

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF FREDERICK COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2009

Commissioner Jan Gardner, *President*, reconvened a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County, Maryland, ("Board") for Thursday, April 9, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners David Gray, *Vice President*; Kai Hagen, Charles Jenkins. and John L. Thompson, Jr. Also present were Ron Hart, County Manager and Patti Morrow, Recording Secretary.

(Official Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners' meetings are kept on file in the County Manager's Office; the meetings are also video recorded. Approved minutes are available on the County's website. To receive a copy of meetings recorded on videotape or DVD, please contact the Board of County Commissioners at 301-600-1100 or visit the County's website at www.co.frederick.md.us)

NOTE: Copies of all staff reports are available in the OnBase system. If you need assistance with the OnBase system, please contact the recording secretary.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

FY 2010 Operating Budget Discussion – Mike Gastley, Finance Division

Mr. Gastley reviewed with the Board the general fund budget update as of April 7, 2009.

Mr. Gastley noted the votes on the subsequent Maximum Agency Requests Ceiling (MARC) items were unanimous on all but the Montevue Home.

Kelly Weaver, Finance Division, participated in the discussion.

The votes on the appeals were discussed.

It was indicated \$10,000 would be earmarked for Volunteer Frederick from the County Manager's account.

It was also indicated \$20,000 would be taken from the operating budget for The Jeanne Bussard Center and \$14,282 would go to Transit Services Division.

Reductions (3% and 5%)

The following reductions were changed during the discussion.

County Attorney

By unanimous vote the Board would reduce the funding for firefighter negotiations by \$25,000.

Human Resources

By a majority vote, the advertising funding would be reduced by \$27,326.

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Finance Division

- Accounting

By consensus, it was indicated the accountant II position would remain frozen giving a reduction of \$68,277.

- Risk Management

John Kroll, Finance Division, commented on the results of cutting back on the county insurance coverage.

By unanimous consent, the Board voted to not reduce further any funding to risk management.

- Treasury's Office

Mr. Kroll noted he requested the position in the collector's office to be unfrozen. The Board directed staff to determine the current level of service in the Treasury's Office.

Internal Audit

By a majority vote, the administrative coordinator's hours would not be reduced.

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Chuck Jenkins participated in discussions on the reductions to the Sheriff's Office funding.

It was noted the deputy position line item would be reduced by \$446,600.

By a majority vote, the work release sergeant position would be reduced by \$89, 612.

Fire and Rescue Services Division (DFRS)

Steve Leatherman commented on the reductions in the DFRS.

By a majority vote, gasoline funding would be reduced by \$27,324.

- Urban Fire Tax District

Overtime would be reduced by \$704,408.

Medical supplies would be reduced by \$5,882

Non-capital equipment would be reduced by \$20,000

- Suburban Fire Tax District

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- Overtime would be reduced by \$61,110
- Non-capital equipment would be reduced by \$4,000

Emergency Management Division

By a majority vote, radio management would be reduced by \$22,000.

Planning Division

There was a majority vote for the principal planner I and planner I would remain frozen (\$139,167 reduction.)

Public Works Division (DPW)

Tom Meunier, DPW, commented on the reductions for DPW.

Parks and Recreation Division

Paul Dial, Parks and Recreation Division, commented on part-time laborers.

There was a majority vote to split the two (2) part-time laborers: part-time seasonal would be cut and the part-time recreation laborers would not be cut.

Management Services Division

Austin Abraham, Management Services Division, commented on the Scott Key Center contracts.

There was a majority vote to eliminate the reductions for Scott Key Center contracts (IIT, DPW and the floor care.)

Health Services Division

Dr. Barbara Brookmyer, Health Services Division, commented on the reductions.

There was a majority vote to reduce the health room technicians (HRT) by \$67,727 (two positions would remain frozen).

There was a majority vote to eliminate the reductions to substitute staff.

Commissioner Gray indicated his votes under school health would reflect the reduction to the HRT line item.

There was a majority vote to retain the substitute funds for the Scott Key Center.

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Citizens Services Division

Margaret Nusbaum, Citizens Services Division, commented on the reductions to Citizens Services Division.

- Department of Aging

By a majority vote, the two (2) positions would remain frozen with a reduction of \$68,040.

By unanimous consent the Board voted to reduce the .13 full-time employee and let budget indicate the reduction in funding.

- Montevue Home

By a majority vote the part-time registered nurse position was funded.

(Commissioner Gray left the room.)

(Commissioner Gardner passed the gavel to Commissioner Hagen.)

Commissioner Gardner moved to accept \$2.4 million from the cash balances from various capital projects, \$1 million from the Reichs Ford Road project and \$580,000 from two (2) bridge projects (St. Marks Bridge and Legore Road Bridge) to be applied to the FY 2010 operating budget. Commissioner Hagen seconded the motion.

Commissioner Thompson offered an amendment for the funds mentioned above to fund the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB.) The amendment failed 2-2 with Commissioners Gardner and Hagen opposed and Commissioner Gray absent.

(Commissioner Gray returned to the meeting.)

(Commissioner Hagen passed the gavel back to Commissioner Gardner.)

The vote on the main motion was 4-1 with Commissioner Thompson opposed.

Tax Equity Funding

Commissioner Gray made a motion to reconsider the tax equity decision of reducing the funding to the municipalities by \$7.4 million. Commissioner Gardner seconded the motion that passed 3-2 with Commissioners Jenkins and Thompson opposed.

Commissioner Gray moved to reverse the decision. Commissioner Hagen seconded the motion that passed 3-2 with Commissioners Jenkins and Thompson opposed.

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It was indicated staff would notify the Board prior to the budget meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2009, regarding the account balances from the actions taken today.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 MINUTE PRESENTATION)

None.

QUESTIONS – PRESS

None.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Morrow
Recording Secretary