

Minutes For June 28, 2004 Budget Hearings

The Solano County Board of Supervisors met in adjourned session on this day at 8:36 a.m. Chairman Silva called the meeting to order for the purpose of discussing the budget for fiscal year 2004/2005. All members were present.

CLOSED SESSION: The Board moved into Closed Session at 8:37 a.m. to discuss Potential Litigation: two (2) cases. The Board moved out of Closed Session at 9:05 a.m.

The Solano County Board of Supervisors reconvened on this day at 9:08 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

FY 2004/2005 BUDGET HEARINGS

(Item 4a) FY2004/05 PROPOSED BUDGET OVERVIEW

County Administrator Michael Johnson reviewed a visual presentation of the highlights of the Fiscal Year 2004/2005 Proposed Budget, incorporated herein by reference, with a revised total of \$704,072,582, the Summary of Proposed Budget for 2004/2005, the Spending Plan by Function, the Spending Plan by Fund, Revenues by Source, General Fund Spending Plan, Sources of Discretionary Revenue, and the 10 Year History of the County's General Fund Reserves.

A brief discussion followed regarding the 10 Year Reserve History, the Board policy of only using \$4 million of reserves in any given year, the continuing State deficit being projected for many years to come, and unpredictable State funding to the County.

Mr. Johnson continued the presentation with the Budget History & Permanent Position Summary, Permanent Position Allocation by Functional Area 1995-2004, Supplemental Budget Adjustments, and Technical Adjustments for a net increase of \$1.5 million. Mr. Johnson made recommendations not included in the budget or in the technical adjustments of \$750,000 as a supplemental appropriation to General Services for additional services required for the new County Administration Center (CAC) and the Co-Gen facility, and for \$750,000 for document imaging and records storage needs prior to moving into the CAC. Concluding Mr. Johnson commended all involved in the budget process for the fine work they have done.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Silva opened the Public Hearing to hear testimony regarding specific budget units.

Comments from the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) Advisory Board:

Katie Ricklefs, Chair MSA Advisory Board and the Health Access Coalition, discussed the intensive work the MSA Board is doing on 11 strategies to improve health access, and reduce addiction rates, and contributing funds to the County to ensure basic healthcare needs are met. Jim Trimble, MSA Advisory Board Co-Chair and Reducing Rates of Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs, submitted a Memorandum dated June 24, 2004, incorporated herein by reference, outlining the 2004/2005 spending plan for the MSA Board and four additional requests for Board consideration. The four areas are: to request expenditure of \$240,000 of unspent funds in 2004/2005 for additional support staff for the Committee; providing \$125,000 of MSA Reserve Funds to cover unanticipated expenses for the County Medical Services Pilot Project (CMSP); to appropriate \$1.4 million from MSA funds to Health and Social Services to support critical health programs; and to allow expenditure of unspent funds up to \$80,000 to allow current drug court participants to complete their treatment program.

Comments on Miscellaneous Budget Units:

Donald Tipton, Vallejo, expressed concerns regarding budget unit 2910 Resources Management – and the need for full staff of Code Enforcement Officers; Unit 9746 Consolidated Services Area – that the funds are being spent in the wealthiest area; page 18 Supplemental Budget recommendation “h” changes to the Civil Service Rules; Unit 7160 Veterans Memorial Building – needs to be upgraded and repaired; Unit 2400 Grand Jury – funding appears to be out of line; and unit 7000 Parks. Mr. Tipton thanked the Board for the hard work and recommended approval of the budget.

Comments Re Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Unit 5500:

Maria Moses, Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program Coordinator, requested allocated unused funds be rolled into the 2004/2005 budget, voiced concern regarding transitioning CASA to a 501C3 Non-Profit Program before it is ready, the need for more advocates, and requested the CASA Program be made a permanent County program.

Public Comment Re Health and Social Services:

Kim Thomas, Children's Network, thanked the Board for such an amazing job to minimize the effects of State budget cuts.

Rosemary Kennedy voiced concern regarding cuts to Budget Unit 7587 Laurie Matiasovich DDS, 7856 Planned Parenthood, 7721 Aldea, 7721 Dixon Family Services, 7724 and 7729 Continental Omega, 7729 Aldea Solano Parent Network and the impacts of cuts to those programs.

Tamsen Stevenson voiced concern with continuing program cuts, noted the need to work smarter to take advantage of funding streams from the Federal and State government, and to bill better.

Art Grubel, SEIU Local 1280, thanked the Board, MSA Committee, and the County Administrator for reducing cuts and eliminating lay-offs.

Father Robert Fuentes, Ed Adam, Dorothy Thompson re Faith in Action thanked the Board and Health and Social Services for finding alternative program funding.

Health and Social Services Unit 7500:

Jessica Jackson, Irene Villenas, and Graciella Nunez, re Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP), outlined the benefits of the program and voiced concern with proposed program cuts.

Cecilia Young Kite Mullaney and Rebecca Lawson re Solano Parent Network voiced concern regarding major funding cuts for the program and the effects these cuts will have.

Mental Health Unit 7700:

Ed Rouse and Norman Filley spoke against budget cuts to Mental Health Programs.

Susie Frank, Circle of Friends and Donovan's, voiced concern with increasing services with Donovan's Place, Circle of Friends is not receiving additional funding for the expanded services, projecting a \$48,000 deficit and outlined effects of cuts.

Roger Wiere, Caminar, voiced concern regarding cuts for New Ventures housing program, Circle of Friends, and Nueva Vida.

Richard Barger and John Gray Jr., re Caminar/New Ventures discussed program benefits of New Ventures and Caminar, and voiced concern for program funding cuts.

Public Authority Services Unit 7690:

Sue King, Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and Chair of the Public Authority, thanked the Board for keeping the Public Health Nurses Program and discussed the work done for the seniors by these nurses, for supporting the Public Authority, and matching funds for the AAA.

(Item 4b) BUDGET STUDY SESSION

Discussions followed regarding accumulated Capitol Outlay Unit 1700, General Services Unit 1117, Drug Court Unit 6820, Sheriff Unit 6550, Probation Unit 6650, Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures Unit 2830, Animal Care Services Unit 2850, Substance Abuse Unit 7560, In-Home Support Services – Public Authority Unit 1520, Mental Health Unit 7700, Public Health Unit 7800, Fleet Management 3100, Consolidated County Service Area Unit 9746, Supplemental Budget page 18 items h, I, and j.

Management Incentive Program (MIP)

A discussion followed regarding the MIP Program. Concern was voiced regarding this program and it was suggested the program be suspended or at least reduced. A background on the reasoning behind the program was outlined, benefits given up by staff to be in the MIP Program, net County costs, working together as a group to get things done, and rewarding people for doing a good job. A straw poll was taken with a majority (3-2) agreeing to continue the MIP Program.

Court Appointed Special Advocate Program

A discussion followed regarding the original agreement for a three-year County supported CASA Program with a goal for conversion to a 501C3 Non-Profit program, funding determinations being made for only one year at a time, program progress, need for full program understanding, the good work that is being done for the children of the County. The CASA Program will be revisited in the near future.

FURTHER FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

Throughout the day the following additional items were added to a list for further funding consideration: Budget Unit 1117 General Services for \$750,000 from General Fund Contingencies, Budget Unit 7599 CMSP for \$125,000 from MSA Reserves, and Budget Unit 7560 Drug Court \$80,000 from MSA Reserves.

2004/2005 BUDGET APPROVED

a. RESOLUTION NO. 2004-130 ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF SOLANO FOR THE 2004/2005 FISCAL YEAR, ADOPTED (ATTACHMENT C)

b. POSITION ALLOCATION LIST AS AMENDED (ATTACHMENT D), APPROVED

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-131 AMENDING THE LIST OF NUMBERS AND CLASSIFICATIONS OF POSITIONS WITHIN SOLANO COUNTY, ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-132 AMENDING THE ALPHABETICAL LISTING OF CLASSES AND SALARIES, ADOPTED

c. DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES, WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, TO MAKE TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE POSITION ALLOCATION LIST

d. IN JANUARY 2005 REVIEW OF VACANT UNBUDGETED POSITIONS IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES FOR POSSIBLE DELETION

e. TRANSFER OF \$88,232 OF THE COUNTY'S SOCIAL SERVICES REALIGNMENT ALLOCATION TO THE HEALTH REALIGNMENT ALLOCATION, APPROVED

f. NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS TO BALANCE THE FINAL BUDGET, APPROVED

g. COUNTY'S SELECTIVE HIRING FREEZE POLICY, REAFFIRMED

On motion of Chairman Silva and seconded by Supervisor Kromm, the Board acted to approve the proposed budget, the Supplemental Budget items "a" through "g" as listed on page 18, the attachments listed on page 19, along with changes that include \$750,000 allocated to General Services for maintenance, custodial and other services that will come from contingencies, \$125,000 for CMSP that will come from the MSA Reserves, and \$80,000 for Drug Court that will come from MSA Reserves. So ordered by a vote of 4-1, Supervisor Kondylis voted no.

h. REVISION TO CIVIL SERVICE RULES TO EXTEND THE LENGTH OF TIME FOR REAPPOINTMENT OF A FORMER EMPLOYEE TO 2 YEARS, APPROVED

On motion of Chairman Silva and seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board acted to approve revision to the Civil Services Rules Section to extend the length of time for reappointment of former employees to 2 years and to revise the Personnel and Salary Resolution. So ordered by a vote of 3-2, Supervisors Kondylis and Kromm voted no.

i. CLARIFICATION OF THE PUBLIC AGENCY RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PARS) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

On motion of Supervisor Vasquez and seconded by Chairman Silva, the Board acted to approve

clarification of the PARS eligibility requirements to all eligible County employees with at least 10 years of full-time service, of which 5 years is continuous service, or that new hires must have at least eight years of full-time continuous Solano County employment to participate. So ordered by a vote of 3-2; Supervisors Kondylis and Kromm voted no.

j. CLARIFICATION OF PERSONNEL AND SALARY RESOLUTION RE OPTIONS FOR UNUSED SICK LEAVE UPON RETIREMENT, APPROVED

On motion of Supervisor Vasquez and seconded by Supervisor Kromm, the Board acted to approve clarification of the Personnel and Salary Resolution, Division III, Section 3, J, Sick Leave, to allow eligible employees to be paid for accumulated unused sick leave in the following manner: (1) paid amount up to a maximum of 500 hours and/or (2) convert all or a portion of unused sick leave to CalPERS service credit, and/or (3) convert all or a portion to pay for retiree medical in accordance with County policy, effective July 1, 2004. So ordered by a vote of 5-0.

ADJOURN - This meeting of the Board of Supervisors adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

JOHN F. SILVA, Chairman

Maggie Jimenez
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors