

**ALLEN COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2005
8:30 AM**

The Allen County Council met in the County Council Chambers/Commissioners Courtroom on Thursday, September 15, 2005 for their annual meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to (1) Adopt the Fiscal 2006 Allen County Budget; (2) Fix the rate of Tax Levy and (3) Make appropriations for Fiscal 2006. Other items addressed were: Economic Development, additional appropriations and transfer of funds in excess of the budget of the current year; also other business to come before Council.

Present: Darren E. Vogt, President; Paula S. Hughes, Vice President, Michael W. Cunegin II, Calvert S. Miller, Paul G. Moss, Roy A. Buskirk and Paulette L. Kite.

Also Present: Lisa Blosser, Auditor; Tera Klutz, Chief Deputy Auditor; Jackie Scheuman, Financial Advisor, Susan Whetstone; Administrative Assistant and Lin Wilson, Grant Administrator.

President Darren Vogt called the Annual Meeting to order at 8:30 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Darren Vogt: I want to thank the Auditor and her staff for putting together very concise and easy to read Salary Ordinances and other things we need to pass today.

APPROVAL OF THE 2006 ALLEN COUNTY BUDGET

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Ordinances of Appropriation Expenses of Allen County Government. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Salary Ordinance for Employees. Mike Cunegin seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Salary Ordinance for Elected Officials. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Salary Ordinance for Chief Deputies and Department Heads. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Salary Ordinance for Executives & Special Occupations. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Salary Ordinance for Attorneys & Doctors. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Salary Ordinance for Part Time Employees. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

**Cal Miller made a motion to approve the 2006 Allen County Budget for the County General Fund of: \$77,368,606 the Special Funds of: \$98,199,026; for a total 2006 Allen County Budget of: 175,567,632
Patt Kite seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.**

Mike Cunegin made a motion to close the Annual Budget Meeting. Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

REGULAR BUSINESS FOR 9/15/05 FOLLOWS:

Darren Vogt: CJ. Steigmeyer, Coliseum will be first on the agenda today.

Items 9-11: **CJ Steigmeyer** was present requesting additional appropriation of funds in the Coliseum budget for the following items: \$128,531 for Health Insurance; \$125,000 for Contractual/Housekeeping; \$25,000 for Building Materials; and \$5,000 for Contractual/Community Corrections.

Roy Buskirk made a motion to approve items 9-11 in the total amount of \$283,531. Mike Cunegin seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the August 17, 2005 minutes. Mike Cunegin seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Lisa Blosser, Auditor: The amount left in the County General Fund for appropriation is \$8,032,369; for consideration today you have appropriations in the amount of \$258,585. Our outstanding debt for the Boys & Girls Schools stands at \$8,490,223.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the Financial Report. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Scott Harrold, Senior Economic Development Specialist: First on the agenda is consideration of resolution **05-09-15-01** approving a Statement of Benefits (SB-1) for Petroleum Traders Corporation located at 7121 Pointe Inverness Way. They are looking to build a new corporate headquarters building of about 22,000 square feet and will be investing approximately \$4,000,000. Based on the County point system they are eligible for a 10 year abatement on this. This will require opening a Public Hearing for a Waiver of Non Compliance. We have actually been working with them on this since early August but with the budget hearings and everything we decided to put it off until now.

Linda Hirely: As Scott mentioned Petroleum Traders is looking to build a new corporate headquarters right next to their current site. They currently employ 82 individuals and this will enable them to add 11 new employees within a couple of years. The current building will remain and they will lease it out.

Darren Vogt: I will now open the Public Hearing for a Waiver of Non Compliance for Petroleum Traders. There were no taxpayers either for or against the Waiver of Non Compliance for Petroleum Traders.

Paula Hughes made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Paula Hughes made a motion to approve the Statement of Benefits for Petroleum Traders. Mike Cunegin seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Consideration of resolution **05-09-15-02** approving a Statement of Benefits for Phillips Medical Corporation LLC/Associated Imaging Inc. located at 7613 W. Jefferson Blvd. Phillips Medical will be leasing a CT scanner to the Imaging Center. Based on the point system they are eligible for a 5 year abatement on this. This project will retain about 18 people not including the doctors. The Company will save approximately \$35,600. This also requires a Public Hearing for a Waiver of Non Compliance.

