

## Minutes For June 27, 2005 Budget

SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

June 27, 2005

### MINUTES

The Solano County Board of Supervisors, also sitting as the Board of Directors of the East Vallejo Fire Protection District and the Board of Directors of the Rural North Vacaville Water District, met on the 27th day of June, 2005 in adjourned session in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Solano in the Solano County Administration Center, 675 Texas Street, Fairfield, California at 9:00 A.M. for the purpose of discussing the budget for fiscal year 2005/2006. Present were Supervisors Kromm, Reagan, Silva, Vasquez, and Chairwoman Kondylis. Also present were Michael D. Johnson, County Administrator and Dennis Bunting, County Counsel.

#### Agenda Item No. 3

Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence

Jackie Dollar Harrison, Executive Director of Child Start, Inc., led all in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.

#### Agenda Item No. 4A

FY 2004/05 Proposed Budget Overview

County Administrator Michael D. Johnson reviewed a visual presentation of the highlights of the Fiscal Year 2005/2006 Proposed Budget, incorporated herein by reference, with a revised total of \$773,330,676, the Summary of Proposed Budget for 2005/2006, the Spending Plan by Function, the Spending Plan by Fund, Revenues by Source, General Fund Spending Plan, Sources of Discretionary Revenue, the 16 Year History of the County's General Fund Reserves, and the Supplemental Budget Adjustments. Mr. Johnson noted that the budget was balanced and there was no use of the existing reserve.

#### Public Comment

The Chairwoman opened the Public Hearing to hear testimony regarding specific budget units. The following individuals made public comments:

- A) Jackie Dollar Harrison, Executive Director of Child Start, Inc. encouraged the Board to provide resources for services for children and families in Solano County.
- B) Brent Schoradt, Solano-Napa Field Representative for Greenbelt Alliance, requested the Board to allocate funding for public access to Lynch Canyon and open space between Fairfield, Benicia, and Vallejo.
- C) Donald Tipton, unincorporated area of Vallejo, expressed concerns regarding the need for a Code Enforcement Officer; questioned the need to rent a building for Voters Registration as he felt there was adequate space in the County Administrative Center; funding needed for the Vallejo Veterans Memorial Building; Citizens Advisory Committee for the Homeacres area; cost of office space in the County Administrative Center; and the need for a 1-800 phone number for the residents in the Homeacres area of Vallejo.
- D) Susie Frank, Circle of Friends, indicated that cuts in funding to their program would affect transportation for the disabled, program hours, social events, and staffing requirements.
- E) Rebecca Best, Circle of Friends, indicated that cuts to their program would place the disabled at risk and increase costs to the County for placement of their clients in locked facilities.

- F) Anthony Lara, Activity Director for Circle of Friends, requested funding for van transportation for their clients.
- G) Jose Vergara, Nueva Vida Program in Dixon, expressed support for the Circle of Friends Program and their ability to bring programs together throughout Solano County.
- H) Michele Curran, Circle of Friends, expressed support for the Circle of Friends Program and the service they provide to keep their clients from isolation.
- I) Kay Bosick, Youth and Family Services, noted that the non-profit organizations are losing funds needed to provide important human services and that costs to the County would increase in the future to assist families in crisis situations.
- J) Kim Thomas, Children's Network, encouraged the Board to meet the needs of the children and look at prevention and early intervention structures in the County which would be a savings to the County in the future.
- K) Debbie Davis, Childrens Nurturing Project, applauded the Community Based Organizations in Solano County for their ability to work together and the ability to leverage services. Ms. Davis expressed the importance of funding programs for prevention and early intervention.
- L) Becky Flanigan, SEIU – Local 1280, expressed concern with a decrease of positions in Mental Health, cuts to child care programs, wages for In-Home Supportive Services workers who tend to the elderly and disabled, need for additional clerical services to respond to the needs of providers and professionals, staff for Child Support Services, Fouts Springs, and Juvenile Hall.
- M) Fr. Robert Fuentes, Faith In Action, noted that non-profit organizations have experienced cuts to their programs over the last 3 years and that cuts to one organization affect the rest. Fr. Fuentes requested that the Board utilize reserves to assist in the funding of non-profit organizations.
- N) Chris Erbe, Child Haven, Inc., noted that the County has shown a commitment to children and to fiscal responsibility. Mr. Erbe expressed the need to determine what services are needed, how much they will cost, and the willingness to use reserves to cover the costs. Mr. Erbe noted that determining who does not receive the services will be difficult.

