

**BUDGET, FINANCE & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

**September 5, 2013**

**5:30 P.M.**

**Courthouse**

MINUTES:

Members Present:

Comm. Charlie Baum  
Comm. Joe Frank Jernigan  
Comm. Will Jordan  
Comm. Robert Peay, Jr.  
Comm. Steve Sandlin  
Comm. Doug Shafer  
Comm. Joyce Ealy, Chr.

Others Present:

Ernest Burgess  
Rob Mitchell  
Laura Bohling  
Heather Dawbarn  
Lisa Nolen  
Don Odom  
Jeff Sandvig

Others Present:

Nicole Lester  
Eric Hill  
Anthony Tuggle  
Bernard Salandy  
Joe Russell  
Lynn Duke  
Jeff Davidson

Others Present:

Kirk Catron  
Mark Tucker  
Elaine Short

Chairman Ealy presided and called the meeting to order with all members being present.

APPROVE MINUTES:

Comm. Jordan moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the August 8, 2013 Budget Committee minutes as mailed.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

INVESTMENT REPORT:

Chairman Ealy advised that there were no investment transactions during the month, and that the LGIP Interest rate for the month was .10%.

Comm. Sandlin moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the monthly Investment Report as presented.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

REQUEST FROM PROPERTY ASSESSOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE 2014 CLEAN TENNESSEE ENERGY GRANT:

Mr. Rob Mitchell, Property Assessor, advised that the Clean Tennessee Energy Grant Program was managed by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. The City of Kingsport utilized the grant last year to purchase two Nissan Leafs. He requested permission to submit an application. He advised that the grant process was different than other grants in that permission had to be requested in order to be approved by TDEC to submit an application. Mr. Mitchell advised that he was looking at the Ford C-Max, which was a hybrid vehicle. He stated that the vehicle gets approximately 42 miles per gallon. For any driving under 25 miles per hour, the vehicle operates at 100% electric. His department does a lot of low speed driving through neighborhoods starting and stopping. Therefore, the majority of driving in neighborhoods would utilize electric power, and he anticipated that it would save tremendously on the fuel budget.

Mr. Mitchell advised that the grant would require a 50%/50% match. He advised that he would like to receive two of the hybrid vehicles with the county purchasing one vehicle and the grant covering the second vehicle.

Following discussion, Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to authorize the County Mayor and all other required officials of Rutherford County to submit a request to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, for an application for the 2014 Clean Tennessee Energy Grant Program to purchase two hybrid vehicles with a 50%/50% match being required; and if approved, to also authorize the County Mayor and all other required officials to submit the grant application.

Mr. Mitchell advised that if his office was fortunate to receive money for the vehicles, he would transfer the vehicles being replaced to another county department. Mr. Mitchell advised that one

hybrid vehicle would cost approximately \$25,000, and he anticipated applying for \$25,000. If awarded, the county would have to provide a \$25,000 match for a total of \$50,000.

Following discussion, the motion to authorize the County Mayor and all other required officials of Rutherford County to submit a request to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for an application for the 2014 Clean Tennessee Energy Grant Program to purchase two hybrid vehicles requiring a 50% match, and if approved, to also authorize the County Mayor and all other required officials to submit a grant application passed unanimously by acclamation.

#### FUND CONDITION REPORT:

Finance Director Lisa Nolen presented the monthly Fund Condition Report for the month ending August 31, 2013 advising that the Development Tax collections were \$182,250 with the year-to-date collections being \$588,750. This compared to the same period last fiscal year when the August 2012 Development Tax collections were \$162,000, and the year-to-date collections were \$280,500.

The committee reviewed the fund cash balances totaling \$144,993,625 with operating funds being \$139,877,896 and borrowed funds being \$5,115,729. This compared to the same month last fiscal year when the total fund cash balances were \$162,167,369 with operating funds being \$131,167,369 and borrowed funds being \$31,333,981.

The Finance Director advised that the Public Safety Communications Project reflected a negative balance of \$212,823; however, a \$300,000 reimbursement was received from the Emergency Communications District Board after September 1.

The Finance Director provided information regarding the revenue collections thus far. Some revenue accounts reflected collections for only one month and some revenue accounts reflected two months of collections. There was no unusual revenue activity to report at this time.

Following review, Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Sandlin to approve the Fund Condition Report as presented.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

#### RISK MANAGEMENT FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Finance Director presented the monthly Risk Management Financial Report for the use and information of the committee advising that the cost per employee per month for the medical, dental, and vision coverage was \$796.68 with the year-to-date average cost being \$840.85, which compared favorably to the prior year's year-to-date average cost of \$939.59. When including the onsite medical clinics, the average cost per employee for the two months reporting was \$883.32 compared to \$972.47 for the prior year.

When comparing the total revenue to the total expenditures based on a calendar year, the expenditures exceeded the revenue by \$833,637.53.

For the monthly OJI (workers' compensation) Fund, the year-to-date claims totaled \$74,990.70 compared to \$195,123.89 for the prior year, which was 38% of last year's claims.

Regarding the new wellness requirements that were discussed last month, Comm. Shafer asked what the difference was in a lipid test and the HRA.

The Finance Director stated that her understanding was that the lipid test was for testing cholesterol levels. Mayor Burgess stated that he would ask Mrs. Stinson to clarify the difference.

Comm. Jordan stated if someone had been to their personal physician for a physical, they could request that the information be sent to Lab Corp or Quest.

Comm. Peay stated that it was his understanding from talking to Mrs. Stinson that all of the details had not been finalized.

Following discussion, Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the Risk Management Financial Report as presented.

The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.

## **GENERAL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

### ELECTION COMMISSION:

Mrs. Nicole Lester, Administrator of Elections, advised that for the past several years Rutherford County had been leasing voting machines from MicroVote Corporation, because Rutherford County only owned 150 machines. Due to the population growth in the county, 150 machines were not enough. During the past election cycle, an additional 146 voting machines were leased. The reason the additional machines were leased as opposed to being purchased was due to the Voter Confidence Act. It was believed that optical scan voting machines were going to be required, and the state did not want to purchase machines that might become obsolete in a short period of time. That part of the law has been repealed, and it is safe for the county to continue using the voting machines that have already been purchased. Mrs. Lester requested approval of the following budget amendment to recognize grant revenue to be received from the state and to appropriate the grant revenue for data processing equipment:

Increase Revenue:	101-46980 – Other State Grants -	\$364,350
Increase Expend.:	101-51500-709 – Data Processing Equipment -	\$364,350

Mrs. Lester advised that in June, the County Commission had adopted a Resolution authorizing a grant application through the Tennessee Division of Elections and notification had been received that the grant had been approved in the amount of \$364,350 as part of the HAVA (Help America Vote Act). The grant is 100% funded.

In addition, the state also has grant money available to provide each of the 95 counties a new computer. The amount of the grant is \$1,500.61. She stated it was a separate grant, but the state would be working on the two grants at the same time.

The Resolution that was adopted on June 13, 2013 authorized the County Mayor to submit a grant application to the Tennessee Division of Elections to receive a new state computer and to acquire/upgrade new voting equipment; and additionally, authorized the County Mayor to accept the grant subject to it being awarded.

Comm. Peay stated that he wanted to make sure that the machines being purchased were not going to become obsolete.

Mrs. Lester advised that MicroVote was the first company of all of the voting machine companies to be approved according to the most recent standards by the EAC, which is the federal commission that oversees voting machines standards. She stated that all of the 150 county-owned voting machines had been completely refurbished with an eight-year parts and labor warranty. With the 146 new machines, the county will have a total of 296 machines.

Following discussion, Comm. Sandlin moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the budget amendment as requested increasing Revenue Account 101-46980, Other State Grants, by \$364,350 and increasing Expenditure Account 101-51500-709, Data Processing Equipment, by \$364,350.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

PLANNING & ENGINEERING:

Mr. Eric Hill, County Engineer, requested approval of the following budget amendment transferring funds from data processing equipment to in-service training to facilitate training on the new AutoCad Program. He stated that he had worked with OIT and GIS earlier in the year to purchase a new AutoCad system. The funds will provide training for six people partially in the Engineering Department and partially in OIT:

From: 101-51720-709 – Data Processing Equipment -	\$11,000
To: 101-51720-196 – In-Service Training -	\$11,000

Comm. Sandlin moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the budget transfer for the Planning and Engineering Department as requested transferring \$11,000 from Account 101-51720-709, Data Processing Equipment, to Account 101-51720-196, In-Service Training.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

AGRICULTURE EXTENSION:

Mr. Anthony Tuggle, Agriculture Extension Director, requested approval of the following budget amendment to provide funding utilizing accumulated reserves from rental space at the Agriculture Center to purchase livestock panels and to replace the roof:

From: 101-34640 - - AGRI – Committed for Agriculture & Natural Resources -	\$100,000
To: 101-57100-335 – Maint./Repair Buildings -	\$ 80,000
101-57100-499 – Other Supplies/Materials -	20,000

Comm. Jordan asked how old the building was and if a different roof was going to be recommended.

Mr. Tuggle advised that the building was nine years old. Currently, the roof is a shingle roof. He stated several companies had looked at the roof, and some of them thought the roof was not installed properly. He stated that there had also been some hail damage to the roof. Mr. Tuggle advised that there had been leaks and buckling of the roof. One major repair had already been done to the roof.

Comm. Sandlin asked if it would be possible to install a metal roof.

Comm. Peay asked Mayor Burgess if he could check to see if it would be possible to file for any insurance coverage on the roof.

Following discussion, Comm. Jordan moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the budget amendment as requested amending \$100,000 from Account 101-34640 - - AGRI, Committed for Agriculture & Natural Resources, with \$80,000 to Account 101-57100-335, Maintenance & Repair Buildings, and \$20,000 to Account 101-57100-499, Other Supplies & Materials.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

CORRECTIONAL WORK CENTER:

Mr. Bernard Salandy, Correctional Work Center Superintendent, was present to request approval of the following budget amendment to provide sufficient funds for the medical services contract with Dr. John Daniel Rudd at the Work Center:

From: 101-39000 – Unassigned Fund Balance -	\$118,275
To: 101-54220-399 – Other Contracted Services -	\$118,275

Mayor Burgess advised that the county had contracts with Dr. Rudd at all three of the correctional facilities – the Jail, Correctional Work Center, and the Juvenile Detention Center. He advised that the net effect of the request was between the Work Center and the Jail. For the previous year, the county owed Dr. Rudd a net of \$58,274.66. Dr. Rudd owed the county \$18,894.24 for the jail, and the county owed Dr. Rudd \$77,168.90 for a net of \$58,274.66. With this history, it would appear that approximately \$60,000 in additional funding would be needed for the 2013-14 fiscal year for indirect costs and off-site medical costs for the medical services contract at the Correctional Work Center.

The Finance Director advised that the same amount had been budgeted for the Correctional Work center for 2013-14 as budgeted for 2012-13. After the books were closed and after looking at the history, it appeared that the medical services contract with Dr. Rudd would cost approximately \$5,000 more per month. The amendment covered \$58,274.66 due for 2012-13 and an additional \$60,000 to cover the contract for 2013-14.

Following discussion, Comm. Jordan moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the budget amendment for the Correctional Work Center as requested amending \$118,275 from Account 101-39000, Unassigned Fund Balance, to Account 101-54220-399, Other Contracted Services.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

#### SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Joe Russell, Chief Deputy, requested approval of the following budget amendments to recognize revenue to be received for the Governor's Highway Safety Office for unspent grant funds in 2012-13 and to request remaining donated funds from the 2012-13 budget for Shop with the Sheriff, Explorers, and K-9:

Increase Revenue:	101-47590 – Other Federal Through State -	\$10,831
Increase Expend.:	101-54110-187 – Overtime Pay -	\$ 9,000
	101-54110-201 – Social Security -	558
	101-54110-204 – State Retirement -	1,142
	101-54110-212 – Employer Medicare -	131
From:	101-39000 – Unassigned Fund Balance -	\$ 5,658
To:	101-54110-399 – Other Contracted Services -	\$ 5,658

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to approve the budget amendments for the Sheriff's Department as requested increasing Revenue Account 101-47590, Other Federal Through State, by \$10,831, and increasing Expenditure Accounts 101-54110-187, Overtime Pay, by \$9,000, 101-54110-201, Social Security, by \$558, 101-54110-204, State Retirement, by \$1,142, and 101-54110-212, Employer Medicare, by \$131; and amending \$5,658 from Account 101-39000, Unassigned Fund Balance, to Account 101-54110-399, Other Contracted Services.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

#### SPECIAL PURPOSE (DEA) FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT:

Mr. Russell next requested approval of the following Special Purpose (DEA) Fund budget amendment to recognize revenue received from asset forfeitures and to appropriate it for Motor Vehicles:

Increase Revenue:	121-47700 – Asset Forfeitures -	\$ 15,221
Increase Expend.:	121-54110-718 – Motor Vehicles -	\$ 15,221

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Sandlin to approve the Special Purpose Fund budget amendment as requested increasing Revenue Account 121-47700, Asset Forfeitures, by \$15,221, and increasing Expenditure Account 121-54110-718, Motor Vehicles, by \$15,221.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

AMBULANCE SERVICE FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT:

Mayor Burgess requested approval of the following budget amendment for the Ambulance Service to provide funding to replace the director's wrecked truck. Insurance proceeds of \$15,467.59 were received at the end of the prior fiscal year for the value of the truck, and an additional \$15,000 was requested to purchase a new vehicle:

From: 118-34730 – Assigned for Public Health & Welfare -	\$ 30,468
To: 118-55130-718 – Motor Vehicles -	\$ 30,468

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Sandlin to approve the budget amendment for the Ambulance Fund as requested amending \$30,468 from Account 118-34730, Assigned for Public Health & Welfare, to Account 118-55130-718, Motor Vehicles.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

REQUEST FROM JUVENILE DETENTION TO REAPPLY FOR THE TITLE 1 GRANT THROUGH THE TENNESSEE ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

Mrs. Lynn Duke, Juvenile Detention Center Director, reminded the committee that last fiscal year was the first year that her department had applied for the Title 1 Grant through the Tennessee Alliance for Children and Families. She requested permission to reapply for the grant and to authorize the County Mayor to accept the grant if awarded. The grant amount was reduced to \$78,130.68. No matching funds are required.

If awarded, the grant will cover the costs of a current full time position, and an additional part time assistant, as well as supplies and materials.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to authorize the County Mayor and all other required officials of Rutherford County to submit an application for the Title 1 Grant through the Tennessee Alliance for Children and Families for the Juvenile Detention Center for an amount of \$78,130.68 requiring no matching funds; and additionally, to authorize the County Mayor to accept the grant if awarded.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

GENERAL PURPOSE SCHOOL FUND BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Mr. Don Odom, Director of Schools, and Mr. Jeff Sandvig, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, were present to request approval of the following General Purpose School Fund budget amendments.

Mr. Odom advised that the Spectrum was being moved from the Special Education major function to the Regular Education major function per the State. The amendment moved \$1,495,806 in already budgeted expenditures to function 71100, Regular Education, from 71200, Special Education, and \$115,676 in already budgeted expenditures to function 72210, Regular Education Program, from 72220, Special Education Program.

Mr. Odom advised that some time back, Mr. Clardy reported that he was applying for an energy grant. The grant was awarded in the amount of \$167,060 to deal with energy management, tracking energy usage, and trying to find additional ways to reduce energy consumption. Mr. Odom advised an additional employee was needed to manage the ongoing energy management program. He requested approval of an amendment to record the revenue of \$64,918 to Account 46590, Other State Revenue, and to also amend \$64,918 in salary and benefits for the system's Energy Manager. Mr. Odom advised that he hoped there would be enough savings from the energy program to offset the future salary and benefits for the Energy Manager.

Mr. Odom next requested approval of an amendment reducing the system's Career Ladder Extended Contract Revenue and the related Career Ladder Expenditures by \$37,507. The amendment also reclassified the superintendent's Chief Operating Officer Supplement from Career Ladder Extended Contract, 72320-127, to Career Ladder, 72320-117, in order to match state reporting.

Following review, Comm. Shafer moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the General Purpose School Fund budget amendments as requested to amend \$1,495,806 in already budgeted expenditures to function 71100, Regular Education, from 71200, Special Education, and to amend \$115,676 in already budgeted expenditures to function 72210, Regular Education Program, from 72220, Special Education Program; to amend \$64,918 in Other State Revenue, Account 46590, and to amend \$64,918 in staff and benefits for the system's Energy Manager; and to reduce Career Ladder Extended Contract Revenue, Account 46612, and the related Career Ladder Expenditures by \$37,507 and to reclassify the superintendent's Chief Operating Officer Supplement.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Odom next requested approval of an Education Capital Projects Fund (Fund 177) budget amendment. He advised that at the end of the fiscal year, any outstanding PO's are liquidated and are re-encumbered at the beginning of the new fiscal year. He requested to amend a total of \$416,184 from the Education Capital Projects fund balance to provide funding to complete the projects for Smyrna/La Vergne stadium seating - \$155,155; Smyrna Middle roofing - \$226,046; Central Office paving - \$10,735; and repairs to Angie Road at Wilson Elementary School - \$24,248.

Comm. Sandlin moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the Education Capital Projects Fund (Fund 177) budget amendment as requested amending \$416,184 from the Education Capital Projects fund balance in order to complete the 2012-13 projects.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Odom next requested approval of two General Purpose School Fund budget amendments from the ending fund balance. The first amendment requested \$1,250,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance in order to increase the 2014 budget for textbooks with \$1,200,000 for regular education textbooks and \$50,000 for vocational textbooks. Textbooks for a new school year are typically ordered in June so that they will be in place when school starts. There was a new reading textbook adoption this year, and when textbooks were ordered, it was discovered that the price had increased dramatically. The cost of the reading adoption also increased because the state no longer allowed the textbook publishers to provide as many teacher editions as in the past.

In the 2014-15 school year, there will be a new adoption for social studies textbooks. Those textbooks will be ordered in June, 2014, and therefore the amendment was requested in anticipation that the cost of the social studies textbook adoption will be higher and also to cover the anticipated student population growth. As of the date of this meeting, there were 1,387 more students than at the end of the school year last year.

Following discussion, Comm. Sandlin moved, seconded by Comm. Jernigan to approve the budget amendment as requested amending \$1,250,000 from the General Purpose School's Unassigned Fund Balance and increasing the 2014 budget for textbooks.

Comm. Sandlin asked the Finance Director what this would do the school's ending fund balance.

Mrs. Nolen advised that the required fund balance for the General Purpose School Fund was three percent, and they closed with five percent, so sufficient funds were available to cover the amendment.

Following discussion, the motion to approve the budget amendment as requested amending \$1,250,000 from the General Purpose School's Unassigned Fund Balance and increasing the 2014 budget for textbooks passed by roll call vote with Comm. Shafer voting "no", and Comm. Jordan being out of the room at the time.

Mr. Odom advised that the economy was recovering, and as a result the bids for the Blackman Middle Annex came in \$623,800 higher than estimated. Bids were received from four contractors and ranged from \$8,097,000 to \$7,062,000. The lowest and best bid was received from Biscan Construction at \$7,062,000. The increase in cost was mainly for the infrastructure costs inside the building. Mr. Odom requested approval of a budget amendment to take \$623,800 from the General Purpose School's Unassigned Fund Balance and transfer it to the Building Program in order to fund the lowest construction bid for the Blackman Middle Annex building project. The \$623,800 will be added to the building construction line for the project.

Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Sandlin to approve the budget amendment as requested amending \$623,800 from the General Purpose School's Unassigned Fund Balance and transferring it to Fund 189, School Building Program, with the request that the County Commission increase the construction account for the Blackman Middle Annex building project by the same \$623,800 in order to fund the low construction bid.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

#### GRANT CONTRACT WITH TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

The Finance Director requested approval of the annual Grant Contract with the Tennessee Department of Health in the amount of \$2,112,300. The grant covers the state portion of the Health Department's 2013-14 budget.