Linda Hirely: The Imaging Center will ultimately be responsible for the taxes. This will allow them to stay competitive; as we all know the medical community is changing rapidly and they need to keep up with technology in order to serve the community.

Cal Miller: This is the second round of waiver of non-compliance issue that we have been faced with today and that concerns me a little bit that we are missing the deadlines for whatever reason; can we get an explanation as to why we are being put in that position, as a Council.

Linda Hirely stated that they were trying to determine who should be the applicant on this one since it was a lease situation and the leasing company is located in Pennsylvania.

Paula Hughes: There have been some changes in the abatement law; these changes allow for logistics and technology equipment to be abated. We have had other abatements in the medical community for this type of technology upgrade and we knew we would see more of these. These changes became effective July 2004 by the State Legislature.

Scott Harrold: You haven't seen the latest tax abatement update study that we do every few years. One thing that is interesting is that when the State increased the homestead credit to residential homeowners that really moved the balance of the deductions toward the average person. Residences make up about 75% of the deductions in the community so the abatements are still a very small amount.

Much discussion was held regarding this issue and the role that the State Legislatures play in the tax abatement law. This particular legislation started in 2004 for 6 counties and in 2005 it was opened up to the entire State.

Scott Harrold stated that he knew there was some concern about opening the door for everyone and his brother but actually the State has already done that. They have started something called an Investment Tax Credit which basically is an automatic tax abatement meaning that someone can get a 3 year tax abatement without even coming before Council. He doesn't know all of the details and frankly he feels they are still working on this.

Cal Miller: I would like to see us have a meeting regarding how we are going to handle the different scenarios and set up some criteria as we did before when we were working with DPS.

Paula Hughes: It seems like we need to have a review; we had several meetings last summer, but the entire Council didn't participate in them, and came up with some guidelines for economic development staff and DPS and maybe we can set up a review of those guidelines at the next meeting. It has been a year and it has not been tested yet.

Scott Harrold: We will be happy to facilitate that.

Roy Buskirk: I think this shows that sometimes Indianapolis doesn't know for sure the affect on local issues when it comes to taxes. We are in a 'Catch 22' that since the State Legislation is passed and this is an acceptable way I don't think we have much choice but to pass this today.

Darren Vogt: I will now open the Public Hearing for a Waiver of Non Compliance for Phillips Medical Corporation. There were no taxpayers either for or against the Waiver of Non Compliance for Phillips Medical Corporation LLC/ Associated Imaging Center Inc.

Cal Miller made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Paula Hughes made a motion to approve Resolution 05-09-15-02 the Statement of Benefits for Phillips Medical Corporation LLC/Associated Imaging Center Inc. located at 7613 W. Jefferson Blvd. Paul Moss seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Consideration of Resolution **05-09-15-03** approving a Statement of Benefits for Vera Bradley Designs located on Lafayette Center Road in Section 1 of Lafayette Township.

Ashley Steenman: Vera Bradley Designs is looking to relocate its headquarters at 13721 Zubrick Road. The project will include the entire Vera Bradley Corporate Headquarters. For your approval is the Statement of Benefits; this is for real and personal property taxes; based on our point system they are eligible for a 10 year abatement on both real and personal property. The proposed project will involve an investment of about \$17.6 million in real estate improvements and about \$8.7 in personal property. It will create 174 new jobs as well as retain well over 100 other jobs. The company will save approximately \$1.6 million real property taxes and \$401,000 in personal property taxes.

Paula Hughes made a motion to approve resolution 05-09-15-03 a Statement of Benefits for Vera Bradley Designs. Roy Buskirk seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Consideration of Resolution **05-09-15-04** approving a Statement of Benefits for Christman LLC located at 3601 Focus Drive.

Leslie Steenman: Christman LLC is requesting approval of a Statement of Benefits for a project located at 3601 Focus Drive. They are requesting a real property tax abatement and according to our system they are eligible for a 5 year abatement. The project will involve an investment of about \$400,000 in building a 7,500 square foot building and will create one new job. The company will save about \$19,000 in property taxes over the 5 year abatement.

Bob Christman stated that their company does micro and laser welding mostly for the tooling industry and now for the medical industry. They are the largest micro and laser welder in the tri state area. Medical is obviously booming and

they are on the cutting edge of helping them by doing some much smaller and intricate welding. We see further expansion down the road and are on the leading edge of the medical micro/laser welding

Paul Moss asked if there has ever been an analysis done on the number of jobs that are promised by these companies receiving tax abatement. He stated that he feels that this would be very interesting and valuable information.

Scott Harrold stated that they haven't done this specifically regarding tax abatements because historically tax abatements pay for its self. They have done and developed a cost benefit model which looks toward how much is invested in a project and looking at large projects such as infrastructure needs and other incentives. That does incorporate looking at all of the multiplier effects regarding the projects.

Paul Moss stated that he would be interested in an example of something that is fairly large because the State is more than willing to have us abate county taxes; create these jobs and make additional income taxes for the State.

Paula Hughes made a motion for Resolution 05-09-15-04 to approve a Statement of Benefits for Christman LLC located at 3601 Focus Drive. Mike Cunegin seconded it. Motion passed 7-0

Roy Buskirk: This morning we have additional jobs because of these tax abatements of 186 and I think this shows that we have a good economy and growth potential expanding local companies.

GRAND WAYNE CENTER:

Bob Lester, Executive Director of the Grand Wayne Center and Attorney Marvin Crell were present requesting an additional expenditure in the amount of \$250,000 to fix the roof on the old portion of the Grand Wayne Center. This expenditure cannot be made until they have approval from both the Allen County Council and the Fort Wayne City Council.

Mike Cunegin made a motion to approve the request of the Grand Wayne Center to spend \$250,000 to fix the roof. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Items 1 & 2: **Bob Lee, County Treasurer** requested an additional appropriation in item 1 in the amount of \$1,000 for Stationery & Printing and item 2 for \$7,585 to purchase a new copy machine as theirs is so old that they are not able to get parts any longer.

Paul Moss: Has there ever been any discussion about some sort of a county wide lease of copiers, do people lease them department by department or just how is this handled?

Bruce Little, County Purchasing Director: We haven't discussed leasing copiers for some years because it has been the position of the Council to try to keep our costs down. While it may make it easier the first year when you start a leasing program you are going to be paying extra for that lease service over the life of the equipment. The City has had the long experience of leasing copiers and my discussion with them is the problems with these leases, especially when they are coming off of them, have created terrific headaches for them. A prime example of this is that when a 5-year lease is over it is up to the City to crate it up and figure out how to ship it back to the company they lease it from.

Paul Moss: I would have to say that is a pretty bad lease agreement.

Bruce Little: That is a problem because there are all types of lease agreements some were good and took care of returns and others didn't. Historically, for as long as I've been here, leasing is not the favorite way to acquire copy machine equipment.

Paul Moss: The only thing I would say is, and don't take offence to this and I am glad to hear you say that, I have trouble understanding that and accepting that until I see some type of a written analysis. It wouldn't be difficult, in my opinion, to go out and get some bids based on the number of machines you have now and the number of copies people are creating and looking at doing a cost benefit analysis. I accept what you are saying with a bit of a grain of salt because I think that is something we should look at and not to just use antidotal evidence to make a blanket statement and decision not to pursue that.

Darren Vogt: Do we have a handle on how many maintenance agreements we have?

Bruce Little: Every copy machine should have a maintenance contract on it.

Darren Vogt: Do we have an idea what that expense is on an annual basis?

Bruce Little: I have never just added up copy machine maintenance.

Darren Vogt: I would look at every machine that we have. In looking at that as an overall big picture item; is that the way to go or is it set money aside and repair them as we need to?

Bruce Little: The advantage in having a maintenance contract is that you need to deal with the factory authorized company that handles it. It is not like there are a number of factory authorized dealers in town that all service the same machine. There are some companies that will tell you they can get parts but when they are not a factory authorized depot that becomes problematic; if you are a per call customer you will be on the bottom of the list when it comes to service requests. These companies are contracted for service agreements and those customers are going to get preferential treatment. You have no guarantee of response time if you go on a per call basis. The few copiers I see that do get repaired on a per call basis, I would say that, their average service call is at least 50% of an entire years maintenance cost. I can provide you with hourly rate, trip rates and parts charges.

