

Martin County Board of Commissioners
Special Meeting- Budget Workshop
August 31, 2004
1:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Potter at 1:15pm. Those present were Commissioners Steve Pierce, Steve Donnelly, Dan Schmidtke, Gerald Boler, James Forshee, Auditor/Treasurer, Scott Higgins, and County Coordinator.

Higgins reviewed with the Board the preliminary budget as result of the previous Board budget workshop held August 24, 2004. Adjustments to the preliminary budget requests were made in expenses in the amount of \$540,763 and additional revenue adjustments of \$44,000 and the remaining County Program Aid (CPA) in the amount of \$655,894 (which was not included in the original preliminary budget due to the uncertainty of the potential State budget deficit), for a total of \$699,894. This resulted in a net levy of \$7, 574,156 for CY2005, a 4.41% increase from CY2004.

The Board met with the elected officials, Brad Gerhardt, Sheriff, Terry Viesselman, County Attorney, Kay Wrucke, County Recorder and reviewed each of their respective budget requests. After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly as a result of proposed reductions, to add back into the Sheriff's budget request \$9,000 for replacement of the Mobile Digital Terminals (MDT'S) (Consortium Expenses 01-201-6631) for the squad cars. Carried unanimously.

By consensus of the Board it was determined to add \$12,000 back into the proposed reductions for the Sheriff's budget request for Vehicle Leases (01-206-6640), and to add Enforcement Equipment of \$4,000 (01-206-6612), back into the preliminary budget, and to reduce the Overtime request for Jail budget in the amount of \$27,000 (01-208-6107), and to add additional revenue of \$18, 500 for Consortium Expenses received from the City of Fairmont, and all other proposed reductions are to remain the same.

By consensus of the Board it was determined to reduce the County Attorney's budget request by \$10,000 and to reserve an additional \$60,000 for an additional attorney and staff wages.

Wrucke informed the Board that included in her budget request is a reclassification for the Account Clerk I position to an Account Technician I position. No action taken. After further discussion and by consensus of the Board, it was determined that the Recorder's total budget request be reduced by \$1,000.

By consensus of the Board it was determined to add an additional \$3,800 in wages into the preliminary Probation budget for increased hours and to reduce the Overtime (01-251-6107) by \$1,200.

After review of the Martin County Historical Society allocation request and by consensus of the Board, it was determined to include \$22,500 allocation into the preliminary budget.

By consensus of the Board, it was determined to include \$10,000 allocation for the Martin County Preservation Association for restoration of the Red Rock Center for the Arts.

Jim Hallstrom was present and requested that the Board consider keeping GIS project proposed expenditures of \$75,000 in the budget. Stating that the Lake Field Junction development fee the county receives could be earmarked for the GIS project.

After further review of the remaining departmental budget requests and other adjustments and by consensus of the Board it was determined to propose a preliminary levy of \$7,758,087 a 6.95% levy increase.

Discussion ensued on the proposed transit facility and the two options being explored and cost associated with the project. The two options being explored are the Aerospace Systems building on 10th Street in Fairmont and the purchase of the MNDOT property in Fairmont adjacent to the County Highway Department. No action taken.

Higgins stated that the County has received a 13.3% increase in health insurance premiums. Higgins further stated that the County Insurance Committee would be reviewing the renewal on September 9, 2004.

With no further business, to wit, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 3:44pm.

Jack Potter, Chairman, Martin County Board of
Commissioners

Attest: Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator