

May 21, 2012

The Washington County Board of Commissioners met in a recessed session on Monday, May 21, 2012 at 6:00 PM in the Commissioners Room, 116 Adams Street, Plymouth, NC. Commissioners Alexander, Johnson, Manning, McCray and Sexton were present. Also present were County Manager David Peoples, Clerk to the Board Julie J. Bennett, Finance Officer Frank Milazi and County Attorney/Assistant County Manager Cheryl Young.

Chair Manning called the May 21, 2012 meeting to order.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE WASHINGTON COUNTY RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR 2012-2013:

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to open the public hearing; Commissioner Sexton seconded

Roper Mayor Bunny Sanders gave a handout to the Commissioners and proceeded to discuss it (see handout below).

Budget Analysis for 2012-13 Recreational Program

We recognize that the changes proposed below might mean tightening the belt of the sports program. But it has had priority in the county for a decade, at the expense of other recreational activities. Therefore, in fairness to the children who are not athletes, who also deserve activities which enrich their exposure, we submit this analysis as a means of determining the most reasonable cuts the commission might consider to allow for the proposed broader menu of activities; and that will have the least impact on the sports program and prevent children from paying to participate. The most obvious problem with the current approach to recreation is that more money is spent on administration, the Gymnasium for maintenance and repairs, transportation, and sports equipment, than direct services, i.e. coaches etc. These are all areas that can be cut without significant impact on supervised sports activity which is the basic purpose of the recreation program.

Figures used herein are the proposed amounts for 2012-13

1. Administration	
a. Salary of Director	\$40,000
b. Salaries and Wages	\$ 22,000
c. Benefits	\$16,511
d. Office Supplies	3,000
Total Administrative Costs	\$82,011

\$82,011 represents 63% of the total budget for salaries not related to direct delivery of services. The director's salary including retirement insurance, contributions to 401K, Workmen's Compensation, and FICA exceed \$50,000. The program needs a director. However, last year's expenditure report reflects that approximately \$19,000 was expended for an administrative assistant. With only an operating budget of \$132,000, an administrative assistant is a luxury. This is half the amount it would take to offer the entire proposed enrichment activities.

Suggest that the Asst Director position, currently vacant, be eliminated; and the \$22,000 be allocated to enrichment.

2. **Maintenance and Repairs to Plymouth Gym** were \$14, 338 last year
This year, \$8,000 is proposed for repairs. Why is this amount of money necessary for maintenance this year. Perhaps a more structurally sound facility might be considered.

If approved, \$ 90,011 or 69%of the budget has been allocated before
Plans are made to provide supervised activity to one participant.

Could the director base his office in free space and free utilities from the town of Roper; and, utilize the Roper Gym owned by the county, which does not need significant maintenance and repairs; and where the utilities might be less. Cost of transporting children from Plymouth to Roper for Basketball should be much less than \$8,000 for repairs to the Gym. Children from Roper and Creswell were expected to find their own transportation to Plymouth.

In the fall when Football begins, move office to Plymouth where there is a lit field when needed. This should eliminate the necessity to spend money on maintenance and repairs since the Gym would not be used for basketball.

Suggest that \$5,000 of the \$8,000 of these funds be allocated to Enrichment.

3. **Utility costs for the Plymouth Gym** were \$14,000 last year. The same amount is proposed for 2012-13.

If approved, \$104,011 or 85% of the total budget that is not direct services to the children will have been allocated. The use of an Office in Roper and the use of the Roper Gym should significantly decrease the cost of utilities in the Plymouth Gym. If the commission agrees...

Suggest that \$7,000 of the \$14,000 be allocated to Enrichment.

- 4. **Travel and Training....(what training and where) \$5,000**
 - Maintenance and Repairs on Truck and Bus \$2,000**
 - Auto Supplies \$3,000**

This is basically **\$10,000 in transportation costs.**

It seems that given the cost of gas and the limitation on the number of children who get to travel, It would be prudent to compete inside the county between children in different zip codes. The cost savings would allow us to increase the number of available activities for more children without cost to their parents.

Suggest that \$5,000 of the \$10,000 be spent on Enrichment

- 5. **Sports Equipment...**Last year \$10,000 was spent in sports equipment. Why is **\$8,500** necessary this year? Suggest inventory of what was purchased last year to determine **specifically** what was bought that needs replacing this year for \$8,500. Basketball is the main sport. Football equipment should be fit for reuse at least for a second and third season. Sacrificing new equipment this year would allow non athletes to also have access to recreational activities.

Suggest that \$4,000 of the \$8,500 be spent on Enrichment

- 6. **Contract Services...**Please explain **\$4,010** in expenditures that seem to be primarily for "out of county" activities last year, which are also proposed for 2012-13. If children compete within county as suggested above, this total expenditure can support Enrichment.

Suggest that \$4,010 proposed for this year be spent on Enrichment

- 7. Please explain what happens to the fees that are collected from the parents who can afford for their children to participate. And what happens to the funds earned from concessions at the games?

ACTIVITY	HOURS PER WEEK	PARTICIPANTS PER CLASS		TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	AGE OF PARTICIPANTS	STAFF		SUPPLIES - EQUIPMENT	REPAIRS	TRAVEL
		Plymouth	Creswell			INSTRUCTOR	VOLUNTEERS			
Modern Dance (9 weeks)	9	56	14	90	12+	\$ 2,835.00	\$ 800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Storytelling/Drama (6 wks)	6	84	21	135	7+	\$ 900.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -
Pottery (9 weeks)	9	51	13	82	8+	\$ 2,025.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Art (9 weeks)	9	67	17	108	8+	\$ 2,025.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Tennis (9 weeks)	18	56	14	90	12+	\$ 4,050.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 7,395.00	\$ -
Karate (6 weeks)	5	31	8	50	4-15	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Excursions										
Photography	-	15	4	25	13+	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ -
Kayaking	-	"	"	"	13+	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bike Camp	-	"	"	"	13+	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Outer Banks/Ocracoke	-	"	"	"	13+	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
TOTALS		360	91	129	580	\$ 13,585.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 9,900.00	\$ 7,395.00	\$ 2,000.00

ACTIVITY	HOURS PER WEEK	PARTICIPANTS PER CLASS		TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	AGE OF PARTICIPANTS	STAFF		SUPPLIES - EQUIPMENT	MISC.	TRAVEL
		Plymouth	Creswell			DIRECTOR	MUSICIANS			
Choirs (9 weeks)	4	31	8	50	8-14	\$ 600.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -
	2	31	8	50	15+	\$ 300.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS		62	16	22	100	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS		\$ 14,485.00	\$ 5,240.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 10,400.00	\$ 7,395.00	\$ 2,000.00			

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	=	422	107	151	680
TOTAL COSTS	=				\$ 40,000.00

Washington County Summer Youth Programming Excursion Activities

Week 1

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00-Noon	Photography	Photography	Photography	Photography	Photography

Week 2

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-Noon	Biking	Biking	Biking	Biking	Biking

Week 3

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-Noon	Kayaking	Kayaking	Kayaking	Kayaking	Kayaking

Week 4

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Varies by Tour	Plymouth	Roper, Mackeys, Wenona	Creswell	Washington County Waterways	Outer Banks

Notes of Explanation on Schedule of Activities

The number of slots is based on the percentage of total households in the county that are located in each zip code

All proposed activities can take place in community buildings within each zipcode, thus eliminating cost related to utilities are buildings.

All Instructors paid \$25/hr. except Modern Dance who is paid \$35/hr.

\$7,395 was budgeted for repair of at least one tennis court, maybe two. Recommend that if only one can be repaired, it should be in the middle of the county where it is most accessible to everyone; or to the one which needs repairs for which the budget allows.

2 Volunteers per project are paid a total of \$400 ea. as stipends to cover travel and food.

Parent volunteers will accompany children for trip to Outer Banks

Under Pottery, \$3,000 of the \$5,000 will cover the purchase of 3 Potters Wheels which can be utilized in subsequent years.

All following classes are 9 weeks

Students per Class:

Modern Dance	10
Storytelling	15
Pottery	9
Art	12
Tennis (2hr sessions)	10
Karate	10
Excursions	25

2 Choir

50 youth.....50 Adult

At the end of the 9 weeks, a special enrichment weekend could spotlight the activities of the program. It would include:

An Art Exhibit of Pottery, Art, and Photography

Storytelling by the Children

Karate Demonstrations

Choir Concert

Dance Recital

The Activities should be split among the three zip codes of Creswell, Roper, and Plymouth.

Participant Recruitment

I conducted a short survey in each of the communities to determine level of interest in a variation of activities. There are close to 100 with very little recruitment effort.

If the commissioners approve the Enrichment Program, suggest that applications be distributed throughout communities within the county through schools before closing, and to churches with a closing date so that there can be realistic planning for the number of participants to expect.

A recreation commission with representation from each zip code, including the mayors of each town could be helpful at determining the nature of the recreation program and assisting with finding resources.

8. Please explain why it is necessary for children who have Medicaid to buy insurance if they are willing to hold the county harmless.
9. Also what is the insurance that has been purchased with the \$1500 paid for this purpose? Parents complain that no cards were ever given for presentation to physicians or hospital and therefore, they were asked for Medicaid anyway.

As a result of the above cuts to the current budget, the commission could provide **680 children throughout Washington County with 8 Enrichment Activities for 9 weeks for approximately \$55,000, with minor changes in the sports program.**

According to Mr. Fulford's report to the Commission in April, **106 children participated in the program last year at a cost of \$136,000.**

Mayor Sanders stated that more money is spent administratively than on activities. She suggested eliminating the administrative assistant. Mayor Sanders questioned the amount of money needed for maintenance/repairs on the Plymouth gym. She suggested utilizing the Roper gym (which doesn't need repairs).

Tom Harrison, TTA Director, spoke to the Board regarding the activities of canoeing and kayaking. He is excited and has some ideas for activities that can be done in Washington County. As an example, Mr. Harrison stated that Dare County has five day camps throughout the summer for fishing, boating, photography, kayaking and biking. Mr. Harrison approached Doward Jones about teaching a photography class for youth. The kids could buy a \$10 disposable camera to learn with. Mr. Harrison talked to Roger Johnson, owner of our local bike shop, and he has had experience with youth camps regarding repair and maintenance of bikes. Mr. Harrison said that Doug LeQuire, Pettigrew State Park Manager said that they offer kayaking/paddling on Lake Phelps and the Scuppernong River. Washington County would have to provide the transportation to the Park. Mr. Harrison suggested that the TTA offer a type of hospitality training (similar to what they did last year for businesses) to teach kids about the towns and areas in Washington County.

Vonda Rosser, Edenton (dance teacher), spoke to the Board. She is interested in teaching dance to the pre-teen and teen girls. She also mentioned she is interested in storytelling to teach kids about the area's history instead of them spending so much time on the computer. Ms. Rosser wants to give kids a chance to feel good about themselves and give them motivation.

Jimmy Sutton, Creswell (retired art teacher), spoke to the Board. He is interested in teaching an art program for children that would include pottery and drawing/sketching. Mr. Sutton believes that pottery/ceramics provide a great opportunity for free expression for kids and it will encourage and inspire creativity and problem solving and pride that comes with accomplishments. He also feels it will help kids discover their unique place in the world. Mr. Sutton said that drawing is the art of capturing and observing objects. He teaches people to 'see'.

Pastor Daniel Gillam told the Board that kids will reap the benefits of the programs suggested by Mayor Sanders if they are incorporated. Pastor Gillam said that kids don't have a place to play basketball in his area. He did commend the County on the current basketball program. Pastor Gillam stated that there are two young men going to the NBA that came up through the County's basketball program. He believes these activities will enrich kids and give them something to do and keep them off the streets.

