

TERM OF COMMISSION: December Session of the October Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Roger B. Wilson Boone County Government Center
Commission Chambers

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Keith Schnarre
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Skip Elkin
Boone County Auditor June Pitchford
Deputy County Clerk Shawna Victor

The budget hearing was called to order at 4:01 p.m.

Budget Hearings: Prosecuting Attorney Budgets

Kevin Crane, Boone County Prosecuting Attorney, Bonnie Atkins, PA Office Administrator, and Barbara Morris, Child Support Office Administrator, were present on behalf of these budget hearings.

Barbara Morris and Kevin Crane reviewed the supplemental request for the Child Support budget (department 1263). The department is requesting shelving but this may not be needed if the department is able to use the off-site storage.

June Pitchford stated this budget is reimbursed by the State. The revenues are direct costs and documents indirect costs.

There was discussion about the lease purchase of computers.

Kevin Crane and Bonnie Atkins reviewed the supplements requests for department 1261. Mr. Crane is requesting additional funds for furniture, and replacement vehicle for the investigator. The current vehicle has 112,000 miles and they are requesting a minimum reassignment of a vehicle that has fewer miles.

The P.A. Bad Check fund is projected to have expenditures exceed revenues for 2004.

There was discussion about the status of P.A. Bad Check fund. Mr. Crane noted the attorney's CLE training used to be paid by the check fund. The department is requesting the training be paid by 1261 budget.

Mrs. Pitchford noted items that have been included in the proposed 2004 budget are items that were started in 2003 and are being continued in 2004.

The Check Fund has paid for a legal secretary and the department is requesting a portion

of this salary, 520 hours, be paid by the general fund. This has been included by the Auditor.

They are also requesting the attorney that has been paid by the Check fund be paid by the general fund. This is a position that provides services outside of the context of prosecuting bad check cases. Mr. Crane stated he does not believe that Proposition L funds should be used to offset any decreases in the Check fund.

In the past, the Check fund has been used to offset general fund expenses, such as add staff. The Check fund revenue has leveled off in recent years but personnel expenses have increased over the past few years. This is the reason why there is a decline in the Check fund.

Mr. Crane stated he does not know where the funding will come from for these positions that have been paid from the Check fund are not funded through the general fund. The result will be not having the assistant prosecutor. There will still the same number of cases. This is the reason he is requesting for an additional attorney under Proposition L funds.

There was discussion about how other positions in the county are paid out of different funds. A suggestion was made for possibly having the attorney be paid out of both the general fund and the Check fund if this attorney is handling other cases besides bad checks.

There was discussion about how other special funds have been handled in the past and the history of the P.A. Bad Check fund.

Mrs. Pitchford stated she included in the budget items that were a continuation of things begun in the last year. She believes it is the Commission's decision on what will ultimately be included in the budget.

There was discussion about out of county housing expenses and how those may be handled in the future.

There was no further discussion on these budgets.

The budget hearings adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Attest:

Keith Schnarre
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Skip Elkin
District II Commissioner