

CUMBERLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JUNE 3, 2019 – 5:30 PM  
117 DICK STREET, 5TH FLOOR, ROOM 564  
FY20 BUDGET WORK SESSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Commissioner Jeannette Council, Chair  
Commissioner Marshall Faircloth, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Glenn Adams  
Commissioner Charles Evans  
Commissioner Larry Lancaster  
Commissioner Jimmy Keefe  
Amy Cannon, County Manager  
Melissa Cardinali, Assistant County Manager  
Tracy Jackson, Assistant County Manager  
Duane Holder, Assistant County Manager  
Rick Moorefield, County Attorney  
Vicki Evans, Finance Director  
Deborah Shaw, Budget Analyst  
Heather Harris, Budget Analyst  
Darian Cobb, Fellow with NCACC County Manager Fellowship Program  
Keith Todd, Information Services Director  
Jeffery Brown, Engineering and Infrastructure Director  
Brenda Jackson, Social Services Director  
Geneve Mankel, PIO Communications and Outreach Coordinator  
Clyde Locklear, Assoc. Superintendent of Business Operations  
Greg West, Board of Education  
Donna Vann, Board of Education  
Candice White, Clerk to the Board  
Kellie Beam, Deputy Clerk

ABSENT: Commissioner Michael Boose

Chair Council called the special meeting to order.

Amy Cannon, County Manager, referenced the FY20 recommended budget she presented on May 30 and stated since it was more general in nature, staff are present to assist the Board in putting together an adopted budget for FY20 either by providing further details or responding to questions.

Chair Council referenced the budget of the Cumberland County Schools stating it contains undesignated funds of approximately \$23 million which comprises its fund balance and the remainder is designated funds. Commissioner Keefe asked why the Cumberland County Schools have a fund balance. Ms. Cannon stated the N. C. Local Government Commission does not require or set a minimum for fund balances for schools as they do for cities and towns. Ms. Cannon stated as of 2018, the total fund balance for the Cumberland County Schools was \$36.7 million with \$23 million undesignated or unassigned. Ms. Cannon stated the schools also had \$9.8 million set aside for prior year expenditures that were not spent so they rolled and designated those funds. Ms. Cannon stated the schools have minimums required for gap purposes. Ms. Cannon stated schools keep fund balance for cash flow purposes and for payroll. Ms. Cannon stated schools do not need to keep a large fund balance because they receive their funding from both the state and county in monthly increments to assist with their cash flow. Commissioner Adams stated at the end of the fiscal year, prior year allocations should be gone and there should not be any undesignated funds. Ms. Cannon stated that was correct, it should either be spent or become unassigned the next year.

Commissioner Adams stated he felt the County should have a grant writer on a consultant basis so as not to make an additional position necessary or overtax current staff. Commissioner Adams stated his understanding is that the crime lab is not being utilized and suggested using sixty to seventy thousand of that to fund a grant writer. Commissioner Keefe concurred. Commissioner Adams stated Commissioner Boose was also in agreement.

Commissioner Adams stated Ms. Cannon's recommended budget included moving people from the Public Library into the Public Information Office. Commissioner Adams stated there is

sentiment to see the actual plan first. Ms. Cannon stated Assistant County Manager Sally Shutt has been working on the job descriptions, organizational chart, expanded functions and what is hoped to be achieved. Ms. Cannon stated Ms. Shutt can send that information out for review prior to the next budget session.

Commissioner Adams stated funding for the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council needs to be approved in order to receive matching funds. Ms. Cannon stated the JCPC plan needs to be brought to the Board at the next budget session; the state dollars and the match are in the budget, but the Board has to approve allocations/individual dollar amounts for the programs.

Commissioner Keefe posed additional questions about the consolidated communications team and stated although he does not take issue with the 2% COLA, he needs additional information on the retention aspect before voting since it was a large part of the FY20 recommended budget presentation.

Commissioner Keefe referenced the process involving the Mid-Carolina Council of Governments and the plan that is to come forward in six months. Commissioner Keefe stated he would like FY20 funding for the COG to be done in two six-month phases to ensure the plan is in accordance with what the Board of Commissioners believes the COG should be doing. Ms. Cannon stated the three County Managers and elected officials will work with the consultant, not COG staff. Ms. Cannon stated the consultant is working on an invitation to a June meeting to begin the process of engaging elected offices in what they would like to see in a revitalized COG. Ms. Cannon stated County funding for the COG is the match to federal funds drawn down for Meals on Wheels and in-home aid services. Vicki Evans, Finance Director, explained agreements are signed after the budget is approved at the beginning of the next fiscal year for services in all of their annual contracts. Commissioner Keefe stated Cumberland County funds at a much higher level than the other two counties and the City of Fayetteville is not even in the COG. Ms. Cannon stated the reorganization of the COG will include asking the City of Fayetteville to join. Commissioner Keefe stated funding of the COG has not been fair to Cumberland County for a number of years and the County is paying other organizations to do what COGs have traditionally done in North Carolina. Commissioner Adams stated no one argues the ineffectiveness of the COG, the question is how to move forward.

Commissioner Lancaster stated the Sheriff's Office is asking to have six additional School Resource Officers included the budget. Commissioner Lancaster stated the request stems from a 2019 public safety grant that is expected to continue through June 30, 2020. Commissioner Lancaster stated the Board of Education will reimburse the salary and benefit costs, the cost of the vehicles, uniforms and equipment for each of the six new positions at approximately \$497,000 with the FY20 budget request specific to salary and benefit costs at \$353,568. Ms. Cannon stated the SROs were not included in the recommended budget because the request was not received until after the recommended budget was finalized and the intent was to bring it forward during the budget work sessions. After questions and a brief discussion, consensus followed to add the six positions to the FY20 budget. Ms. Cannon stated a budget revision will be placed on the June 17, 2019 agenda to order equipment for the positions effective July 1, 2019. Ms. Cannon stated her understanding is that the Board of Education will purchase equipment and vehicles out of its fund balance.

Commissioner Keefe referenced the \$400,000 in the CIF recommended for an electronic health records system for the Health Department and stated he hoped it would be compatible with Cape Fear Valley Medical Center's medical records system. Keith Todd, Information Services Director, stated part of the RFP was to ensure it would be compatible with EPIC software and staff have also engaged with Cape Fear Valley about leveraging that software. Mr. Todd stated the software companies will only accept clients that have a certain degree of providers. Mr. Todd stated some counties have partnered with their hospital and staff are looking at those agreements to formulate next steps.

Consensus followed to cancel the 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, 2019 FY20 budget work session special meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Adams moved to adjourn.  
SECOND: Commissioner Faircloth  
VOTE: UNANIMOUS (6-0)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Approved with/without revision:

Respectfully submitted,

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Candice H. White  
Clerk to the Board