

**WEAKLEY COUNTY, TENNESSEE
FINANCE, WAYS, AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

Thursday, July 6, 2017 – 9:00 a.m. – Board Room, Board of Ed./Dept. of Finance

Finance, Ways, and Means Committee Members Present: Commissioners Eric Owen, Earl Wright, Dennis Doster, David Hawks, James H. Westbrook, Jr., Larry Taylor, and Roger Donaldson

Finance, Ways, and Means Committee Members Absent: Commissioner Greg Usery and Tommy Jones

The Finance, Ways and Means Committee met on Thursday, July 6, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education/Department of Finance in Dresden. Others in attendance were County Mayor Jake Bynum, Director of Finance John Liggett, Elections Administrator Alex Britt, Emergency Management Director Jamison Peevyhouse, County Clerk Kim Hughey, Property Assessor David Tuck, Trustee Marci Floyd, Register of Deeds Donna Winstead, and a representative of the media.

Chairperson Owen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Doster made the motion to approve the minutes from the June 26, 27, 28, and 29 meetings and with a second by Commissioner Donaldson, the motion to approve passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion of General Fund Budgets:

Chairperson Owen recognized various department heads and supervisors to highlight the changes in their respective budgets.

51100 – County Commission: Mayor Jake Bynum mentioned an increase in the travel line due to an increased interest of commissioners in attending trainings and conferences. He said that another change is that the funds in line 51100-331 (County Commission – Legal Services) would be expensed from line 51400-331 (County Attorney – Legal Services).

51300 – County Mayor: Mayor Bynum said that the medical insurance was up due to the increase across the board.

51400 – County Attorney: Mayor Bynum said that there was some additional monies allocated to the Legal Services line due to there being some minor on-going issues that require some contracted services of our county attorney for an employment attorney in Nashville who is helping our county avoid missteps, stay abreast of changes, and remain compliant with any and all labor laws.

51500 – Election Commission: Elections Administrator Alex Britt mentioned that he was advocating for the purchase of voting equipment for the Elections Office, and told the committee that the line 336 (Maintenance and Repair Services – Equipment) was decreasing due to there being no licensing fee for the first year on the proposed voting equipment. He also mentioned a 5% increase in software, and increase in Dues and Memberships (320) and an increase in 355 (Travel) due to the Election Commissioners wanting to participate in more trainings. Commissioner Westbrook asked Mr. Britt how many poll workers per precinct that Weakley County has verses the required minimum and Mr. Britt answered that Weakley County has 9 and the minimum required is 4. There was some discussion about the poll workers and the proposed new voting machines.

51600 – Register of Deeds: Register of Deeds Donna Winstead said her office would be obtaining a new credit card machine. There was a bit of conversation about her line 332 (Legal Notices, Recording, and Court Costs), data processing fees, and the collection on recorded instruments.

52100 – Accounting and Budgeting (Department of Finance): Finance Director Liggett stated that he would eventually be hiring another qualified employee for his office. There was short talk about the future employee's qualifications and experience level in regards to FMLA, benefits, and payroll.

52300 – Assessor of Property: Property Assessor David Tuck said that his Legal Services line would be increasing due to some contracted services related to the reclassification or categorizing of Walmart stores. Mr. Tuck mentioned an increase in his Gasoline line (425) due to next year being a reappraisal year, and also said that one of his employees may be leaving his employment. He said that he would be contracting out services if that employee does decide to leave, and asked that those monies remain in his salary line for that employee, while he increasing his contracted services budget.

52310 – Reappraisal Program: Assessor Tuck mentioned the increase to the contracted services line and said that 2017-18 FY would be a reappraisal year, and he said that the Data Processing line goes up during a reappraisal year. He also mentioned that there may be a new formula for calculating city shares in the works.

52400 – Trustee: Trustee Floyd said that her part time worker had been working out great and asked that they be included in any pay increase. She also said that her Chief Deputy, Lori King, will receive a pay increase of \$1000.

52500: County Clerk: County Clerk Hughey thanked the committee for allowing her to hire the extra person for the last FY. She mentioned an increase in Staff Development for her employee's capstone course, and a decrease in office supplies due to her not having to purchase bound books.

57500: Soil Conservation District (Secretary): Mayor Bynum called attention to the increase in longevity but said no other changes were present. Commissioner Westbrook asked why there was an increase in the budget showing if there were no other changes, and Finance Director Liggett said that insurance was increasing but that he would check on that line to make sure that it is accurate.

58400: Other Charges – Dues and Memberships to Other Agencies: Mayor Bynum explained that these funds were provided to the West TN River Basin Authority for the maintenance of cleaning ditches and waterways. No discussion.

58400: Other Charges – Dues and Memberships to Other Agencies:
No increase, no discussion.

58500: Contributions to Other Agencies: Mayor Bynum highlighted the details of some of the contributions in this account, including a contribution to the NWTN Reconnect Program, and a Tourism Grant with match to promote the retail and downtown areas of Weakley County's municipalities in conjunction with the promotion of the Ned R. McWherter Museum in Dresden. Much discussion followed concerning contributions, funded recipient's expense documentation, the Economic Development Board and its responsibilities, available sites, spec buildings, partnerships, aspects of Weakley County that could draw industry, and the importance of working together to bring in industry.

58600 and 58900: Other General Government – Employee Benefits: Finance Director Liggett explained that these accounts house the county's Health Savings Account contributions and the Empower Great-West Retirement contributions.

Commissioner Wright made the motion to tentatively approve all of the discussed budgets and recommend it to the full county commission, and with a second by Commissioner Taylor, the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Westbrook asked Emergency Management Director Jamison Peevyhouse why appropriations to the county were being decreased. EMA Director Peevyhouse stated that there had been an increase in expenditures and a decrease in revenue, but said that he hoped funding would be returned to or nearly equivalent to the same amount in around 4 years. There was some talk about collections on cell phone fees, the decrease in revenue, the EMA's commitment to the community long term, interest and depreciation, tax rate, dispatchers services, and the area volunteer firefighter's requested contribution increase.

There was some talk about when revenue numbers would be available. Finance Director Liggett said that he hoped those numbers would be available on Monday or Tuesday.

Having no other business, Commissioner Taylor made the motion to adjourn and with a second by Commissioner Doster, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

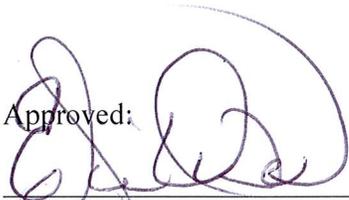
Respectfully Submitted,



Erica Moore, Secretary

Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

Approved:



Eric Owen, Chairperson
Finance, Ways, and Means Committee

Date: 7-10-17