Roger Johnson, Plymouth (bike shop owner), spoke to the Board about the benefits of putting cycling into the program. He stated that all kids have a bike or want to have a bike. Cycling teaches kids about participation in an activity that they can do with their peers or with their family and they will also have pride in ownership. The benefits of cycling (a low impact sport) teaches kids that they can be part of the community and their peer group (not necessarily to be competitive) and that dealing with bikes could be an occupation for the future (owning your own shop). Mr. Johnson feels kids should be

taught that there is more to life than just academics. He also stated that future jobs dealing with bikes could include being a manager of professional racers or even becoming a good bike mechanic.

Druquilla Baum, concerned citizen, spoke to Board. She said that the children are there, they just need the facilities and the guidance. Time needs to be taken to spark their interests--avocation can lead to vocation—and would strengthen the community at large.

Charlotte Mosley, concerned citizen, spoke to the Board. Ms. Mosley said she attended the Plymouth Town Council meeting last week and was concerned over what was said at their meeting. Ms. Mosley said she is concerned with the cost that kids have to pay to play. She asked about the insurance to play? What does it do? And where does the money go?

Carolyn Chesson, concerned citizen, spoke to the Board. Ms. Chesson stated she was a coach with Mr. Fulford. Ms. Chesson questioned the insurance also. If children have insurance, why do they have to pay for insurance to play?

Mr. Mosley, concerned citizen, spoke to the Board. He supports Mayor Sanders' program and the activities that she is promoting--life is about more than just football and basketball. Mr. Mosley was concerned about the insurance also--what do they get for it? Where has the money gone?

Dr. Calvin Ellison, Executive Director of Success Dynamics spoke to the Board. Dr. Ellison gave some background information on the formation of Success Dynamics saying that the original plan was that a company would relocate to Washington County to help with the training of the Success Dynamics students but that didn't happen. Dr. Ellison did commend Clay Carter at Beaufort County Community College for the training that they did for Success Dynamics students. Dr. Ellison went on to say that Phase I – recruiting and assessment of people and Phase II—training and further job shadowing at Vidant Hospital have been completed. Thirty-two students completed the training and received a Basic Healthcare Certificate and the graduation was well attended. Dr. Ellison said that Success Dynamics will continue with Phase III--internship and job placement.

Dr. Ellison went on to say that Success Dynamics cannot continue to lease the Washington County Roper Annex building. He is sorry that they aren't giving the County a 90 day notice. Success Dynamics received only a one year grant and they cannot continue with the contract to pay for building.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to close the public hearing; Commissioner Sexton seconded; motion carried unanimously.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY
RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR 2012-2013:

Mr. Peoples spoke to the Board about a recommended change in the budget due to a change in the library budget and the upcoming primary state runoff election.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

2012-2013 RECOMMENDED ANNUAL BUDGET - ADJUSTMENTS

MAY 21, 2012

RECOMMENDED BUDGET (May 7, 2012)	\$13,179,648
Recommended Adjustments:	
• Washington County Library	(\$3,000)*
• Facility Services	3,000*
• Board of Elections	<u>11,692**</u>
Total Adjustments	<u>11,692</u>
ADJUSTED RECOMMENDED BUDGET	\$13,191,340

NOTES:

- * Transfer \$3,000 from the Library budget to the Facility Services budget. The \$3,000 represents funding for repair of the rear parking lot. The transfer is to ensure that the Library will not suffer a decrease in maintenance of effort funding from the State of North Carolina. The Library's original recommended budget was \$165,706 and if this recommendation is approved the funding will be decreased to \$162,706. The Facility Services budget will increase from \$559,071 to \$562,071 to facilitate this transfer.
- ** Provide \$11,692 in additional funding for the Elections Department. The current recommended budget for this department is \$83,385. If the additional funding is approved the recommended budget for this organization will be \$95,077. The funding is needed to provide funds for a primary runoff election which will occur in July, 2012.

If the adjustments that total \$11,692 are approved it will result in the total recommended budget increasing to \$13,191,340 from \$13,179,648. I am recommending that the increase be approved and funded by an appropriation from the reserve fund. This will result in the recommended amount appropriated from the reserve fund of \$97,728 increasing to \$109,420.

