

Jefferson County
Finance Committee Minutes
April 23, 2009

Committee members: Kuhlman, Rick
Mode, Jim
Molinaro, John
Rogers, Pamela (Chair)
Schmeling, Sharon L.

Pam Rogers called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. All committee members were present, with the exception of Rick Kuhlman. Also present were Dave Ehlinger, John Kannard, Joe Nehmer, Gary Petre, and Phil Ristow.

Gary Petre certified that the meeting complied with the open meeting law.

Elaine Richmond spoke against the concept of balancing the 2010 budget with employee concessions for 600 plus employees versus retaining nursing home beds for 120 residents.

Dawn Gunderson and Dave Wagner from Ehlers & Associates presented Workshop #4 on the five-year financial management plan. Topics discussed included:

- Presenting updated revenue and expenditure assumptions
- Updated five-year forecast without any new debt or capital
- Historical fund balance as a percentage of revenues
- Forecasted fund balance as a percentage of revenues
- Updated five-year forecast
 - With \$28.3 million in additional capital
 - With no wage increase in 2011
 - With short-term debt
 - With 10-year debt

John Kannard spoke regarding his concerns about increased Blackberry type device usage in the County. A motion was made by Molinaro/Schmeling to allow no new internet capable devices (e.g. Blackberry) to be purchased until the Infrastructure Committee puts a policy into place. The motion failed due to lack of a majority in favor, with Molinaro and Schmeling voting aye, whereas Rogers and Mode voted nay.

General discussion took place regarding the creation of the 2010 budget. By consensus, Gary Petre was directed to create the 2010 budget under the following guidelines:

1. Assume that the referendum to exceed the levy limits fails.
2. A balance budget will be presented (i.e. revenues equal expenditures)
3. Countryside Home will be sold
4. It is permissible to dip below the two months of budgeted expenditures retained (as per the Fund Balance Policy) with anticipated sale proceeds from Countryside Home ~~will to~~ be used to return the fund level to the policy of retaining two months of budgeted expenditures.

No action was taken on any possible changes to the County's Fund Balance Policy.

A motion was made by Molinaro/Mode to recommend to the County Board that Countryside Home be sold if the referendum to exceed the levy limits fails. The motion passed 4-0.

The next meeting was set for May 4th at 9:00 a.m.

John Molinaro explained that the Historical Commission is working to obtain a Historical Preservation Project Grant. Phil Ristow and Dave Ehlinger explained that current Board policies and rules are silent in regards to acceptance of grants and authorizing their related expenditures. By consensus, the Finance Committee agreed to authorize applying for the project grant.

A motion was made by Molinaro/Mode to adjourn at 12:22 p.m. The motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Rogers
Finance Committee Chair
Jefferson County

/dpe