

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORK SESSION II**

May 21, 2018
5:00 PM

Board Members Present: Becky Langston, Susan Andrews, Harry Lange, Andrew Zuerner. Board Member Absent: Rob Grant. Staff Present: Randy Dowling, County Manager; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

Others Present: Alex Santiago (IT), Monty Davis (911), Thomas Lakes (Probate), Stephen Waskey (Community Center & Recreation), Cynthia Nelson (Prison), Brian Williams (Community Development)

CALL TO ORDER. Chairman Langston called the meeting to order and said the purpose was for the discussion of the proposed budget for FY 19/20. She asked Randy Dowling, County Manager, for comments. Mr. Dowling said he had no additional comments, that the Board had heard from several Department Heads during the first Budget Work Session, and that some Department Heads were present to possibly discuss their budget during this Work Session.

IT (Department 51). Alex Santiago, IT Director, appeared before the Board and distributed information comparing the cost of a leased and an owned phone system. He said that with the owned system would have an initial cost of about \$50,000 and then a monthly maintenance agreement cost, and the leased/hosted system would be cloud based and the monthly cost would be \$1,722.30 for 70 phone sets. The Board indicated they would like to see cost comparison to include current costs. Mr. Santiago again requested that the full-time assistant to be put back into the budget (\$48,528), but if not, then a part-time assistant (\$13,579).

911 (Department 13). Monty Davis, EMA & 911 Director, appeared before the Board and requested that the travel expense (\$1,000) and the servers and UPS (\$261,000) be put back into the budget. Toward the end of the meeting, Mr. Davis said that the starting salary for dispatchers (communications officers) is \$2.00 less than that of Troup County and \$3.00 less than Muscogee County.

Probate (Department 09). Thomas Lakes, Probate Judge, appeared before the Board and requested that the new full-time clerk position (\$42,788), the salary increases for two current clerks (\$2,368 and \$1,785), the technical services (\$8,450), the food (\$1,500), and the uniforms (\$500) be put back into the budget. He also requested that his Chief Clerk be put in the same salary classification as the Chief Clerk in Superior Court.

Facilities Maintenance (Department 06). Jamie Webb, Facilities Maintenance Director, appeared before the Board, distributed information detailing statistics related to the work performed by his department, and requested that the salary increases (\$8,886, \$4,476, \$3,592 & \$3,805), the software (\$29,000), and the ERU (\$96,000) for the Courthouse be put back into the budget. In addition, he said that regarding the Community Center Pool, his department has spent \$99,182.67 on the pool system in the last four years needs, and repairs to the system at a cost of approximately \$100,000 are needed. Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that the ERU is included as part of the Courthouse renovation that is included in the 2019 SPLOST.

Community Center (Department 28). Stephen Waskey, Recreation Director, appeared before the Board and requested that the salary for an aquatics program manager (\$47,138) be put back into the budget. He also said that he will be implementing the Silver Sneakers program, which is paid for by insurance, at no cost to the County.

Recreation (Department 32). Stephen Waskey, Recreation Director, appeared before the Board and requested that the part-time park maintenance technician position (\$21,488) and the equipment of goals and bleachers (\$18,000) be put back into the budget. He also asked for clarification regarding the fee schedule as it relates to public and private entities and the 80/20 split, and consensus was that the Youth Sports Associations should be considered as public/County (and fall under the Recreation umbrella) and all others private (travel ball, cheerleading, red star, etc.).

Prison (Department 15). Cynthia Nelson, Prison Warden, appeared before the Board and she has no requests to add deleted items back into the budget.

Community Development (Department 29). Brian Williams, Community Development Director, appeared before the Board and requested that the general office supplies (\$2,000) put back into the budget due to the upcoming change in building codes for which updated books are necessary.

Other. There was a brief discussion regarding the development of Ellerslie Park and the delay of same due to the recent tornado and resulting damage to the lodge and the park designated as a collection site for wood storm debris. Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that development might be underway again in 18-24 months.

NEXT BUDGET WORK SESSION. Scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Commission Chambers (Room 223) of Courthouse.

ADJOURNMENT