Mr. Peoples noted that the County will need to find out when Success Dynamics is vacating the Washington County Roper Annex building. Mr. Peoples said that the County's revenues will have to be lowered by \$20K since the County will not be collecting rent from Success Dynamics. The Rural Center Grant funding was not re-awarded to Success Dynamics. The lease term was until June 30 of this year.

Commissioner Alexander stated that she has been told that not enough money has been appropriated to Creswell EMS for pagers/radios. She said that she doesn't know how much it would cost. Mr. Peoples said there was some money allocated and that it was not intended for everyone to have their own personal radio and pager. Mr. Peoples said he would look to see how many additional pagers and radios would be needed along with what the additional cost would be.

Commissioner Sexton stated that he was looking for concessions/rents/revenues for recreation in the budget. Mr. Milazi stated that those items are in the recreational portion of the budget. Mr. Peoples noted that concessions for recreation are not paid for through Washington County but through the Recreation Boosters.

Commissioner Johnson asked Mr. Peoples to look into the following:
(Note: Commissioner Johnson also mentioned that the tennis courts need updating but will cost approximately \$26,000 and should be considered at another time.)

- Karate
- Modern Dance
- Pottery
- Kayaking

Mr. Peoples told the Board that Washington County would be liable for these activities.

Mr. Peoples also told the Board that not all of the figures are correct in Mayor Sanders' package.

Mr. Peoples suggested to the Board that before making alterations to the recreation program as it is now, the County should do a survey during the next year and take results to see if there is a need for modern dance, pottery, kayaking, baseball, basketball or football. If the County adds new activities now it could limit participation in activities already provided that are well participated in because funding for all activities would be limited.

Chair Manning would like to involve the 4-H program with this. He thinks the 4-H program has some of these activities already incorporated. Mr. Peoples will contact Ms. Liverman to discuss this.

Ms. O'Neal from the Washington County Library was in attendance and Mr. Peoples asked her if the library does storytelling. Ms. O'Neal responded yes, the library has storytelling at the library at 10:30 am every Wednesday morning.

Commissioner Sexton talked about Mark Sexton (his brother) trying to recruit for dance/piano classes. Sometimes there would have a good turnout and sometimes there would not be a good turnout. Commissioner Sexton thinks that Mayor Sanders' numbers are skewed also. He suggested trying a couple of these programs this year, possibly running them through the summer months.

Mr. Peoples will meet with Ms. Liverman and Mr. Fulford regarding cost impact and programs available and report back to the Board.

Commissioner Manning asked about the administrative assistant that Mayor Sanders referenced. Mr. Peoples said there is no administrative assistant. There was a part time person that helped with scheduling, but that person is no longer employed with the County. The \$22,000 that Mayor Sanders mentioned pays for instructors and officials.

Mr. Peoples noted that insurance for the recreation activities is \$16,000 and the County could pay it but it would have to come out of the reserve fund or ad valorem tax.

Mr. Peoples told the Board that he talked to Mr. Steve Morris, NC Recreation Director. Of the 100 counties in NC, 60 counties have recreation programs and 40 do not. A number of counties handle their recreation program through grant programs. Mr. Peoples has emails from other counties with information on how they run their recreation programs. Some counties don't sponsor any recreation activities, they are sponsored by the municipalities but the counties may provide a field and rent it to the towns for their use with recreation activities.

Mr. Morris told Mr. Peoples that Washington County should have 75% of ours recreation program funded by fees.

Chair Manning asked if the County should have a full time recreation director. Mr. Peoples said we actually need two! Washington County is fortunate that we are able to get by with our full time director and volunteers (which have fallen off lately).

Commissioner Johnson agreed with the County trying to implement a couple of new programs this year. Mr. Peoples asked the Commissioners if the County agrees to try to implement a couple of new programs, who will manage the funds? Commissioner Sexton said the County should be responsible for handling the funds.

Commissioners Johnson and Sexton both commended Mr. Fulford on the excellent job he has done with the County's recreation program.

Mr. Peoples mentioned that the Board is scheduled to adopt the budget on June 4 and will ask if they are prepared to adopt the budget that night.

With there being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Sexton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Alexander seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Buster Manning
Chair

Julie J. Bennett
Clerk to the Board