

CLEVELAND COUNTY BUDGET BOARD MINUTES

March 11, 2013

The regular meeting of the Cleveland County Budget Board was called to order at 10:30 a.m. this 11th day of March, 2013 in meeting room 240 of the Cleveland County Office Building by David Tinsley, Vice Chairman. Tammy Belinson, County Clerk/Secretary, called roll and those present were:

David Tinsley, Vice Chairman
Tammy Belinson, Secretary
Joe Lester, Member
Jim Reynolds, Member
Darry Stacy, Member
Rusty Sullivan, Member

Rod Cleveland, Chairman, was absent.
Rhonda Hall, Member, was absent

Also present were: Assistant District Attorney James Robertson, Melinda Duke, Jim Williams, Christi Morren, Linda Atkins and Peggy Laizure.

After the reading of the minutes of the meeting of February 11, 2013, and there being no additions or corrections, Joe Lester moved, seconded by Darry Stacy, that the minutes be approved.

The vote was: David Tinsley, yes; Tammy Belinson, yes; Joe Lester, yes; Jim Reynolds, yes; Darry Stacy, yes; Rusty Sullivan, yes.

Motion carried.

Item "D" Items of Business:

#1. Vice-Chairman David Tinsley called for discussion, consideration and/or action regarding the Procedures and setting deadlines for the upcoming FY2013/2014 County Budgets. After much discussion, and reminders of the Assessor's cap dropping from 5 to 3 percent, Tammy Belinson moved, seconded by David Tinsley, to have all FY2013/2014 budgets to the County Clerk by April 1, 2013, which will be copied and distributed to all concerned in order that they may present and discuss their budgets at the next Budget Board meeting on April 8, 2013. Presentations are to take no more than two minutes and special meetings will be scheduled as deemed necessary.

The vote was: David Tinsley, yes; Tammy Belinson, yes; Joe Lester, yes; Jim Reynolds, yes; Darry Stacy, yes; Rusty Sullivan, yes.

Motion carried.

#2. Discussion was had concerning the Preferred Compensation Plan Enhancement offer from Security Benefit. Tammy Belinson said representatives from that company paid her a visit last week after meeting with Canadian County earlier in the day. She said that they want the county to switch the plan because it is a bit more secure percentage wise for the employees. She stated that this is something for the Board to take a look at and no action is required if they decide to stay with the old plan. Ms. Belinson stated that Canadian County may have switched over to the new plan.

Further, she added that if a switch is approved, the company will need to meet with all the employees on the plan which consists of approximately twenty employees. Ms. Belinson said that there is a slide show that they provided her and offered to forward it to any of the Board members that may want to study it. She added that this can be placed on the April 8th, 2013 Budget Board agenda in order to see where everybody is at on it. She explained that it has more of a safety net by switching over to this other carrier with them. Also, they can be invited to come in on the 8th of April and answer questions. She suggested that this is something that the Board can review later on in April as well. She said that the Board may want to concentrate on the budgets for now.

Item “E” New Business:

Rusty Sullivan said construction work will begin on the south parking lot March 15, 2013. He asked that employees park in the west parking lot and added that First Baptist Church has given permission for the county to use their parking lot which goes west to Santa Fe.

Darry Stacy said that employees should not park north of the alley or in their actual Church parking lot.

Discussion was had regarding the “No Smoking” policy. Darry Stacy asked if the Board had voted to make the county complex no smoking and made part of the employee handbook.

Jim Reynolds said that he didn’t know if the Board had passed a resolution, but questioned if the county can make guidelines stronger than state law.

Sheriff Lester said that is why they are going to be allowed to smoke outside at OU again.

Tammy Belinson said that it will have to be voted upon by the Board of County Commissioners.

Rusty Sullivan said that he did not recall such a proposal coming before the Board of County Commissioners for a vote. He said that they could check the minutes.

Jim Reynolds said that the State guidelines for no smoking stipulate that smoking not be allowed within twenty-five (25) feet of the entrance or exit of any building. He said that smokers were gathering near his office window and the smell of smoke was very annoying. He said that his glaring stares through the window were not much of a deterrent to the smokers.

Item “F” Budget Board Members Discussions Regarding County Business:

Vice-Chairman David Tinsley said that Senate Bill 954 has passed the Senate and will go to the House of Representative, (Taxes; modifying administration of, and procedures relating to, certain appraisal system; modifying documentary stamp tax levy.). He said that this will increase the documentary stamp tax levy which hasn’t been increased since the 1970s. He said that the majority of it will go for a new computer system and will go for training county officers.

Tammy Belinson said that the OSU Center for Local Government Technology will be self-sufficient or self-contained and added that it will help the Assessor’s office with a new computer system.

David Tinsley said that if SB954 passes and is fully implemented, his budget will be reduced because he will not need that \$100,000.00 that he was projecting to pay for a new computer system. He said that it will come from the fund from OSU.

Tammy Belinson said that her question is if it funds the OSU Extension Center also, does the county continue to give them money out of the county budget.

She said that this was her question at their County Clerk’s meeting as well.

David Tinsley said that this Senate Bill will ultimately make them self-sufficient.

Tammy Belinson said that she has a slide show on this too and will forward it on to anyone wanting to learn more about the situation.

David Tinsley said that the computer system that sixty counties are using is DOS which is very outdated unless you go back to using Big Chief Tablets.

Tammy Belinson said that it would be nice if all County Assessors have the same appraisal system.

David Tinsley said that a nineteenth century computer system at the least would be nice.

Darry Stacy said that he would like to take a look at the presentation.

Tammy Belinson said that she will forward it to him.

Item “G” Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Item “H” Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Rusty Sullivan moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

The motion was seconded by Darry Stacy.

The vote was: David Tinsley, yes; Tammy Belinson, yes; Joe Lester, yes; Jim Reynolds, yes; Darry Stacy, yes; Rusty Sullivan, yes.

Motion carried.

(Clerk’s note: Agenda was posted March 3, 2013 @ 9:05 a.m.)