Darren Vogt: I would like to see that compared to the cost of what we are paying for all of those and how many of the ones that have maintenance agreements use them. I assume that most of these are on a one year basis; it seems that by the second or third year there shouldn't be much repair.

Bruce Little: I have looked at a lot of copiers in the County and can't think of any that get less than 3-4 calls a year; even if it is just for preventative maintenance. The dealers don't wait until there is a problem they have a schedule and come in and clean and maintain these machines. If you want to do this on a per call basis it is absolutely not cost effective.

Darren Vogt: Could we hire someone to do the preventative maintenance things? Do these things have to be done by someone works for the manufacturer?

Bruce Little: You would be voiding any kind of factory support if you brought in a non factory person to do repairs. As cost effective as these contracts are please doesn't fiddle with them; we really are handling this the best way that we can.

Darren Vogt: I am just talking about the preventative stuff like cleaning and those kinds of things.

Roy Buskirk: I know that the maintenance on the copy machines in my office include supplies like toner; are supplies included in these contracts?

Bruce Little: The departments have the choice of whether to get an inclusive agreement or repairs only; I would say that 95% of our departments get the inclusive agreements. Typically we are paying close to a penny a copy including supplies and repairs. We are really doing this as cost effectively as possible;

please don't pull machines off of maintenance, don't hire somebody else to come around and clean the machines; you are not going to get a payback on it.

Darren Vogt: It is our role and responsibility to ask these questions and I hope you understand that. I do not doubt your ability as you have done this a lot longer than I have; I am just thinking that from my perspective I would like to see the documentation on these machines.

Cal Miller: Whether to lease or own, that is the real question and we need to look at this issue.

Roy Buskirk: The only advantage I have ever seen to leasing, whether it is a vehicle or other equipment is cash flow.

Paula Hughes: It makes it a pertinent option for profit operations but not necessarily for government.

Bruce Little: We have always been pay as you go.

Cal Miller: Picking up where Mr. Lee left off; I specifically remember, despite the fact that I forgot when Mr. Dumford was before us earlier, that since we are in a better financial situation we can entertain the 400 series requests currently and not a part of projecting for next years budget. I would like to have Mr. Dumford come back at some point and make his request again.

Patt Kite: He does have an immediate need as the one he has is a dinosaur.

Paul Moss asked if there was some consistency in the make of the machines.

Bruce Little: Since we are a public agency we put our copiers out to bid every year and sometimes we can extend the contracts. We don't have the ability to limit ourselves to one make but I can tell you that over the last 5-6 years one company has been consistently awarded the bulk of the contracts. We have mostly Toshiba copiers and that is largely, not only because of the aggressive the local dealer has gotten from Toshiba, but because they have extended the standard factory 3-month warranty to a 1-year warranty for the County.

Paul Moss: Have we essentially agreed, after a long discussion, that there is no value in doing a cost analysis in leasing versus purchasing?

Cal Miller: I am not satisfied with that; all of the other things Mr. Little said I will accept. He didn't say one way or the other he said that historically this Council has gotten away from a lease. You didn't take a position on the lease versus buying did you?

Bruce Little: The advantage of that, obviously, is it stretches your dollar for the first year and you are able to buy more equipment but over the life of the equipment you will end up paying a lot more for it.

Paul Moss: When you lease it takes away the service contract. It seems like there is an awful lot of money spent on equipment and I think it behooves us to take a look at an analysis regarding leasing versus buying.

Mike Cunegin made a motion to approve items 1 & 2 in the total amount of \$8,585. Roy Buskirk seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Items 3 & 4: **Bob Lee** requested a transfer of funds from Office/Computer Equipment into Software in the amount of \$122; this is requested so he can pay for some software out of the correct location in his budget.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve items 3 & 4 in the amount of \$122. Patt Kite seconded it. Motion passed 7-0.