Comm. Sandlin moved, seconded by Comm. Peay to approve the Grant Contract with the Tennessee Department of Health in the amount of \$2,112,000 and authorized the County Mayor to execute the same.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

#### LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FOR RENTAL SPACE:

Mayor Burgess requested approval of a License Agreement with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for office space rental for the State Environmental Office in the Goldstein Building. The State shall make payment in arrears on the last day of the payment period in the amount of \$650 per month. The term of the agreement shall commence on July 1, 2013 and end on June 30, 2014.

Comm. Peay moved, seconded by Comm. Shafer to authorize the County Mayor to execute the License Agreement with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation in the amount of \$650 per month for office space rental for the State Environmental Office in the Goldstein Building for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

#### INFORMATION REGARDING THE CONCEPT OF CONSTRUCTING A NEW JUDICIAL BUILDING:

Chairman Ealy advised that the Property Management Committee approved a motion unanimously by roll call vote to forward the concept of Scenario 7 and the security aspects regarding the construction of a new judicial building to the Public Safety Committee and to forward to the Budget Committee for discussion. She advised that there was considerable discussion in both the Property Management Committee and the Public Safety Committee. She

asked Mayor Burgess to review with the Budget Committee what had happened in the other committees and advise as to what action he needed from the Budget Committee.

Mayor Burgess advised that two substantial studies had been conducted regarding constructing a new judicial building – one in 2002 and the other in 2008. The County Commission made the decision to acquire property east of the County Clerk's Building on Maple Street to locate a new judicial building. When a building such as a new judicial building is constructed, the county also has to meet the code for the number of parking spaces that will be needed. A new parking garage will be needed to support the building. It is not completely clear if there will be enough space on the county-owned property on Maple Street to construct both a parking garage and a new judicial building. There is some indication that it might not be sufficient. Another space that might be considered for the parking garage would be the current parking space for the County Clerk Building. He stated that the discussion regarding the parking garage should be reviewed at the same time as the planning for the new judicial building.

Mayor Burgess advised that the 2008 study developed six scenarios for constructing a new judicial building. All of the scenarios were based on population growth and the case load to determine how many courtrooms would be needed and how much space would be needed for supporting functions. The building will not have office space for the District Attorney or the Public Defender, but there will be space for them to meet with their clients.

Since the 2008 study has been done, Rutherford County's population has exceeded the projections. If the population is increasing more rapidly, it therefore means that the case load is also increasing and the need for the courts continues to expand.

At the conclusion of the 2008 study, a separate scenario (scenario 7) was added. Mayor Burgess explained the difference between scenario 4 and scenario 7. Scenario 4 included ten courtrooms and would shell in one floor that would allow an expansion for four additional courtrooms. Scenario 7 would include 12 courtrooms and would also provide to shell one floor for an additional four courtrooms for future growth.

The Property Management Committee recommended moving forward with Scenario 7, but Mayor Burgess advised that would require some more study to determine if Scenario 7 was needed. The estimated cost for Scenario 7 was \$55,000,000 for a new judicial building and slightly more than \$5 million for a parking garage.

The 2008 study estimated a population of 350,000 by the year 2033. Current projections estimate the population to be in excess of 400,000 by 2035. Mayor Burgess stated that all of the numbers needed to be updated. He stated that at some point, the County Commission would need to decide if they were going to do the project. The current judicial building is already overcrowded. There are some structural issues, especially with the old bank building and the coin building, as well as security issues. He stated there have been a few times when the fire marshal considered evacuating the building due to overcrowding especially in the corridors.

Comm. Peay stated that he had seen the proposal in other committees. He asked Mayor Burgess what he was requesting from the Budget Committee.

Mayor Burgess stated that he wanted to keep the discussions going, and he could not keep the project moving forward until the study was updated.

Mrs. Laura Bohling, Circuit Court Clerk, added that there was poor space constraint. There have been questions in the past and also recently about scheduling differently. She explained that scheduling differently was not really an option when the capacity of the courtroom on the first floor was 65 people and there was a docket of 400 to 500 people. She stated that there was not enough time in a business day, even if cases were scheduled at night, to accommodate all of the people who actually come to court. The capacity of the courtrooms on the fourth floor was approximately 75 people, so the same issue existed. In last month's grand jury, there were 190 indictments. On arraignment day, the chief deputy had to work until 7:00 at night in order to get through the docket. She stated that the space did not exist any longer to accommodate

scheduling differently. When they have domestic dockets, the victims and the perpetrators are in the same hallway at the same time waiting for the case to be heard. She stated that it was not a comfortable space for the citizens to be in.

Mayor Burgess also added that inmates shared the same space as the public. He stated that there was not a secure way to separate them. Mayor Burgess stated that he would like to construct a building that would last until 2040 to 2050. He stated that there were some serious capacity issues and some serious safety issues. It appears that now is the only opportunity that the county has had to begin this process within the structure that is available through the county's debt service revenue stream. Mayor Burgess stated that five years had elapsed since the last study, and the county is already exceeding the population and case load projections that were made at that time. He stated that he wanted to update the projections of the 2008 study and confirm the validity of it. He asked the committee to consider appropriating an additional \$30,000 to update the study. He stated it would take 45 to 60 days to update the study. The updated study will confirm the space needs and the cost needs.

Comm. Peay stated that he had looked at the different options, and he believed that Scenario 7 was the most viable. He believed that the window of opportunity existed now to move forward with the project. He stated he was not sure if the additional money to update the study was necessary if the committee agreed that Scenario 7 was needed. He stated that with the population growth exceeding the projections, he did not see a need to update the study.

Mayor Burgess stated that he would still like for someone to say that Scenario 7 was the most rational approach. He stated that he would not want to build Scenario 7 if Scenario 4 was the best approach. He did not think that was likely, and he thought Scenario 7 would be the better choice. If the costs were to increase substantially, he wanted the commission to know that ahead of time.

Comm. Sandlin asked if the costs of demolition for any of the other buildings were included in the estimates.

Mayor Burgess stated that the Finance Director had preliminarily projected \$8,000,000 to tear down the buildings that the county had purchased and condemned on Maple Street, to provide for architect fees, and to construct a parking garage.

Comm. Sandlin asked about the plan for the current judicial building.

Mayor Burgess stated that the current judicial building still had functionality, and he thought that moving offices currently located in the Goldstein Building to the current judicial building should be seriously considered. He stated that there were also other needs beyond those. He stated that he did not think that the old bank building and the coin building had any value, and they should be torn down.

Mrs. Bohling added that the 2015 case load projections from the study were reached in 2011.

The Finance Director recommended the following budget amendment to provide funding to update the 2008 study for the construction of a new judicial building:

From: 101-39000 – Unassigned Fund Balance -	\$30,000
To: 101-51300-399 – Other Contracted Services -	\$30,000

Following discussion, Comm. Jernigan moved, seconded by Comm. Sandlin to approve the budget amendment as recommended to update the 2008 study regarding the construction of a new judicial building amending \$30,000 from Account 101-39000, Unassigned Fund Balance, to Account 101-51300-399, Other Contracted Services.

Comm. Peay asked if the committee approved spending \$30,000 what was the county going to receive. He stated that personally, he was ready to proceed with Scenario 7. He stated that he

did not want to spend money that did not have to be spent. He stated that he had looked at the projections, and he did not believe that the numbers would be lower after the study.

Comm. Sandlin stated that the projections were made in 2008, and another scenario might need to be considered that was not included in the 2008 study. He stated that it would take two years or more to get the building constructed and completed.

Mayor Burgess stated that a lot of information and detail would have to be given to the architect. He stated this would only be a part of that process. He stated that a lot of the detailed work will have to be done by a firm specializing in this type of project, and that probably more than \$30,000 would have to be spent even before turning the project over to an architect.

Following discussion, Comm. Shafer called for the question, seconded by Comm. Jernigan.

The motion to call for the question passed by voice vote with Comm. Peay voting “no”.

The motion to approve the budget amendment as recommended to update the 2008 study regarding the construction of a new judicial building amending \$30,000 from Account 101-39000, Unassigned Fund Balance, to Account 101-51300-399, Other Contracted Services, passed by roll call vote with Comm. Peay voting “no”.

Comm. Peay stated that he was not against constructing a new judicial building, and he was ready to proceed with option seven. He stated that he was not convinced that \$30,000 needed to be spent to update the study.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to be presented, Chairman Ealy declared the meeting adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

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Elaine Short, Secretary