



DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WORKSHOP MEETING

JUNE 3, 2009
10:00 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Haste, Chairman
Dominic D. DiFrancesco, II, Vice Chairman

George P. Hartwick, III, Secretary (ABSENT)

STAFF PRESENT

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk; Marie E. Rebuck, Controller; Janis Creason, Treasurer; J. Scott Burford, Deputy Chief Clerk; William Tully, Esq., Solicitor; Randy Baratucci, Director of Purchasing; Gary Serhan, Deputy Controller; Mike Yohe, Director of Budget & Finance; Tom Guenther, Director of IT; Steve Chiavetta, Director of Registration & Elections; Mike Pries, Director of Security; Carolyn Thompson, Court Administrator; Kay Lengle, Personnel; Jordan Barkus, Commissioners' Office; Diane McNaughton, Commissioners' Office; Michelle Haack, Commissioners' Office; Amy Richards, Commissioners' Office; Danielle Vayda, Solicitor's Office; Kacey Truax, Commissioners' Office; Jena Wolgemuth, Commissioners' Office; Brenda Hoffer, Commissioners' Office and Richie-Ann Martz, Assistant Chief Clerk

GUESTS PRESENT

Dan Miller and Carline Rameau

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Haste, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Everyone observed a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Haste: We have four sets of meeting minutes that we'll take up at next week's meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: We are at the point in time in the meeting for public participation. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board at this time? (There was none.)

ELECTION BOARD

A complete set of Election Board Meeting Minutes are on file in the Commissioners' Office.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS/GUESTS

A. Mike Yohe, Director of Budget & Finance

1. Presentation of 2009/2010 Proposed Fiscal Year Budget

Mr. Yohe: Today is the day that has been advertised to make the proposed 2009/2010 Fiscal Year portion of the Dauphin County Budget available for the 20-day public inspection period. I've met with each of the departments in the last month or so. We held a public hearing on Monday. There were not many issues at Monday's hearing. Before I forget the one issue that did come up was the stimulus money in Weatherization. I talked with Craig the last couple of days. They do not have a figure for that. When it does come through, they don't know what it's going to be for a couple of months yet, it will have to be separately accounted for completely. We are not in a position really to make too many adjustments here until we get those numbers. So, we'll take care of that as long as we can identify additional sources of revenue we can amend the budget throughout the year. There will be an adjustment to their budget, but it will come through sometime during the course of the year. That was really about the only issue that we had outstanding from Monday's hearing.

Mr. Haste: That and Drugs and Alcohol are going to adjust where they are taking those funds from. Was that done?

Mr. Yohe: That again will be done before the final vote.

Before you is a 5-page summary. The first page just lists those funds that run on a July to June fiscal year. There are nine of them. Most of them are the human service agencies. If you look at this you are going to see a very drastic reduction in the overall budget. As we talked about it on Monday that's due almost entirely to pretty much the elimination of the mental retardation portion being passed through our MH/MR agency. The state is going to be handling that directly from now on, which is a big change from how it has been. You are looking at a \$44 million reduction, \$42 million of which is in MH/MR alone. The other funds are all showing reductions as well. I think that is a case, more or less, of reductions across the board from the state level to the federal level, which is filtering down here somewhat. The departments have been very good at not passing those reductions on in forms of increases from the County taxpayers. I think we established that they are still maintaining most of their services, certainly the required services at a lesser funding.

We have nine funds. The proposal for next year will be \$119,491,982. Again this is a reduction of \$43,898,028 or almost 27% over the current 2008/2009 year. Page 2 shows how much General Fund dollars are required for these nine funds. For next year we are proposing \$10,919,141, which is a reduction of \$1,160,177. The two main components of that are Children and Youth, somewhat surprising to me, we don't usually see that, but we have a reduction of \$893,141 as a request for County dollars next year. That is based on the slow down of kids going into placement, which is good. I haven't seen that for a long time. The second one is in that 107 Fund, the State Fiscal Year Grant Fund. That is a fund that we house a lot of grants that run from a July to June year. A lot of human service grants, but there are several that aren't. The big one is there is a Juvenile Probation grant that for years was run through here that required a large County match. If you remember we moved that into the General Fund effective January 1 of this year. So, we increased the General Fund somewhat the 09 budget in the General Fund, but that translates into a reduction here as a match to this one. That is what you are looking at. That is why you are seeing a big drop. It is a Juvenile Probation grant that essentially the County was funding almost all of it any ways. We just moved it into the General Fund. Page 3 out of all those departments there is only one new position request for next year. That is in Children & Youth. It is an independent living grant position, which means that the County is putting in approximately 4% of General Fund dollars. It is 96% funded by the State. At the bottom of Page 3 is a pie chart that shows the source of revenue. As you can see this whole pot here the federal monies make up about 38%. Most of the funds are state funds at about 49%. The County chips in 9% and then we have 4% other that would be consumer contributions, donations, and those types of things fees that are paid. Page 4 lists the expenses. Most of this is client care services. What I mean by that is these are services that are provided by outside contractors. We do some in-house, but most are passed through to the private sector. Salary and benefits make up 15%. Indirect costs, those are monies that come back to the General Fund, about 1% of the total. The last page shows the County funds. Yes they are down, but as you can see it is a little bit of

an increase over our estimate this year. The request for next year is \$1 million less than our budget, but it is a little bit more than what we estimated we were going to spend this year. It is slowly climbing, but not quite at the rate that we anticipated from a budget standpoint.