Item 5: **Sheriff Jim Herman and Chief Deputy Bill Smallwood:** This is a request for additional funds for Gasoline and I have Bruce Little here to help with this request. Basically the gas came back into our budget from the Commissioners budget last year. The Commissioners gave us an allotment based on the price we had to pay for gas. I feel that former Commissioner Rousseau and Bruce Little pulled off a coup when they locked the gas price in last year at \$1.73 per gallon and that is good until the end of this year. The problem at the time they gave us our allotment until the time the price was locked in made us short to the tune of \$40,000. When they locked the price in Bruce told me that we would be short.

Bruce Little: The prices I quote you include the .18 cent per gallon state road tax that we have to pay on our fuel. The first couple of months of the year we were paying considerably higher than if we had decided to buy on the open market. However since the middle of March our prices grew even and since June we have been ahead of the game by locking the price at \$1.73 per gallon. It is like the Sheriff said when the budgets are prepared in the summer that didn't take into account the prices we were looking at when we locked in, in October the prices had gone up considerably.

Because the Sheriff has cooperated so well with me in purchasing gas from his budget this year; I have not had to come back to the Council for an additional appropriation. I budgeted about \$1.05 a gallon for gas for 2005 and I am paying \$1.73. It is only because you folks gave the Sheriff an additional quarter of a million dollars or so to pay for his gas this year that I have had him buy directly from his budget transports of gasoline to put in my tank. I charge him every

month for what he uses; but then I credit back to him what he put in my tanks. It is because we have been able to cooperate like this that we can get by this year without an additional appropriation.

If the \$40,000 is approved today that he plans to use for my tanks; I will charge him and then he will give you back that \$40,000 in the form of miscellaneous revenue.

Paul Moss: This is through Petroleum Traders, who is assuming the risk for this? Are they assuming the risk?

Bruce Little: No, it is not my concern who further up the line takes the risk; my concern is with Petroleum Traders. What they do is when they put in a bid to us they go out into the market place and see who is willing to sell a contract for 320,000 gallons of gas at a good price. I spoke to them last week and they advised me that at this point there are no firm price contracts available for 2006. When I go out in November maybe that will have changed, my fear is that if there are firm price contracts available in November they will probably be at such a high price I wouldn't want to lock in; but then again I wasn't in favor of locking in at \$1.73.

Cal Miller: How did you budget for 2006?

Bruce Little: At \$1.70 a gallon.

Paul Moss: Is it the Commissioners decision to lock in?

Bruce Little: Absolutely, I take bids, I make recommendations and the Commissioners decide.

Roy Buskirk: Is the \$1.73 locked in for the number of gallons?

Bruce Little: Yes it is locked in at 320,000 gallons. I've done projections on what we have used so far and what we will need for the rest of the year; we are actually running a little bit higher. The 320,000 gallons could, conceivably, be hit in early to mid December.

Paul Moss: How does the number of gallons used this year compare to other years?

Bruce Little: About the same.

Paul Moss: So even though we had an apparent decrease in our fleet of cars the amount stayed the same.

Bruce Little: That's right, the 8 Board of Health cars didn't amount to much of a blip on the radar screen as we have a fleet of 350-400 vehicles.

Darren Vogt: Just so you know I have talked to Commissioner Peters regarding the vehicles and we are in the process of getting together soon to go over the vehicle policy again. If you would like to participate in that it would be great.

Sheriff when your officers are off duty are they responsible for gas when they are going to an off duty detail?

Sheriff Herman: The way it is set up now they are able to use their cars when off duty to do whatever it is that they do. There is some talk that we should be doing something if they are making money off duty; this is something that we could look at as far a charge for that. The biggest thing with the take home car policy is that they do an awful lot of things on their off duty time and it is also looked at as a benefit that they have for the job. We are looking at and getting suggestions for how we can cut fuel because obviously it is going to be a big thing. I talked to Rusty York before the last increase and they were spending \$84,000 a month for gas just on police cars.

Paula Hughes: I know the State Department of Natural Resources puts a mileage limitation on their Conservation Officers and they have multi county districts. Given the issues we are facing with the expense of vehicles and gas it might be wise to look at the average mileage and see where the average lies.

Sheriff Herman: It is hard to make it equal for everybody but it is something that we are planning to look at.

