

## **UNOFFICIAL MINUTES**

SPECIAL MEETING – 2007 BUDGET DISCUSSION

LYON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LYON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, MARSHALL, MN

November 28, 2006

9:00 AM – Meeting called to order by Chair Ritter. Members Present: Buysse, Fenske, Goodenow, Nelson, Ritter, Administrator Stomberg, and Auditor/Treasurer Van Overbeke. Absent: Attorney Maes.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Stomberg – The purpose of today's meeting is to go through the proposed 2007 Budget. At the end of the meeting, we will have a closed session to conduct a performance evaluation.

### **Consider FY2007 Budget**

Stomberg – There are two things in particular to review prior to the December 7<sup>th</sup> Truth-in-Taxation Meeting: Appropriations and Capital Purchases. I'm also open to suggestions. Goodenow asked Stomberg to go through each department's preliminary budget. Stomberg provided background and details of each department's preliminary budget. The following are notes:

*County Commissioners:* Down due to a decrease in employer-paid insurance, but includes a \$6,000 increase in advertising costs.

*Court Administration:* Up; court costs handed down from State.

*County Administration:* Up; staffing increased and proposed movement of safety from Public Works to Asst. to Administrator.

*Auditor/Treasurer:* Up; mainly due to the re-writing of the Integrated Financial System (IFS) that is being done across all counties.

*Financial Accounting:* Down; increased investment income.

*Information Technology:* Up; might be looking at changes here due to staffing changes; AS/400 could be outsourced.

*Elections:* Unchanged; 2007 is not an election year, but the County budgets annually for half of the bi-annual election expense.

*Central Services:* Up; additional insured retirees; increase in Workers' Compensation Insurance.

*County Attorney:* Up; increased health insurance; added ½ staff from Admin.

*County Recorder:* Down; additional \$105,000 in fees (revenue for County).

*Geographic Information (GIS):* Up; additional staff; Pictometry contract; GIS contract with Pipestone.

*Assessor:* No major changes.

*Planning & Zoning:* No major changes.

*Courthouse Buildings:* Up slightly mainly due to increase in utilities.

*Capital Improvement Projects:* Down; increase in rent revenue; increase in bond payments.

*Public Works Building:* Up slightly.

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*Veterans Service Officer:* No major changes.

*Sheriff:* Up; includes \$58,400 request for additional deputy; Sheriff Dahl explained that transport costs are increasing and an additional deputy would help in coverage when another deputy is gone on a transport. Dahl said they are exceeding miles on leases. He suggested possibly getting a vehicle with a cage just for transports. The car would be owned by the County and would not be a patrol car. Goodenow said he was not quite ready to earmark the \$58,400 for a deputy yet, but it could be left in the budget to fund a deputy or other options such as allowing for a transport car. Regarding many transports, Dahl said he is not statutorily obligated to do them but the need is there, and there is no one else to do them. Ritter – Is there something the Board can do to encourage the courts to use ITV with Sioux Falls? Dahl – They're not on the same network, but maybe we could for \$25 or \$50 per hour. Ritter – Let's leave the \$58,400 in there.

*Law Enforcement Center:* Up; prisoner boarding has doubled.

*Coroner:* No change. Ritter – What are the actual costs compared to the budget. Dahl – Less. Maybe we can decrease this.

*Sentence to Serve:* No change. Stomberg stated STS will be levied for in 2007 instead of being taken out of the Criminal Justice Fund as in 2006. Nelson – Do we still have a big surplus in Criminal Justice? Stomberg – Yes. This can be looked at.

*Probation:* Up; 2007 expenditures have been difficult to estimate for several reasons.

*Emergency Service:* Down; increase in grants.

*Environmental:* Down; cutting expenditures.

*Household Hazardous Waste:* Not a levy item.

*Recycling:* Not a levy item.

*Public Health:* No change; \$221,000.

*Fairgrounds:* Up; receiving additional income from stage rental; Open Class Building improvements. Nelson – If we pay \$7,000 on the stage, where does this money come from? Stomberg – I will confer with the Auditor to find the best place.

*Culture:* Up; Travel SW will be paid from the Economic Development budget. The amount for the Library and WCA were not finalized. Goodenow – (regarding SW MN Foundation) The point of a foundation is getting private money, not tax money. I have voted for it before, and I might consider it if they run short. But now, I would drop or reduce it. Nelson – I would drop it. Goodenow – I would like to get WRAP on the list. Fenske – They do a lot of good work for Lyon County. Fenske and Goodenow agreed that SMAHC should be on the list. Fenske – Eliminate SW MN Foundation.

*Parks:* Up; a new pickup is needed to pull the portable stage. It was decided to look for a less expensive pickup as long as it could pull the stage.

*Extension:* Not much change.

*Weed:* Up; due to the allocation of salaries to match the actual hours.

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*Ditch Inspector:* Not much change.

*Water & Natural Resources & Flood:* Up \$25,000 for future projects. Ritter – Do we need to levy for this? Benson estimated that \$60,000 would be needed. Stomberg – We could increase the reserves by \$27,000 for the future projects.

*Local Water Implementation:* Local match.

*Economic Development:* SW Travel is to come out of this.

*Road & Bridge:* \$34,549 is to be dropped from New Equipment and put into Road Maintenance.

Meeting recessed at 10:49 AM.

Meeting called back to order at 11:00 AM.

**Closed Session to Conduct Performance Review**

11:00 AM - Goodenow moved, seconded by Nelson to go into Closed Session to conduct a performance evaluation of IT/GIS Director Shawn Strong.

12:05 PM – Goodenow moved, seconded by Fenske to come out of Closed Session.

Ritter adjourned the meeting at 12:06 PM until Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 9:00 AM.

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Stephen W. Ritter, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Loren Stomberg, Lyon County Administrator