Mr. Haste: I made myself a note to talk to you if someone doesn't follow this clearly or doesn't understand it looks like you are contradicting what you said earlier. What you should show here is budget amount versus budget amount. Instead what you show is actual versus budget, which actual came lower than budget. For those folks who are reading this for the first time may not understand it. It could be misconstrued.

Mr. Yohe: The second page was a budget to budget. This is an actual to budget. Quite honestly, most times we come in under budget. What we are proposing here I wouldn't be surprised if we don't come in maybe even under the 10.3 that we had this year. That is it. Again, there's not a whole lot to this one. This is really something that we have to do just to match up a budget with the state. It is not a County requirement that we do a budget for the fiscal year, but in order to get our reports and budget numbers in there so that they can file their reports to the state we do officially go through these proceedings. Obviously the official budget will start in about three months for next year.

Mr. Haste: Final adoption is scheduled for when?

Mr. Yohe: June 24th. This will be on the website.

Mr. Haste: And a copy at the receptionist's desk.

Mr. Yohe: Yes. I'm here to answer any questions. If not, I would ask for a vote to make this available for the 20-day public inspection period.

Mr. DiFrancesco: We covered most of the discussion during the budget hearing on Monday, but the two points that were noted, specifically the state taking over the mental retardation. Obviously we will be watching that very closely, because there is some concern that right now the service being provided at our level it is a very responsive service. So, I use the example of last year's Presidential campaign when the phone rings at 3:00 in the morning what we are going to have to do is make sure that when there is an emergency situation regarding a mental retardation client that it is being resolved and taken care of. While I think the state is making this move to make the system more efficient we need to make sure that the service levels are still maintained. So, we will continue to monitor to make sure that the people in Dauphin County are being taken care of, because the complaints more than likely will come to the County even though the County is not contracting the service or providing the service any longer. The complaints probably will still come to us when the ball is dropped. We want to make sure that we continue to monitor there, because there are human lives on the line. That is the other point that I want to make so the public understands just how closely County budgets and state budgets are linked. With everything that is going on

right now at the state level and all the rhetoric basically that has come out over the last couple days in the news that 39 state parks are going to have to close if this happens and this, that and the other thing. What we deal with here is the lives of people. Specifically in this budget I think the most glowing examples are the mental health/mental retardation budget and the children & youth budget, because generally speaking if Children & Youth is involved there is a child's life on the line and likewise with Mental Health/Mental Retardation is involved there is a critical situation of somebody who really doesn't have a lot of options in the community. No place is going to care for that person and what we find is that when they don't receive the adequate care that is when they end up hurting themselves or hurting others, getting involved in the Prison when they shouldn't be in the Prison they should be in treatment. Just to highly emphasize that as the state budget talks continue, there is a huge difference between life and death funding of government services and with things that make our community a lot nicer like parks and so forth. Obviously we are going to have to sit back and watch, because this budget still has the potential to be impacted by whatever happens up at the state capitol.

It was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Hartwick that the Board lay the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Budget on the table for public inspection with final adoption on June 24, 2009; motion carried.

PERSONNEL

Ms. Lenge: Do you have any questions on the Salary Board item? (There was none.) Are there any questions on the items in the Personnel Packet? (There was none.) There is nothing out of the ordinary this week.

Mr. Haste: Any questions? (There was none.)

PURCHASE ORDERS

Mr. Baratucci: You should have all received your Purchase Order Packet yesterday. As usual there are a couple of budget issues, which Mr. Yohe and I will resolve. Are there any questions on the Packet itself? (There was none.)

The second item, a couple of weeks ago we opened up a bid for food service management at the Schaffner Youth Center. You have a sheet there that shows you the people that we sent bids to. Unfortunately, because it is never good not to have a lot of competition, we did only receive one valid bid. We received the second one, but it had no bid bond included. They had issues with being able to get a bid bond. There were some other things with the bid itself. So, we only had one valid bid. It is from the current supplier who also services the Prison and has serviced Schaffner Center for a while and they do a very good job. We are not thrilled with the price. With one bid, our recommendation is going to be to accept it. The way this program is set up we are committed for one year. We have options for four additional one-year periods, but we are going to take this year to see what else is out there. We are going to talk to the

State, because they are involved as well. We have to use their bid package. We have to go through a certification process with them, because they provide a lot of the funding here through the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs. We are going to see if we can generate a little bit more interest. We are hoping that this local company that was not able to submit a valid bid this time may be able to do so. We are going to talk again to Canteen, who is one of the vendors that normally submits bids to see if we can encourage some more competition. If we feel that we can do that our option is to rebid it again next year and not take any of the renewal options. For now, the current contract ends on June 30. We would like your approval to accept the bid of Aramark and get a contract in place that will at least take us from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. I think I have had some discussions about this with you guys individually. If you have any other questions I would be happy to answer them. Dan Kern has also communicated with you.

Mr. DiFrancesco: There are really not a lot of questions other than to make the comment, much of what you already said. It is a shame, especially in today's economy. I think that is what shocked me more than anything else was that there weren't more bids submitted. You would think people are fighting to find work right now. So, we will have our backs up against the wall. It is unfortunate, but... Again you are already on top of it to make the process better in the future.

Mr. Haste: Actually I asked a few questions last night on why there weren't more bidders. The answer came back that some of these companies have already scaled back and this contract isn't large enough for them to revamp. If they were getting a number of them then they could bring back the staff they laid off. The problem is they already scaled back to deal with the current circumstances and this isn't large enough to cause them to bring them back.

Mr. Baratucci: That is what we are hearing too. This is a relatively small amount. It is a small facility. They are estimating about 50 meal servings a day. We are going to see what we can do. Maybe this local company, they are from Harrisburg. It might be a good fit for them. They are relatively new to this type of process so we are going to try and work with them as well.

Mr. DiFrancesco: With the changes that took place at the state level having to use the bid package from the state and so forth, is this something that is open for, for instance a local caterer who would like to try to pick up this business. Could they?

Mr. Baratucci: That is one of the things, after the bid process, they approved the bid package. Again we had to use their bid package, we did put in a couple things that we thought would benefit us mainly some things that we had to do by code. We ran it through the Solicitor's Office, but they were pretty strict about having to use their package. I found out later that I believe the bidders have to be certified by them as well. That is one of the things that we want to talk about. We want to find out ahead of time do these bidders, before they even submit a bid to us, should they be going to them and get certified. If you wait until after they submit a bid and then they are the low bidder

then we have that situation. We have to do a little bit more research. Schaffner has that contract up at the state and they are going to do that and try to get more details. This is the first time. We haven't done this bid for three years. They have gotten a lot stricter in their requirements. We are going to try to find out that question and some others as well. If you can act on this so we can get the contracts back to you for signature.

Mr. Haste: Is there anything else in your package today that needs to be acted on?

Mr. Baratucci: No, I got two more.

The other one is on the Agenda as well. There are some air cards here for Adult Probation. There are a total of 12. The money is going to be paid for out of their supervision fees. We did want this approved today, because some of these air cards are going to be used for that program "Safe Surrender" and that starts on Monday. The employees are listed. Again it will come out of supervision fees. We are hoping for a vote on that.

The last one there is a Blackberry Requisition. This was somehow misplaced. It is a personal request so they are paying for it. It just fell through the cracks and we would like to get it approved because it has been sitting around for awhile.

It was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Haste that we approve the bid award for the Schaffner Food Service Contract to Aramark at a bid price of \$4.983 per meal, the 12 Air Cards for Adult Probation and the Blackberry Request for Gregory Mills; motion carried.

TRAINING PACKET

Mr. Saylor: We need to approve Item 7.

It was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Haste that the Board approve Item 7 on the Training Packet; motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Resolution #15-2009 - Establishment of a new Bank Account with M & T Bank for the Health Choices Program. **(**A VOTE IS REQUESTED 6/3/09**)**
- B. Ratify the payment of \$775,652.93 on May 29, 2009 by this County as required under the terms of the County Swap Guaranty Agreement relating to the Harrisburg Authority's Resource Recovery Facility and direct staff to take all steps necessary to recover the same amount from the city and the authority. **(**A VOTE IS REQUESTED 6/3/09**)**

It was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Haste that the Board approve Items for Discussion A and B, listed above; motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Tully: All items that will be requiring Board action next week will be reviewed and ready for that vote. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have. (There was none.)

CHIEF CLERK'S REPORT

Mr. Saylor: Unless there are questions for me I have nothing to add. (There was none.)

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Mr. DiFrancesco: I would like to welcome the new faces. I was walking around the floor the other day and I kept running into people who I had no idea who they were. They just seemed to be everywhere. Our summer interns and law clerks have started. I just want to welcome everybody. I think we got a good group. Hopefully you will learn a lot during your employment and hopefully you will get a lot accomplished.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Haste: We are again at the point in time for public participation. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board? (There was none.)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr. DiFrancesco and seconded by Mr. Haste that the Board adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad Saylor, Chief Clerk

Transcribed by: Richie-Ann Martz