#### Budget Study Session

Discussions followed regarding the selection of budget units for discussion. Child Welfare Services – 7600; General Assistance Program – 9501; Tobacco Prevention Fund – 7950; Accumulative Capital Outlay Fund – 1700; Vehicle License Fee – 1101; Mental Health – 7700; Public Health – 7800; MSA Funds – 2390; Government Center – 1810; Cooperative Extension – 6200; Sheriff's Department – 6550; Public Facilities Fees – 1760; Nut Tree Airport – 9000; In-Home Supportive Services – 1520; Probation – 6650; Children's Network – 7500; Human Resources (employee training in-house) – 1500; Communications – 1600; Property Management - 1642; Promotions – 1750; Public Works – 3010; Parks and Recreation – 7000; Library – 6300; Supplemental – Workforce Investment Board – 7200; Board of Supervisors – 1000, County Administrator – 1100; General Revenue – 1101; County Counsel – 1400; Southeast Vallejo Redevelopment – 2380; Resource Management – 2910

#### Recess

The Board of Supervisors recessed this meeting at 10:25 A.M. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m. All members were present. Chairwoman Kondylis presided.

#### Budget Study Session

Discussion followed regarding budget units that were highlighted for discussion.

#### Board of Supervisors – Budget Unit 1000

The Board expressed their interest in employee development, customer service training; and surveying employees on an annual basis to receive feedback on countywide and departmental issues. Chairwoman Kondylis requested that staff review the Board of Supervisors budget with the Chair of the Board next year. In response to a question posed regarding staff training, Yolanda Irigon, Human Resources Director noted that the County does have a tuition reimbursement program funded through Human Resources and that out of the \$30,000 budgeted, \$27,000 has been spent. Supervisor Silva requested that job descriptions be modified to allow for the substitution of experience for education.

#### County Administrator – Budget Unit 1100

In response to a question posed by Chairwoman Kondylis, the County Administrator noted that a majority of the increase in the budget was due to the cost of relocating to the new County Administrative Center. Supervisor Reagan suggested that instead of allocating vacant space in the County Administrative Center among the various departments, that it be aggregated in one location and suggested that the vacant space be leased out until needed for County purposes. Supervisor Reagan suggested that the space be leased to agencies such as State legislative representatives for district offices, water agencies, or transportation agencies. Supervisor Reagan suggested that staff focus on revenue generation and develop systems to track grant opportunities, initiate process for SB90 State and federal unfunded mandates, set aside funds to invest in high return investments, economic development incentives to create jobs in the County, re-establish the Central Service Office to collect debts owed to the County instead of writing off the unpaid claims.

#### General Revenues – Budget Unit 1101

Chairwoman Kondylis requested a breakdown of General Fund Revenues by County departments.

#### County Counsel – Budget Unit 1400

In response to a question posed by Chairwoman Kondylis, County Counsel Dennis Bunting noted that an additional attorney was recently added to the staff to assist in representing children and it was felt that there would be a need for additional staff next year.

The Board expressed their support for updating the Solano County Code and contacting sources that provide this service.

#### Human Resources – Budget Unit 1500

In response to a question posed by Supervisor Reagan, Director of Human Resources Yolanda Irigon noted that they work with departments to assure that the certification list are up to date. Supervisor Reagan noted that he would like to keep the vacancy rate low in order to provide services to the public and that positions should not be left vacant in order to recover payoffs of leave balances.

#### Property Management – Budget Unit 1642

Supervisor Reagan expressed his interest in establishing an asset management system to accrue funding over a period of time, and banked in a dedicated reserve, to maintain and extend the life of County buildings and to protect the investment.

#### Accumulated Capital Outlay (ACO) – Budget Unit

Supervisor Kromm expressed concern that a conservative approach be taken with regards to long term capital financing and the commitment of one time fees.

Supervisor Silva noted that future Vehicle License Fees (VLF) should be deposited in the Road Fund and not used for the construction of buildings.

## Recess

The Board of Supervisors recessed this meeting at 12:00 noon and reconvened at 2:00 p.m. All members were present. Chairwoman Kondylis presided.

## Budget Study Session

Discussion followed regarding budget units that were highlighted for discussion.

### Plan Acquisition – Budget Unit 1810

The Board discussed the new County Government Center and Debt Service Payment.

### Promotions – Budget Unit 1750

The Board expressed support in working with the Solano Economic Development Corporation and the private sector to foster non-government jobs, bring businesses into the County, and to keep the local workforce from commuting out of the County. Also the installation of broadband connectivity would allow residents in the County to telecommute and stay off the roadways.

