

PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEMBERS PRESENT

June 10, 2024
OTHERS PRESENT

Gordon Powell
C. Derrick Sims
Kyle W. Puryear
Charlie Palmer
Jason Thomas

Katherine M. Cathey, County Manager
Michele Solomon, Clerk to the Board

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Person, North Carolina, met in recessed session on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.in the Commissioners' Boardroom 215 in the Person County Office Building located at 304 S. Morgan Street, Roxboro, NC.

Chairman Powell called the recessed meeting to order.

County Manager Katherine Cathey advised that we are back in session today to discuss adjustments to the Manager's recommended budget. She stated that the direction that was provided by the Board at the last budget work session was to go back and look at ways to remove the three-cent tax increase and to report back to the Board with suggestions on how that may be done, and fund the recommended budget.

She provided the Board with the following spreadsheet:

Running Total	\$0		
GENERAL FUND			
Revenues	Amount	Expenditures	Amount
Remove 3 cent property tax increase	-\$1,520,020	Addition to Museum appropriation	+\$20,000
Property tax collection rate increase (97.5-98%)	+\$187,729		
Remove 3 cent DMV tax revenue increase	-\$103,449		
Transfer from CIF: CIP project (PCOB-HVAC) reduction from FY25	+\$1,000,000		
Transfer from Airport Project Construction Fund: receipt of DOT grant funds	+\$455,740		
OTHER FUNDS			
Revenues	Amount	Expenditures	Amount
Fire tax collection rate increase (97.5-98%)	+\$11,125	VFD Unallocated funds	+\$11,125
Fund Balance Appropriation in Economic Catalyst Fund	+\$42,800	Addition to PCBIC	+\$42,800
Reduction in E911 Telephone Fund surcharge fees	-\$12,394		
Fund Balance Appropriation in E911 Telephone Fund	+\$12,394		
TOTAL	+\$73,925	TOTAL	+\$73,925

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Cathey explained the spreadsheet and advised that the three-cent tax increase has been removed, which indicates a decrease in revenues of \$1.52M. She stated that after adjusting the property tax collection rate from 97.5% to 98%, that added in \$187,729 in revenues. She stated that the three-cent DMV tax revenue projections were removed, which was a decrease of \$103,449. She stated that included on the spreadsheet is a transfer from the Capital Investment Fund (CIF) for the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project for the Person County Office Building (PCOB) HVAC system of \$1M back to the General Fund. She stated that this is a fund balance allocation, as in this year's budget, the County advanced \$1M through a Budget Amendment that was done within the past couple of months. She stated that this was done so the County can go forward with the purchase of the equipment needed for this CIP project in the new fiscal year. She stated that the \$1M is in the budget for next year, and the intent was for it to go back in to the fund balance to repay what was advanced this fiscal year. She stated that is available to reallocate. She stated that the \$455,740 is a transfer from the Airport Project Construction Fund. She stated that this funding is a receipt from grant funding, and can cover some of those expenses incurred from the new Corporate Hangar at the Airport, as funds were advanced from the General Fund to pay for this project. She stated that \$20K was added to the General Fund to fully fund the special appropriation for the Museum. She stated that this is County staff's suggested actions to take for balancing the General Fund Budget. She stated that under Other Funds, the Fire tax collection rate was increased from 97.5% to 98%, which results in an additional \$11,125 in revenues. She stated that there is an increase to the unallocated line item within the fire tax district fund by the same amount. She stated that in order to fully fund PCBIC's request for their special appropriation for FY25, the fund balance appropriation has been increased within the Economic Catalyst Fund by \$42,800. She stated that the other adjustment, reduction in the E-911 Telephone Fund, would be \$12,394 less than anticipated, as the County received notice from the E-911 Board at the State level. She stated that the County has plenty of funding in the 911 Telephone Fund Balance to make up that difference.

Commissioner Puryear stated that he had concerns in reference to EMS and the Stryker equipment lease. He asked if Stryker was the only one to respond to the RFP. Cathey advised no RFP was done, as the County already has Stryker equipment, which is the majority of the equipment used. She stated that the lease is a way to transition the current equipment into the updated method of funding it. She stated that in the past, the County has used Operating Funds and Debt Financing when needed to purchase new equipment for EMS. Chairman Powell asked about the cost of implementing the lease with Stryker. Cathey replied the amount is \$366K, which is a locked in amount, and recurring for ten years. Powell inquired about ARP money, and if the equipment could be purchased using that money. Cathey stated that the ARP money could be utilized and allocated at the Board's discretion. Vice Chairman Sims requested to see a copy of the Stryker Equipment Lease. Cathey stated that when the Stryker lease is removed, staff will need to reduce either the transfer from the CIF, or the transfer from the Airport Project Construction Fund. She stated that her suggestion is to reduce the transfer from the Airport Project Construction Fund.

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A **motion** was made by Commissioner Puryear and **carried 5-0** for staff to prepare a Budget Ordinance, reflecting the changes, minus the EMS Contract with Stryker, to be decided by the Board of Commissioners at a later date, and to reduce the transfer from the Airport Project Construction Fund.

Cathey stated that a Budget Ordinance will be prepared by staff for approval by the Board on the June 17, 2024 scheduled meeting. She stated that staff will prepare a presentation for the Board on the Stryker lease, to be presented to the Board at the June 17, 2024 or July 15, 2024 meeting.

ADJOURN:

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Sims and **carried 5-0** to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

Michele Solomon
Clerk to the Board

Gordon Powell
Chairman

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