

WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE

FINANCE, WAYS, & MEANS COMMITTEE

July 5, 2006; 4:00 P.M.

Finance, Ways, & Means Members Present: Commissioners Tommy Jones, Roger Stewart, Eric Owen, Earl Wright, James H. Westbrook, Jr., and Dick Phebus.

Finance, Ways, & Means Members Absent: None.

The Finance, Ways, & Means Committee met on Wednesday, July 5, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. at the Weakley County Board of Education/Department of Finance in the board room. Others present included Shawn Francisco - Director of Finance, Houston Patrick-County Mayor Elect, Mike Wilson-Sheriff, Susan Collins-Clerk & Master, Candy McAdams-Library, Beth Forrester- 911 Director, Pat Scarborough-County Clerk, David Tuck-Property Assessor, Jamison Peevyhouse-Public Safety Director, Gail Rogers-Dresden Office on Aging, Mary Chandler-Sharon Office on Aging, Mac Buckley-Commissioner, Diane Cashon-Election, Pam Belew-Circuit Court, Tommy Moore-General Sessions Judge, and Donald Doster-Trustee.

Chairman Dick Phebus called the meeting to order.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Jones made the motion to approve the June 27, 2006 minutes and with a second by Commissioner Wright the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Pg. 17 Clerk & Master 06-07 FY Budget

Line 168 (Temporary Personnel) has \$4,800 budgeted for times when it is necessary to have extra help in the office.

Line 106 (Deputies) does not include any decreases in salary except for the former employee's longevity pay.

Line 719 (Office Equipment) will be used to upgrade the filing system in the office. Some of the filing cabinets in the office are in poor condition and will be replaced with a new filing ceiling to floor filing system.

Chairman Phebus made mention that in several offices' budgets the year to date expenditures did not exhaust the budget; however, in the 06-07 FY budgets more money is being requested over the previous years budget.

Commissioner Westbrook stated that the County may need to explore other options for health insurance for its employees such as a Health Savings Account due to the continuous increases in the health insurance premiums.

Pg. 7 County Mayor 06-07 FY Budget

County Mayor elect Houston Patrick requested that some line items be increased.

Line 307 (Communications) be increased from \$2,500 to \$3,000. This will be used to

purchase a cell phone and for monthly service (\$40 per month for ten months).

Line 349 (Printing/Forms) be increased from \$200 to \$400 and will be used to purchase new letterhead and business cards.

Line 435 is increased from \$500 to \$3,000. This will be used to purchase two computers and printers. Commissioner Stewart stated that he understood a need for a computer in the office; however, he wanted to ensure that the computers would be used by the employees in the office. Mr. Patrick stated that the person hired would have to be computer literate.

Line 524 will be increased from \$200 to \$300.

Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to approve the above changes to the County Mayor's budget and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to reduce line 332 (Legal Notices) to \$200 and with a second by Commissioner Owen the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Owen made the motion to tentatively approve the county mayor's budget and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Pgs. 23 & 24 Sheriff and Drug Court Program 06-07 FY Budget

Line 399 (DUI Instructor) has been reduced to zero due to page 24 replacing this position. The position was eliminated when the position on page 24 was created.

Page 4, Revenue 48990 (Drug Court Program) offsets the expenditures on page 24.

Line 106 (Deputies) includes step raises and longevity pay increases.

Line 336 (Maintenance/Repair Radio) has been increased to \$3,000 due to two radios requiring repair at the beginning of the year.

Line 524 (Staff Development/Training) has been increased to \$5,000 due to there being two employees that must attend basic training this year.

Line 718 (Motor Vehicle) will be used to purchase four new patrol cars. Any surplus cars are sold in the surplus auction. Cars are driven 30-40,000 miles per year and are lasting on average five years. There are no governors placed on the patrol cars.

Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to tentatively approve the Sheriff Departments' budget and with a second by Commissioner Stewart the motion passed unanimously.

Pg. 25 Dispatchers 06-07 FY Budget

Line 148 (Dispatchers) has an increase of \$24,000, with \$12,000 coming from the 911 Board and the balance from the County. A part time employee will be moved to full time and incentive raises will be given to employees. This is needed due to the increase in call volume.

Pg. 26 Jail 06-07 FY Budget

Line 160 (Guards) includes step raises and longevity pay increases. Commissioner Stewart asked if the employees would get the step raises in addition to any raise given to all County employees. Sheriff Wilson stated the employees would get both raises.

Commissioner Owen asked why all the retirement rates were up and the Finance Director stated that the TCRS rates increased from 11.08% to 11.73%.

Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to tentatively approve the Jail's budget and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Pg. 30 Fire Prevention 06-07 FY Budget

Line 316 (Volunteer Fire Departments) has an increase of \$2,500. The five volunteer fire departments each requested a \$500 increase. The Public Safety Committee approved the increase.

Commissioner Wright made a motion to approve the Fire Prevention's budget and with a second by Commissioner Owen the motion passed unanimously.

Pgs. 34 & 35 Contributions/Welfare 06-07 FY Budget

Commissioner Owen made a motion to remove line 310 (Aspell Recovery Center) and with a second by Commissioner Westbrook the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to reduce line 310 (Community Developmental Services) to \$6,000 and with a second by Commissioner Owen the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to reduce line 310 (Autopsies/Ambulance) to \$15,000 and with a second by Commissioner Westbrook the motion passed unanimously.

Pgs. 33 Ambulance Service 06-07 FY Budget

Commissioner Owen made a motion to remove line 334 (Maintenance Agreement) and with a second by Commissioner Westbrook the motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Wilson stated that there could be a need for a medical examiner or coroner. He stated he would find out more information before requesting for money to be placed in the budget.

Pg. 7 Election Commission 06-07 FY Budget

Ms. Cashon stated that there are some lines that she is concerned about not having enough money budgeted. She said that with the new system there could be new expenses.

Line 193 (Election Workers) does not have an inspector budgeted and this is a position that the State is recommending, not mandating. She is estimating that an additional \$1,000 may be needed. There will be one machine operator and registrar per machine.

Line 332 (Legal Notices) may need additional money budgeted due to the ballot being 11 pages and it is published in the Dresden Enterprise and The Weakley County Press. State regulations require publication in one local paper.

Funds may be needed to transport the machines from location to location. Weakley County Motors has quoted \$50 per day with 50 miles included and each additional mile is 20 cents. The Finance Director recommended finding a qualified person to contract this service out with to remove the liability from the County as well as avoiding the renting of an automobile.

Commissioner Owen stated that other surrounding Counties do not hold primary elections. An average election cost is around \$40,000. He stated that this money could be better used to repair the Election Commission building. He added that the County might want to consider not holding the primary elections.

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to defer the budget to the HEED Committee for their recommendations and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Pg. 11 Property Assessor 06-07 FY Budget

Mr. Tuck requested line 425 (Gasoline) be increased to \$1,400. Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the \$300 increase and with a second by Commissioner Owen the motion passed unanimously.

Regional Airport

Commissioner Westbrook brought to the Committee's attention the need for a regional airport in order to recruit industry and to make the county more appealing. The Everett Stewart Airport is in need of capital improvements. They have been approved for a one million dollar, non-matching grant. The runway is currently 5,600 feet. They are asking to increase the runway to 8,000 feet. There needs to be modifications to the entrance, road, lighting, and other capital improvements to comply with standards to qualify as a regional airport. The airport currently operates with a nine member board. If Weakley County joins Obion County to form the Obion/Weakley County Joint Airport, the board with consist of seven members (four from Obion and three from Weakley). The first year cost will be \$35,000 from each County. Commissioner Westbrook made a motion to include \$35,000 in the budget contingent on Obion County including its part and an inter-local agreement being approved and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Westbrook asked Chairman Phebus as the Chairman of the County Commission to select 4 people to negotiate with Obion County the inter-local agreement details.

General Fund 06-07 FY Budget

Commissioner Owen made a motion to tentatively approve the General Fund 06-07 FY budget and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Drug Control 06-07 FY Budget

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to approve the Drug Control 06-07 FY budget and with a second by Commissioner Owen the motion passed unanimously.

Solid Waste Fund 06-07 FY Budget

Commissioner Owen made a motion to approve the Solid Waste Fund 06-07 FY budget and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Debt Service Fund 06-07 FY Budget

Commissioner Owen made a motion to approve the expenditures of the Debt Service Fund 06-07 FY budget and with a second by Commissioner Jones the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Time Changes

The meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 12, 2006 was changed to July 10, 2006. The meeting agenda was moved up one day to coincide with the change.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn at 5:30 p.m. and with a second by Commissioner Owen the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marci Floyd, Recording Secretary
Finance, Ways, & Means Committee

Approved:

Richard Phebus, Chairman
Finance, Ways, & Means Committee

Date: _____