



BANKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FY2024 BUDGET WORKSESSION/MEETING

Courthouse Annex Boardroom | 150 Hudson Ridge | Homer, GA 30547

Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 1:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ch. Turk called the meeting to order.

PRESENT

Chairman Charles Turk
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell
Commissioner Chris Ausburn
Commissioner Keith Gardiner
Commissioner Bo Garrison

STAFF

Finance Officer Randy Failyer
Assistant County Clerk Erin Decker
Human Resources Officer Arlene Ivey
Chief GIS Analyst Karen Burry
Extension Agent - Susie Burton
Tax Commissioner Becky Carlan
Planning and Zoning Official Kerri Fincannon
Tim Harper – CSC

OTHER

Angela Gary - Mainstreet News

2. FY2024 BUDGET WORKSESSION

Department budgets discussed were as follows:

- Contingency - \$100,000
- Commissioners
 - Vehicle Maintenance - Ch. Turk stated the trend was \$300. Mr. Failyer stated this amount also included the custodial vehicle and Comm. Garrison thought it should stay the same as last year.
- Human Resources - Arlene Ivey
 - Ms. Ivey stated the following concerning her budget:
 - Retirement Contribution – Decreased amount due to this being a frozen plan from many years ago and had few participants.
 - Unemployment Tax – Could decrease this budgeted amount because there have been no claims in the last 18 months.
 - Workers Comp – Probably needed to be increased because last year it increased and now there are more claims.
 - Education / Training – Two conferences a year that her and her assistance have to attend.
- Technology
 - Mr. Failyer stated the item was on trend and included programs for several departments.
- Annex

- Building Maintenance – Mr. Failyer stated that was just general upkeep.
- Insurance – Had increased because the custodial staff now would be 30 hours a week.
- GIS – Karen Burry
 - General Supplies - \$1,900
 - Professional Fees – No changes
 - Ms. Burry clarified that new computer monitors were included in the upcoming budget. Ch. Turk stated they were in the budget.
 - Ms. Burry also stated it was important to retain skilled employees and keep the pay competitive even though it was government and not private.
- Extension Service – Susie Burton Medina
 - Ms. Medina stated Macie Glenn 4-H Educator salary would no longer be in the County budget. Ms. Glen’s salary would be paid from UGA beginning July 1, 2023 as a 4-H Agent.
 - Americorp Employee – Ms. Medina was requesting \$3,680 to bridge the Americorp worker’s salary for July and August until she can renew her contract in the fall.
 - Education/Training – Ms. Medina stated that \$450 would cover their conference registrations.
- Historic Buildings
- NRCS
- Library
- Hotel/Motel
 - Ch. Turk stated the amount was on trend.
 - Comm. Ausburn asked how their money was spent?
 - Comm. Gardiner asked why their expenses weren’t shown and would like to see a breakdown of expenses.
 - Comm. Ausburn stated he wanted to know how the money could be spent to beautify Banks Crossing.
 - Ch. Turk stated the money could only be spent on certain things and we could get a copy of their audit.
 - Comm. Ausburn stated he would like to meet with the Chamber/CVB about Banks Crossing beautification.
- Clerk of Superior Court – Tim Harper
 - Travel – Mr. Harper stated this amount included 2 conferences.
 - Technology – Mr. Harper stated this amount included contracts for ICON and KOFIL.
- Tax Commissioner – Becky Carlan
 - Salaries – Ms. Carlan asked about county wide raises.
 - Ch. Turk stated the Commissioners would look at that toward the end of the budget process.
 - Comm. Ausburn stated the Tax Commissioners Office employees were better than any surrounding county Tax Commissioners Office.
- Courthouse
- Board of Equalization
- Code Enforcement
 - Ch. Turk stated this would be the first year for the Code Enforcement budget.
 - Comm. Ausburn asked about the agreement with the vet clinic concerning animal control?
 - Ch. Turk stated they said it would be at cost but there was no agreement yet.
- Planning/Zoning – Kerri Fincannon
 - Comm. Ausburn asked what was the best inspection option.
 - Ch. Turk stated third-party inspection was the best protection to keep the County out of lawsuits.

- DFCS
 - Ch. Turk stated they requested \$13,000 but trend was \$11,013.
 - Comm. Gardiner stated the increase was due to the increase of children in foster care.
- Public Health
- Recyclables
 - Ch. Turk stated the only change was the decrease in professional fees.
- Coroner
 - Commissioners discussed the amount requested for training.
- Road Department
 - Commissioners discussed decreasing various line items that were eligible to move to the Road and Bridge SPLOST to be paid.
 - Ch. Turk stated there was a Safety Action Program LMIG that the County could apply for and the county match would be 30%. He stated he needed approval of the application.

Motion to approve the application for the 2023 SAP LMIG and pay the match from the R&B SPLOST Fund.

Motion made by Vice Chairman Maxwell, Seconded by Chairman Turk.
 Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison
 Vote: 5:0
 All aye votes and the motion passed.

- District Attorney
- Economic Development
 - Ch. Turk stated there were no funds allotted for this department.
- Maintenance Department

3. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:31 p.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Garrison, Seconded by Commissioner Ausburn.
 Voting Yea: Chairman Turk, Vice Chairman Maxwell, Commissioner Ausburn, Commissioner Gardiner, Commissioner Garrison
 Vote: 5:0
 All yea votes and the motion passed.

 Chairman

 Assistant County Clerk
