

**Martin County Board of Commissioners**  
**Special Meeting- Budget Workshop**  
**October 18, 2007**  
**8:00 AM**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Potter at 8:10am. Those present were Commissioners Steve Pierce, Steve Donnelly, Dan Schmidtke, Gerald Boler, James Forshee, Auditor/Treasurer, and Scott Higgins, and County Coordinator.

Forshee gave an the status of the proposed CY2008 Budget stating that the Board has set a preliminary tax levy increase of 9.24% with a total expenditures of \$18,114,208 and total revenues (not including tax levy) of \$8,416,402 and a proposed levy increase of \$9,794,593.

Forshee went on to state that after the last budget review meeting their were further adjustments to the overall proposed budget and the new preliminary tax levy increase was 9.21%, with proposed expenditures of \$18,126,077, projected revenues of \$8,431,402, and preliminary tax levy increase of \$9,791.462.

The Board reviewed the following budget requests:

One FTE (Investigator) for the Sheriff's Office. After much discussion, by consensus of the Board, it was determined to add back into the Sheriff's budget \$25,000 from what was reduced from the preliminary budget request from the CIP Fund.

One FTE (Probation Officer) for the Probation Office. It was noted that this position has been budgeted; however, the Department of Corrections (DOC) is reviewing the proposed position. There may be a change in the request.

Allocation to the Martin County Fair (Ag Society) was discussed. It was determined to add back \$5,000 for a total of \$30,000.

Motion by Commissioner Schmidtke, seconded by Commissioner Donnelly to approve contribution of \$2,500 to be expended from the General Fund to the restoration project of the Sherburn Theater. Carried unanimously.

The Board has received a \$5,000 contribution request from the Fairmont Chapter (which includes all of Martin County) of "Let's Go Fishing with Seniors". After discussion,

Motion by Commissioner Pierce, seconded by Commissioner Boler to approve allocation of \$5,000 to the "Let's Go Fishing with Seniors" Fairmont Chapter from the General Fund.

There was discussion on additional part-time staff for Planning and Zoning Department. No action taken at this time.

The Highway Budget was discussed pertaining to the \$150,000 reduction from the original budget request. No further action taken.

Discussion ensued on the Beacon System pertaining to the elimination of the subscription fees. At a previous Board meeting, the Board took action to eliminate the subscription fee portion. After receiving new information regarding the fees, by consensus of the Board it was determined to hold off the elimination of this fee for further review and to direct staff to inform the Assessor's Office.

Higgins inquired whether or not the Board would approve finishing the insulation of the side walls for the transit facility. By consensus the Board gave its approval.

Forshee reviewed the Martin County Area Redevelopment Fund and informed the Board that as of end of year 2006 there is a fund balance of \$316,607.32. Of the total \$36,835.51 is money received for previous EDA loans, the remaining \$279,771.81 are loan payments received from the Small Cities Development Program. Forshee further stated that per letter received by the county from DEED in 1998 the Small Cities Development loan repayments can be used for any purpose and appear to free and clear of any obligations pertaining to the program. However, it is recommended that the EDA repayments be used for future Economic Development projects. After further discussion, no action taken.

Staff will make the proposed changes for Board review at a later date.

The Board was reminded that the Truth In Taxation Meeting will be held Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 5:30pm in the Board room following the regular Board meeting scheduled on this day.

With no further business, to wit, motion by Commissioner Donnelly, seconded by Commissioner Boler to adjourn. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:29am.

---

Jack Potter, Chairman, Martin County Board of Commissioners

---

Attest: Scott Higgins, Martin County Coordinator