Employees line, \$75,127 to the Department 052 Court Services/Probation Regular Full-Time Employees line, and \$214,811 to the Department 140 Correctional Center SLEP Regular Full-Time Employees line; seconded by Wysocki.

Doenitz asked where the money is coming from. Busey explained the money was budgeted in the Salary Increase Limit line, but the contract was not finished. Now the earmarked money is being moved to the appropriate departments' budgets to cover the salary increases in the new contract.

Motion carried.

SHERIFF

Request for an Administrative Secretary for the Jail Superintendent

MOTION by O'Connor to approve the request for an Administrative Secretary for the Jail Superintendent; seconded by Doenitz.

Sheriff Walsh introduced Michael Moore, the new Jail Superintendent. Moore had a long and distinguished career with Cook County. He began as a Correctional Officer and worked his way up to Jail Superintendent. Walsh stated the addition of an Administrative Secretary position will be expenditure neutral and would not require an addition to his budget this year or next year. Moore has the experience to perform budgeting, contract negotiations, disciplining that used to go to the Sheriff, grievances, and other duties that were not done by the previous Jail Superintendent. Moore needs an Administrative Secretary who can handle confidential matters. Busey added the position has been reviewed by David DeThorne in the State's Attorney's Office and the position would be exempt from the bargaining unit because of the confidential nature of the position.

Wysocki asked if the previous Jail Superintendent had a Secretary. Walsh stated Captain Young did not have a confidential Secretary. He used Teresa Schleinz, which greatly overloaded her at times. With the additional duties to be handled by Moore, there is no way Schleinz could support the Sheriff, the Chief Deputy Sheriff, and the Jail Superintendent. Nudo asked how the position would be revenue neutral. The Sheriff said things will wash out next year. Busey said an adjustment would be done to the Sheriff's staffing budget for the FY2009 budget. Walsh said there are positions in his office that are unfilled and will probably remain unfilled so the committee will not have to amend the Sheriff's budget allocation. Nudo stated, in light of the County's current financial position, the County Board should be careful to not add to the burden. He would hate to have an extra paid position in the FY2009 budget. Busey said she thought the Sheriff understands the total number of full-time employees he will have in FY2009 will not be one more than he has in FY2008.

Motion carried.

Contract to Provide Special Police Services to the Village of Philo and Contract to Provide Special Police Services to the Village of Sidney

MOTION by O'Connor to approve the Contract to Provide Special Police Services to the Village of Philo and Contract to Provide Special Police Services to the Village of Sidney; seconded by Richards.

Richards questioned some of the contract language. Walsh said the contract should be the standard contract with the only change being the price increase to include the approximate cost of the salary increases. Richards asked why the contract stated the Sheriff was responsible for absorbing any overtime costs for village matters. Walsh said that has been the same ever since his predecessor had the contracts. The contracts give the villages extra dedicated patrols. The Sheriff would still have to respond to calls, which causes overtime, even without the contracts. The villages would not have to pay the Sheriff for responding to these calls. The contracts ensure the villages receive extra dedicated patrols and the Sheriff's Office is reimbursed for these which help to defray his costs. Jones asked about the mileage charge with the increased gas prices. Walsh said

the cost per mile is based on the actual price. A lot of patrols are sitting stationary in high visibility areas to reduce gas costs.

Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

General Corporate Fund FY2008 Revenue/Expenditure Projection Report

Busey requested that the Treasurer provide his report first. The committee and Welch agreed. Busey distributed her reports to the committee. Busey reported the General Corporate Fund Projection Report has worsened in the last month. The sales tax revenues are fairly stable, but not growing at the projected 4% rate. The State Reimbursements have picked up. The County has received three months of reimbursement, but Busey does not expect the County will receive the budgeted amount. There is a projected \$200,000 shortfall in the State Reimbursement line. The General Government line, which is the revenue from the criminal justice system, is showing a deficit as the fees and fines collection has slowed substantially. The calculations are done on time series trend calculated against the past six years of revenue. The projected revenue shortfall for the General Corporate Fund has grown to \$644,733. On the expenditure side, it looks as if the County will spend 100% of the budget. A significant issue is the utilities costs, which appear to be severely underbudgeted for FY2008. The cost of utilities will offset any savings produced in other areas. The General Corporate Fund usually spends 98% of its budget, so spending 100% of the budget makes a difference. Busey summarized by stating the General Corporate is projected to have an \$815,062 deficit in FY2008. This would leave the County with a \$2.5 million fund balance, which is about 7.4% of this year's budget.

FY2008 Budget Management Recommendations

Busey provided a list of recommendations of ways to start managing this year's budget. These ideas were presented to the department heads and Busey requested the department heads send her any ideas they might have of ways to save money. She has not heard anything from department heads. It is recommended the County Board direct or request that all positions that become vacant during the year are held vacant for at least three months to generate personnel cost savings. Busey recommended, whenever possible, a document be scanned and emailed to prevent the Xerox copy charge and the use of paper. This could also generate savings on postage. All departments should either have or develop in-house templates for stationary and business cards because no one should be paying a printer for these forms. With Inman's help, a plan will up developed for generating utilities savings. These recommendations include turning off any unnecessary lights, turning off computers at the end of the day, and do not run space heaters when the air-conditioning is on. Busey hopes the departments will be proactive with implementing these types of efficiency measures.

In Busey's experience, one of the first things to be cut is training budgets. Busey thinks the training dollars should be spent because if employees are being sent to the right kinds of training opportunities, they should be returning with ideas of how to generate greater efficiency in our operations which should create savings. Busey thought it was fair that the departments with training budgets be asked for reports about what was gained through the training dollars being spent this year.

The next recommendation was one that Busey did not want to do, but she mentioned the option of freezing the transfer from the General Corporate Fund in FY2008 for future capital equipment and facilities replacement projects. This would mean all of the items scheduled for replacement in FY2009 and beyond would be affected. The County would either have to not make the replacements or double budget to replace the items in FY2009. If the General Corporate Fund ends the year with a \$100,000 surplus, she would recommend it go to funding capital expenditures.

Wysocki asked what kind of capital replacements were on the docket for this year. Busey said she is not recommending cutting this year's replacements. There are a couple of offices that have full technology replacements this year, which means all of their computers are over five years old and need to be replaced. Some of the equipment that was scheduled to be replaced this year has already been replaced. If any department has something scheduled for replacement this year that they do not really need to replace, then they will not replace it.

Doenitz said the County needs to be careful with evaluating the vehicles on a case by case basis because it might cost the County more to keep a vehicle maintained than it would to replace it. Busey agreed and confirmed they deal with everything on a case by case basis in the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund. The Sheriff's and Highway's vehicles are in the budgets for those departments, not the Capital Equipment Replacement Fund. Departments are being encouraged to minimize travel to reduce the use of gas and oil in fleet vehicles. Busey also recommended reviewing some of the County Clerk's and Sheriff's fees to consider appropriate CPI increases based on the last five years. She will report back to the committees on the fees. Busey encouraged the committee to send her any recommendations they might have for cost savings.

Nudo said Busey's suggestions were great and asked about identifying a quantifiable measuring stick on each of the recommendations and hold someone within the departments responsible for measuring savings. Nudo suggested the postage costs from each department be measured. Busey said the entire General Corporate Fund pays for postage centrally, not by department. There is barely enough time to process the mail and send it out on a daily basis as it is. Busey noted a department that wanted to send out a satisfaction survey with 1,200 pieces of mail and 1,200 stamped, return addressed envelopes was told it would not be done because it was not in the postage budget. The department was offered the opportunity to use its own budget to cover the postage for the survey. Nudo said there should be a committee headed up by the Administrators to determine what travel is extraneous and if any travel is being duplicated. Nudo serves on the Board of Directors for the Realtors Association and whenever he attends a training conference, he must first submit a written report on that conference before he receives the per diem reimbursement. He suggested implementing a similar practice for the County. Wysocki stated that should also apply to the County Board members who go to the NACO Conference. When McGinty and Steve Beckett attended the NACO Conference a couple of years ago they emailed their summaries of the conference to the County Board and shared the materials from sessions. Last year the County Board did not receive anything from who went to the conference. Wysocki believed a condition for the County providing travel expenses should be a report on the conference. McGinty agreed training was valuable, such as the NACO Conference where the Board members can learn what other counties are doing about similar problems. Nudo said turning off the computers every night can result in significant savings. Someone must be responsible for implementing this and making sure it is done.

Jones said how bad the General Corporate Fund balance would have to get before they consider personnel cutbacks. He wanted to have a warning in advance because the General Corporate Fund picture has worsened in a month. Busey stated she becomes much more comfortable with the projection report given in June. Once the May numbers are in, the projection report becomes more stable as an indicator of how the General Corporate Fund will end the fiscal year. Busey said before talking about cutting personnel, she would be having the meeting with department heads to ask what else they could cut. She does not envision cutting personnel mid-year. If this financial picture is this bleak in August when the Finance Committee is planning the FY2009 budget then talking about eliminating some staffing positions might be something the County Board has to look at. The departments can hold open positions vacant as long as possible, but departments like the Treasurer's Office cannot hold a position vacant during their busy tax cycle season. Some departments can hold positions vacant. McGinty asked if the pecking order was to ask for delayed expenditures, then ask for frozen expenditures, then ask for expenditure cuts, and then look at personnel. Busey answered yes. Wysocki asked if departments who could hold a position vacant for three months could do without that position. Busey did not think so. A department can function without a position for three months, thought it creates a hardship for

someone else in the office, but she firmly does not believe the County offices are overstaffed, particularly the smaller offices. Champaign County's staffing levels are much smaller than comparable counties for the volume of work accomplished, particularly the offices in the Brookens Administrative Center. With the bigger County operations, there are some differences. Busey does not think the Sheriff has more deputies per capita or per square mile than other counties or that Champaign County has more Corrections Officers than other counties. If it comes to staffing cutbacks, Busey said the cutbacks would have to be correlated to what services the County Board would be cut. Busey does not think the County could apply across the board staffing cutbacks, so the County Board and officials might need to look at what non-mandated service will we no longer provide. Some of non-mandated services have an effect on the mandated services. For example, the State's Attorney's Office has an adult diversion program, which is not mandated and employs three positions. But this would have a negative effect on the criminal justice system because the people who were going through the diversion program now have to go to court, have documents in the Circuit Clerk's Office, and go through the Court Services/Probation Department. A lot of evaluating would have to be done before any discussion on eliminating positions.

Nudo said back in February a few people were talking about this year could be perfect storm of reduced receipts, reduced revenue, and increased expenses. None of them even thought about the Nursing Home compounding this issue. Nudo said the longer they allow themselves to make adjustments the better off the County will be. Cutbacks might even start with discussion on reducing the size of the County Board.

Jones asked for a few examples of non-mandated services the County is currently providing. Busey said she could reply at this time on non-mandated services office by office across the County. She remarked on the expenses the County Board approved in the General County line each year. In FY2008, the \$145,000 grant to the Board of Health for public health was cut to \$95,000. The Board communicated to the Public Health Department that this grant would probably be eliminated over the next three to five years. Jones asked what that money pays for. Busey said it primarily pays for the child dental access program. The County provides grants for juvenile delinquency prevention from the Public Safety Sales Tax Funds. Busey noted the money for these programs is having an impact on the population of the Juvenile Detention Center. In his monthly report on these grants to the Justice & Social Services Committee, Peter Tracy reported that there are more females in the JDC than males at present. Busey could not remember a time when this has happened in twenty years. All of the diversion programs are targeting males and a shift has been seen in the JDC's population.

Doenitz stated he heard what Busey was saying about the impact of the programs, but he wanted a list developed of mandated versus non-mandated services. Jones thought cutting non-mandated programs should be considered before cutting personnel. McGinty asked if such a list could be prepared by the budget preparation time. Busey nodded.

Wysocki inquired about departments sharing staff during crunch periods, such as the departments involved in the real estate tax cycle. Welch stated that he and the County Clerk have shared a staff person for a day during crunch times. It is a good idea, but difficult to achieve in practice for the full year. Wysocki said that kind of departmental cooperation is commendable.

General Corporate Fund Budget Change Report

Busey reported there was no change to the General Corporate Fund since last month.

Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds for the Mental Health Center

Busey stated this was the final resolution for the issuance of bonds for the Mental Health Center's capital project.

MOTION by Wysocki to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Capital Improvement Revenue Bonds for the Mental Health Center; seconded by Richards.

Richards asked what the capital project was for. Froehlich explained the Mental Health Center has facilities in Champaign and years ago they did a financing through Illinois Development Finance Authority with a rate of 5.3%. They are now refinancing through Edgar County Bank & Trust at a rate of 3.83%. This means substantial savings for the Mental Health Center. Wysocki asked what capital improvements would be done. Froehlich answered no capital improvements are being done at this time; this is refinancing the original purchase and the work done a six or seven years ago. He stated this is set up to be much easier to add on an improvement financing in the future.

Motion carried.

Renewal of \$300,000 Loan to Nursing Home (March 2007 Loan)

Busey stated the General Corporate Fund loaned the Nursing Home \$300,000 in March 2007. Loans are made for a twelve-month period. The Nursing Home is not in a position to repay this loan. Busey would prefer to renew the loan for other twelve months rather than forgiving it at this time because if the Nursing Home is ever in a position to repay it then the General Corporate Fund should be repaid.

MOTION by Doenitz to approve the Resolution Authorizing Renewal of a Loan from the General Corporate Fund to the Nursing Home Fund; seconded by Wysocki.

Doenitz stated the General Corporate Fund needs to stay in a position to recapture that loan if at all possible.

Motion carried.

TREASURER
Monthly Report

Welch reported the General Corporate Fund had to borrow \$750,000 from the Public Safety Sales Tax Fund today to cover payroll and accounts payable. Welch was informed that the single motel that pays the County's hotel/motel tax should reopen soon and be generated revenue. The Treasurer's Office will be mailing out real estate tax bills on May 2, 2008. The tax cycle is on time. Welch commended the County Clerk's Office and the Supervisor of Assessments' Office for doing a terrific job of getting the bills out on time. Champaign County will be one of only 4 or 5 counties out of the 102 counties in the state to get its tax bills out on time. This will help the County because its coffers are low.

McGinty asked for Welch to elaborate on the County's financial position for some perspective. Welch stated there are negative fund balances in the Tort Immunity Fund (negative by \$250,000), General Corporate Fund (negative by \$220,000), and the Social Security Fund (negative by \$114,000). By the end of March, the General Corporate Fund gave the Nursing Home another \$775,000 on top of the \$2.3 million the General Corporate Fund had already given the Nursing Home. It was amazing to Welch how resilient the General Corporate Fund has been. Welch is very concerned about the General Corporate Fund. He suggested the committee look at the Nursing Home like a bank would. If the General Corporate Fund is going to be providing the kind of funds the Nursing Home is asking, then there should be some oversight over the Nursing Home. Welch thought the Nursing Home should be making a monthly presentation to the Finance Committee on their accounts payable position, how far out they have not paid their bills, and the real standing of the Nursing Home financial position. The Finance Committee would not just be expected to find the money when the Nursing

Home has its hand out. Welch advocated for tax anticipation warrants instead of the loans from the Capital Asset Replacement Fund and Working Cash Fund to the Nursing Home Fund that were approved last month. Welch asked where the Nursing Home's borrowing from other funds would stop. The General Corporate Fund would be in a much better position if it had the \$3 million it has given the Nursing Home. Welch is extremely concerned and encouraged the committee to direct someone to have oversight of the Nursing Home's finances.

McGinty agreed with the Treasurer's recommendation for the Finance Committee to request a detailed monthly report on the Nursing Home with information on accounts payable and aging on accounts payable. He asked if the committee and Busey concurred. Busey stated she has expressed that same concern to the Nursing Home Administrator because the Nursing Home keeps coming back to the Finance Committee without any preparatory information. Busey attempted in the last year and a half to provide the committee with a monthly report, but her report was based on the money going out and coming in. This was not reflective of the true Nursing Home financial picture because the money going out does not reflect the Nursing Home's actual obligations. She has discussed this with Andrew Buffenbarger and informed him that the Finance Committee does need to receive a report on the level that shows the Nursing Home's outstanding expenses on a monthly basis. The committee needs to know what to expect if the Nursing Home is going to ask to borrow more funds. Buffenbarger works with an accounting firm, RSM McGladrey, for the Nursing Home's state reporting and billing. Since this accounting firm is already familiar with the Nursing Home's business practices, McGladrey will be conducting a two-day audit of the accounting practices at the Nursing Home. Busey agreed it needs to be clear every month to this committee and the County Board what the Nursing Home's actual financial position is. The committee agreed they wanted a detailed monthly report on the Nursing Home's finances. McGinty asked that Busey makes sure Buffenbarger understands the committee's direction and he would try to do the same.

Nudo said he was concerned that the \$775,000 loan the committee approved last month only took the Nursing Home through January. He stated that any business should be able to give an accurate, current financial picture on a given day on what is owed including outstanding accounts payable. Welch said Nudo was correct. Nudo stated he did not know any accountant worth their weight who would not know actually what the aging was, how much was owed, and be able to generate a report in an organization like the Nursing Home.

Doenitz agreed with Nudo and was glad Welch said what he did. Doenitz was shocked that Buffenbarger was not present at tonight's meeting because the County gave his department another \$775,000 and he will be back for more money because the accounts are not current yet. He wondered why Buffenbarger was not here to let the committee know how the Nursing Home is doing. Busey said Buffenbarger has taken some serious steps in the past few days to have the accounting operation at the Nursing Home audited to be able to report back to the committee on where the Nursing Home actually is financially. Doenitz said there are a lot of little things not being addressed at the Nursing Home that amount up to a lot of money, such as utilities. Doenitz asked why a wing was not shut down when the Nursing Home is not at full capacity. McGinty said there has been some brainstorming sessions to ask those questions about the Nursing Home and think of ways to reduce expenses. The County is not going to get the Medicaid money back this year and the expense of contract nursing because of the nursing shortage is a serious issue. McGinty spoke to Jim Lenard at Carle, who offers more money to nurses and still experiences difficulty in hiring enough nurses. Doenitz said he understands the nurse shortage, but he felt simple things like closing rooms to reduce utilities costs are not being done first. He emphasized the need to look at small things that can snowball into big bills. McGinty agreed that the Nursing Home should be looking at everything possible to save money. Nudo encouraged the County Board members to come to the study session on the Nursing Home with ideas to contribute on cost saving measures at the Nursing Home. McGinty hoped Tuesday's study session would be about creative ways to save the Nursing Home, not placing blame. Doenitz appreciated Welch's report on the County's finances in general and would like Welch to continue to do so. McGinty stated there is a general feeling that the trials and tribulations of the Nursing Home's financial status drags down other departments like the General Corporate Fund. He asked what this

looked like historically to the County as a whole. Welch said there was a department heads meeting last week where Busey reported that things are not looking good and this will be a deficit budget year. Busey made the point to the department heads that we have to start taking care of our house now or there will be a meeting where the departments are being asked to cut 3% of their budgets, but Welch was not sure that anyone got it. Welch has been in that type of meeting and a 3% cut in a small department like his is a significant cut. He appreciated that Busey said those things, but he expects there will be a meeting in the future when departments are asked to cut their budgets, though he has no way of being certain. McGinty was concerned that the County Board members understand the severity of the situation, particularly as it pertains to the Nursing Home. It is critical that the Board members understand how the Nursing Home is affecting the entire County budget. The Finance Committee hears and understands this, but he wonders if the full Board does. Welch stated the County used to do inter-fund borrowing. He stopped this because it masked problems and prevented the Board members from seeing the real situation because a fund appeared to have money when they had borrowed from another fund. Welch has been trying to give the committee the most accurate information possible each month and may need to give more perspective rather than just numbers. Hiss perspective is that the County is in a very dangerous area right now. He does not see a way out right now, but it is better to catch it early than late. When he sees the projected General Corporate Fund balance down to 7% in FY2008 when it goal is 12.5%, he is extremely concerned. Welch thinks the Finance Committee understands the situation and makes the effort to understand by asking questions. Some department heads do not yet comprehend the situation because they have not been asked to make sacrifices yet.

Jones said it is not enough to say that the fund balance is projected to be at 7% because it does not make sense to some County Board members. Some on the County Board do not understand the result of a reduced balance. Jones said if the County Board is still passing budget amendments that are revenue neutral, then they do not get it. Doenitz stated some Board member did not comprehend that having a \$2.5 million fund balance is not a lot of money when you compare it to the County's monthly expenses. Welch said the General Corporate payroll only costs \$1.5 million every month. Busey said the General Corporate Fund began the year with a \$3 million fund balance and today the fund is negative by \$750,000.

O'Connor asked if there is still a significant amount of accounts receivable suffering from old age at the Nursing Home. Busey said there is a significant amount of accounts payable that is still obligated. O'Connor said he was asking about state reimbursements. Busey said she thinks the Nursing Home is not that far behind on amounts receivable. The State cut the County's Medicaid reimbursement, but county nursing homes are not that far delayed in the receipt of those revenue. The reimbursement is 30 to 60 days old, but the State reimbursement has always been that way. McGinty added the Nursing Home's accounts payable is 60 to 90 days out. O'Connor asked if the timing of the state reimbursement could be corrected. Busey said the county nursing homes are probably on one of the better ends of reimbursement from the state. The General Corporate Fund does not get reimbursed by the State for at least 90 days. She does not think the reimbursement rate for the Nursing Home could be improved upon. The County Board members could lobby for it.

Doenitz asked Welch to attend the study session scheduled for next Tuesday, because he thinks this information needs to come from someone besides the Finance Committee members. The Treasurer does a very good job of explaining the County's finances. McGinty agreed the Treasurer would provide a new voice and a different perspective. The committee concurred and Welch said he was willing.

MOTION by Wysocki to receive and place on file the Treasurer's March 2008 monthly report; seconded by Jones. **Motion carried.**

AUDITOR

Purchases Not Following Purchasing Policy

Tony Fabri was not present at the meeting and no list of purchases not following the Purchasing Policy was provided.

Monthly Report

MOTION by Richards to receive and place on file the Auditor's March 2008 monthly report; seconded by Jones. **Motion carried.**

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

DESIGNATION OF ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON COUNTY BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

McGinty designated agenda items VI A-G, VII A-C, and VIII D-E for the consent agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Administrative Secretary

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