Supervisor Vasquez requested \$50,000 for art in the round-about, art at the Nut Tree Airport, and revisit the Solano County Board of Supervisors' Official Seal.

### Library – Budget Unit 6300

It was noted that the library would be hosting workshops in the communities to receive input on the issue of filters on library computers. It was noted that the law library has one more year to prepare a plan for a new law library. It was also noted that the State Library was developing a catalog to link libraries together on line to share resources and should be implemented in 2007.

### Sheriff – Budget Unit 6550

Concern was expressed regarding the increase in housing the Sheriff's bus and in travel expense.

It was reported that the increase in travel expense was related to travel to mandatory training of the Sheriff Deputies and Correctional Officer which had been postponed in recent years due to cuts in the budget. It was also noted that the new alternative fuel buses would have to have a facility that would be able to accommodate the special needs associated with those buses.

The Board asked the Sheriff to meet with the District Attorney and Chief of Police of the various cities in the County on the creation of a Gang Violence Task Force and to report back to the Board at mid year.

### Probation – Budget Unit 6650

In response to a concern expressed by Supervisor Kromm regarding staffing needs, it was noted that the overtime of employees was a small percentage of the total salaries and that extra help employees were being utilized while employees were on leave.

## Animal Care

The Board expressed support for the cities partnering with the County for animal control services and a uniform hearing process for vicious animals.

## Recess

The Board of Supervisors recessed this meeting at 3:30 p.m. and reconvened at 3:45 p.m. All members were present. Chairwoman Kondylis presided.

### Resource Management – Budget Unit 2910

It was noted that additional positions were requested for the General Plan Update, an

Environmental Health Specialist, and a Code Enforcement Officer for vehicle abatement. It was noted that the revenue generated by the Code Enforcement Officer was greater than the cost of the position. The number of permits issued by Resource Management was noted and it was suggested that the code books be consolidated to assist the employees in moving through the process.

#### Public Works – Budget Unit 3010

With respect to the Paving Management Program, it was requested that Resource Management provide a report next year to the Board regarding the cost of maintaining 1/20 of the paved roads in addition to gravel roads and what should be the level of maintenance of effort. It was noted that a Paving Management Program annual assessment was required to be done to receive Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) funding. It was noted that staff would provide the Road Improvement Plan to the Board prior to the 3rd Quarter Budget Monitor.

#### Cooperative Extension – Budget Unit 6200

It was noted that the cost of an Ag Economic Development Study would be approximately \$100,000 and was not included in the budget at this time.

#### Parks and Recreation – Budget Unit 7000

Supervisor Reagan mentioned that there may be opportunity for public/private partnerships on Mt. Vaca with communications and wireless broadband. It was suggested that a master developer be brought in to look at Lake Solano and Sandy Beach and provide a plan with resort type amenities that could generate Transit Occupancy Taxes or property tax to offset the cost of operating.

Supervisor Kromm was excused from the following discussion pertaining to the Tri-City/County Open Space Group due to a conflict of interest as his spouse was Executive Director of the Solano Land Trust.

Chairwoman Kondylis requested that \$500,000 be added to the list to improve Lynch Canyon and open access to the public.

It was the consensus of the Board to allocate \$65,000 to the Tri-City/County Open Space Group which included the cities of Fairfield, Benicia, Vallejo, and the County of Solano for the purpose of completing a Management Plan with the expectation that any funds paid in the future be credited to the County.

#### Communications – Budget Unit 1600

Discussion continued regarding a private sector partner for wideband connectivity at Mt. Vaca, working with the various police and fire departments to provide data for the law enforcement systems, and radio sites throughout the County.

#### Management Information System (MIS) – Budget Unit 1870

Discussion continued regarding the determination if it was appropriate to reconfigure MIS to bring all functions under one roof and to do an analysis of an option for in-sourcing ACS's contract work.

#### Countywide Geographical Information System (GIS) – Budget Unit 1890

Discussion continued regarding the working relationship with the cities and the sharing of information and the integrating of information.

#### Airport – Budget Unit 9000

Supervisor Kromm expressed his opposition to the use of government money to purchase property at the Nut Tree Airport for commercial development which would compete with the private sector.

Recess

The Board of Supervisors recessed this meeting at 4:55 P.M. to June 28, 2005 at 10:00 A.M.

BARBARA R. KONDYLIS, Chairwoman  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

MICHAEL D. JOHNSON, Clerk of the  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By  
Patty Crittenden, Chief Deputy Clerk