Cal Miller: There are some advantages of having a Sheriff's car in your neighborhood and on the roads, when they are not necessarily on duty, just by making their presences known.

Item 6: **Sheriff Herman:** Requested \$200,000 for medical at the Jail. It has been a bear to get our arms around because when we start out the year it is a guess as to how much money it is going to take to get us through the year in medical. This year we looked for another supplier for our medical supplies and we did a cost saving analysis on that and we are paying less per dose then we have in prior years. Another thing is that we don't let prisoners bring their medication with them to Jail. This was a liability issue and we stopped it and that made costs increase somewhat. I have some documentation on 5 different inmates that we have this year and between the 5 of them we have spent \$84,000 in medical expenses. We have somewhere in the neighborhood of 700-800 prisoners most times at the Jail so these five spent \$84,000 of the budget.

We have also done something hoping to be able to save money by getting generic drugs; but it is still a guess when we start out the year just how much medical is going to cost at the Jail.

But, I will tell you this because I think you need to know this in order to make your decision this morning; we get \$224,000 from the state every year for holding misdemeanor prisoners but they don't pay us until toward the end of the year and we just received that money. This money could be appropriated to cover this shortage but then we will be short next year.

Paul Moss: What is the increase for next year in this budget for Medical at the Jail?

Bill Smallwood, Chief Deputy Sheriff: We have \$600,000 budgeted plus what we get from the state. That makes it up \$100,000 from 2005.

Paul Moss: St Joe Hospital takes a lot of these inmates and it is a tough situation all the way around. The Sheriff has issues with it and the County does in terms of paying for it; the providers also have issues as it is certainly not something they make money on. There are occasionally some grey areas on whether the County needs to cover or not so there are a lot of facets to this issue and I don't think there is an easy answer for this.

Roy Buskirk: Do we get the \$224,000 for housing state prisoners?

Sheriff Herman: It is for housing misdemeanants. The state knows we keep some misdemeanants here for a time that should be theirs for whatever reason. They pay us a set amount based on the size of our County.

Roy Buskirk: Do we file on any of their individual insurance?

Sheriff Herman: We don't think we should pay medical treatment when an inmate comes in with a pre-existing condition; if he has insurance.

Cal Miller: If that person has insurance is it utilized?

Sheriff Herman: Yes, if we can get them to pay for it we do everything that we can. But if this doesn't happen then we have to pay.

Paul Moss: Insurance generally does not cover your health care when you are in custody.

Cal Miller: It seems like the Sheriff put out two scenarios to pay it out of the general fund or ask him to take it out of the \$234,000 that just came in. I would

be in favor of paying it out of the County General this year; let's not mess with his 2006 budget.

Darren Vogt: Is there a way to confirm medicines that they are taking so we can use the ones that they already have?

Sheriff Herman: We have a medical staff and they have the ability to look at some of this medicine and tell what it is; however you don't know where they have been or what may have been added to the medicine. We have looked into samples because as we all know Doctors get samples of drugs that they can use.

Darren Vogt: Do all inmates use the Commissary Account; where they deposit funds or not?

Sheriff Herman: Yes and we do charge them for visits to the medical office and we also charge for the over the counter stuff for colds etc.

Bill Smallwood, Chief Deputy Sheriff: We charge them either \$10 or \$15 per visit and then we also charge for drugs if there is money in their Commissary account.

Paul Moss: Does Medicaid cover them while in custody?

Bill Smallwood: No

Paul Moss: This could be an appropriate issue for our legislators to address. The question is who has the liability for medical care of inmates. A possible solution is to have them covered by Medicaid while they are in there.

Sheriff Herman: Social Security pays us to tell them who is in jail and they drop them. The VA also drops them. These government agencies don't want to have anything to do with them while they are in jail.

Paula Hughes: It may also be useful to use the Medicaid rules as a guide to what is covered and what is not.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve items 5 & 6 for \$250,000. Roy Buskirk seconded it. Motion passed 5-1-1 with Patt Kite abstaining and Mike Cunegin absent.

Item 7: **Park & Recreation**, at the Auditor's request, asked that \$367,772 be appropriated in their Capital Fund.

Lisa Blosser: They had been using the wrong budget forms so this is more of a clean up and we just need to appropriate this money at this time.

Paula Hughes made a motion to appropriate \$367,772 in the Park & Recreation Capital Fund. Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Item 8: **Tim Miller, Circuit Court Administrator:** We are requesting an appropriation in the Adult Probation User Fee Fund for Contractual Services in the amount of \$47,029.

Paul Moss made a motion to approve item 8 in the amount of \$47,029. Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Item 13 **Mike Fitch; Allen County Highway Director** requested an additional appropriation in the Health Insurance line in the amount of \$255,000. They have historically under budgeted in their Health Insurance line and they have had to come back each year and ask for additional funds.

Cal Miller: Is your 2006 budget any better estimated?

Mike Fitch: Yes, we have \$680,000 budgeted and we are working with the Auditor's office on that and we anticipate cutting it next year.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve item 13 in the amount of \$255,000. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 5-0 with Paul Moss and Mike Cunegin absent.

Item 14: **Judy Heck, Commissioners Financial Coordinator** requested an appropriation in the Vehicle Self Insurance Fund in the amount of \$25,000. She stated that she doesn't know how much more she is going to need; she just put in an average figure of what it could cost. Whatever is not spent will go back into the fund as it cannot be used for anything else.

Roy Buskirk: As liaison to the Commissioners this was discussed with me. They don't know what the damages will be and we are self insured and she can't wait to come before Council if there is an accident; she needs to have the funds available. We have had a couple of severe accidents so far this year and that has taken the account down to approximately \$2,000 and one accident could more than wipe that out.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve item 14 for \$25,000. Roy Buskirk seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Paul Moss: As liaison to the Department of Health; the first piece of this is the final part of the Vital Records conversion.

Item 15 & 16: **Mindy Waldron, Department of Health Administrator:** In 2002 we embarked on a project to put all of our Birth and Death records in one format; they had 5 different formats at one time that they had to search if someone requested a record and this took quite a lot of time and it wasn't accurate. They started in 2002 with a donation from the Library of \$25,000 and approximately \$150,000 from the Records Perpetuation Fund to start the project. There were some unforeseen expenses and this is what this request is for. The program is running and this is just for clean-up of some of the records. The other request is for Office Computer equipment in the amount of \$898.

Paul Moss made a motion to approve item 15 and 16 in the total amount of \$35,458 Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent

Item 17: Alex Wernher, iMAP Director: This appropriation will allow me to continue with my plan for this year to train my staff to keep them up on the technology. I did appropriate approximately \$15,000 for training but due to a maintenance issue; I had to transfer the money to cover the maintenance bill. I have waited for fund 337 to grow and it has so I am asking to appropriate the \$15,000 today.

Darren Vogt: Is this training going to be completed by the end of this year?

Alex Wernher: Yes that is my goal. The training covers different things, systems and data bases as well as software extensions that are available.

Cal Miller: Do the people that do the training come to this building or do they have to travel?

Alex Wernher: It depends where it is offered; the network and data base training is offered in Fort Wayne but some of the GIS training is only offered at regional sites such as Chicago, Columbus or Indianapolis.

Paula Hughes: One of the things we have been talking about on the iMAP Board is the fact that as we move forward with the program we see more and more how valuable it will be not just to County government but to all of the citizens of Allen County. We have a concern about the on going sustainability of the department because we are not generating the revenue that we hoped from the business plan. We haven't reached the final phase of implementation so hopefully that will increase by the end of the year. We have been having discussion with the Data Board and the iMAP Board and we will start having

discussion with other departments about how they are using iMAP and how they might be able to increase some of their permit fees to allocate a part of it to the self sustaining of the iMAP Department. A lot of departments use iMAP heavily and there are the ones that we hope will be of help.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve item 17 in the amount of \$15,000. Patt Kite seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Items 18: **Millie McDonald, Assistant Director of Youth Services Center:** I am requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$3,200 in the Youth Services Per Diem Fund in order to purchase and install windows and insulating panels. There were 3 bids received for this purchase.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve item 18 in the amount of \$3,200. Paul Moss seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Item 19: **Millie McDonald:** Under the advice of Peg Schram the Allen County Records Manager we are requesting to purchase a shredder. The shredder we have now is one that was used and is not sufficient to shred the amount of paper we need to take care of.

Patt Kite made a motion to approve item 19 in the amount of \$2,000. Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

SALARY ORDINANCE:

Mindy Waldron, Department of Health Administrator requested a salary ordinance for the reclassification of a Patient Office Clerk at the TB Clinic. The classification requested is a COMOT 4/3 at an annual salary of \$28,840.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the salary ordinance. Paul Moss seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Discussion: The Commissioners withdrew a discussion regarding the proposed Allen County Employee Retirement/Insurance Plan.

GRANTS:

Dan Linnemeier, Lake Township Trustee/Assessor requested permission to use Allen County as a 'pass through' for a \$100,000 grant that they were blessed to receive for the Arcola Volunteer Fire Department.

Paula Hughes made a motion to approve the request. Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Sheriff Jim Herman requested permission to apply for the continuation of the Operation Pull-Over Grant for 2006. The amount to be applied for is \$75,250 with no match or in-kind funds required and it is an up front grant.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the request. Roy Buskirk seconded it. Motion passed 5-1-1 with Patt Kite abstaining and Mike Cunegin absent.

Jeff Kintz, Director of Education for the Allen County Juvenile Center requested permission to apply for a federal JABG Grant for Superior Court –ACJC I the amount of \$37,406. This is a continuation, direct grant and a match of 10% cash is required from the applicant. Juvenile Probation User Fee Fund will pay for the 10% match as they have the funds on hand.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve the request. Paul Moss seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Karen Richards, Prosecuting Attorney requested permission to apply for a continuation of the OWI Prosecuting Attorney Grant which is funded through the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) and the Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving. The request is for \$68,996 to fund salary and benefits for the incumbent OWI Attorney for the period of October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006.

Along with this she is requesting an additional \$24,200 to assist in the funding of the videotape conversion project in the Allen County facilities which record those arrested on OWI charges. Earlier this year Council approved their grant application for \$41,000 to the Drug & Alcohol Consortium of Allen County for this project. They were approved to receive only \$16,800; therefore they are asking ICJI for the remaining funds so this project can be completed.

Roy Buskirk asked the Prosecuting Attorney how long they have to keep the video tapes.

Karen Richards stated that she feels that they should be held on to for at least 5 years. There is talk that there may be a way to store the information in the system and not have to find storage for them. Right now we store this information in two full rooms in the basement of the Keystone Building.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve these requests. Roy Buskirk seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Margaret Jordan, Assistant Director Superior Court Criminal Division/ Drug Court was present to request approval to apply for an Indiana Supreme Court Drug Court Grant available through the Division of State Court Administration. The amount that is being applied for is \$5,000 and is a direct/upfront grant with no match required. This will be used for Drug Court related expenses and activities, including personnel, training, incentives, equipment and evaluation expenses. Allen Superior Court will use these funds to purchase client incentive gifts. These are small gifts that are valued at approximately \$5.00 each such as movie passes, gas cards and gift certificates to local fast food restaurants. A small gift makes a big impact and it gives them an incentive to work hard at recovery as it is an essential element of the drug court program.

Cal Miller made a motion to approve this request. Roy Buskirk seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL:

Paul Moss: Brian Dumford had to leave however he is reviewing the references of the two individuals that we met with regarding the review of our grid system.

Darren Vogt: The Personnel Committee interviewed these two individuals and we hope to have a recommendation shortly and what the cost will be.

Roy Buskirk: Does the Personnel Committee have permission to move forward to select one of these individuals?

Cal Miller made a motion to give the Personnel Committee exclusive right to select the entity that will be undertaking this task. Paula Hughes seconded it. Motion passed 6-0 with Mike Cunegin absent.

Darren Vogt: There hasn't been an agreement reached yet as to the plan for the repayment of our debt at this time. I will update you as we progress through this situation.

Paula Hughes made a motion for the approval to waive the second reading on any matter approved today for which it may be deemed necessary for the County Council meeting of September 25, 2005. Cal Miller seconded it. Motion passed 6-0-1 with Mike Cunegin absent.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2005 at 8:30 am.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 on a motion by Cal Miller and seconded by Paula Hughes.

