

RUSH COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 12 and 13, 2017

The Rush County Council met to conduct 2018 budget hearings on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Warren Norris, Charles Smith, Janet Kile, Marvin Hedrick, Scott Barnes, Steve McCorkle, Jodi Harr, Auditor and County attorney Leigh Morning.

Gerald Mohr called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the regular meeting of August 23, 2017 were approved on a motion by Charles Smith and seconded by Steve McCorkle. Motion carried.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Prior to starting the budget hearings, the council considered three additional appropriation requests.

Sheriff Jim Cowan requested an additional appropriation in fund 7109 K9 Contribution Fund in the amount of \$7,000. Marvin Hedrick made the motion to approve the additional appropriation. Scott Barnes seconded. Motion carried.

The Rush County Health Department requested an additional appropriation in fund 8105 CFDA 93.074 PHER Grant in the amount of \$14,714. Charles Smith made the motion to approve the additional appropriation. Warren Norris seconded. Motion carried.

The Rush County Solid Waste District requested an additional appropriation in their General Fund in the amount of \$11,500. Warren Norris made the motion to approve the additional appropriation. Steve McCorkle seconded. Motion carried.

TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS

The council also considered three request for transfer of already appropriated funds.

Auditor Jodi Harr requested a transfer in the county general auditor budget in the amount of \$1,000 from account 10018 part time to 20010 supplies and \$500 from account 10018 part time to 30002 travel/training. Marvin Hedrick made the motion to approve both transfers. Charles Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Area Plan Director Gregg Duke requested a transfer in the county general Area Plan budget in the amount of \$1,000 from account 10062 administrator to 20010 supplies. Janet Kile made the motion to approve the transfer. Steve McCorkle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FIRST READING OF THE 2018 BUDGET

Office holders and department heads presented their proposed budgets during the first reading of the 2018 budget on September 12, 2017. Following is the explanations given by each department.

Prosecutor Phil Caviness presented the Prosecutor budgets with the only change being moving the entire Chief Deputy salary of \$12,740 back to county general.

Superior Court Judge Brian Hill presented his budget with a total reduction of \$200.

Circuit Court Judge David Northam presented his department's budget with a couple of changes. He noted that he appreciates the current courthouse security but feels the courts need more security. He requested an Armed Bailiff position be added to his county general budget and he would like to manage that position. He stated it is necessary for court management. He also asked for an additional line item for mandated legal fees. Progress is being made on the courthouse study. An increase in CASA fees was requested in order to put together a CASA program in Rush County rather than using Shelby County's program. He also requested increased in salary for the two office positions in circuit court.

Ashley Stevens manages the Probation budgets. User Fee Funds are almost depleted. She requested that the Juvenile Probation Officer and one of the Adult Probation Officer's be paid from the county general probation department. The second Adult Probation Officer can still be paid from Adult Probation User Fees. Her 2019 budget request will likely have all three probation officers being paid from county general. Misc Services is requested to increase due to an increase in the number of drug testing. Stevens also noted that the number of juvenile beds needed at the juvenile detention center has increased; therefore, she will need more money for the juvenile detention contract.

County Coroner Ron Jarman presented his 2018 request. He completely cut the phone line from his budget and also reduced his salary by three percent.

County Surveyor Marvin Rees present his department budget. He has requested to cut his full time deputy position and replace it with part time. He is not comfortable sharing an employee with the Area Plan Commission due to their offices being on different floors. He would consider sharing a full time position with the extension office. Charles Smith asked if he really thought he could share an employee with the extension office or would it just be a patch. Rees is not sure. He wants to look at more efficient ways to run the office. It would also work if he had a twenty nine hour a week part time person. If the council agrees to let him share an employee with the extension office, they can cut his part time request to \$2,000.

David Malson representing the public defender board presented the public defender budget. He explained the balance in the supplemental public defender fund is low; therefore, all pauper attorney fees will need to be paid from county general in 2018. If you cut the pauper attorney fees, the county will lose reimbursement funding from the state. The Public Defender's salary is set by the state.

Extension Board members were present to propose their budget. They proposed to have two full time employees and to share one of those employees with the surveyor's office. They also asked that if the council only approves one full time employee and one part time employee that the council increase the amount on the summer assistant line. Councilman Smith asked the county commissioners why they only recommended one full time and one part time.

Commissioner Paul Wilkinson commented that the commissioners did not discuss how the extension office would handle the job responsibilities. Councilman Marvin Hedrick asked if it is feasible to only have one full time and one part time employee if the council increased the summer assistant. Gracie Marlatt commented it will be a challenge.

Joyce Miller representing the Soil & Water District presented their proposed budget. She provided the council with an education report and a financial report showing that NRCS provides a great deal of financial support to their office.

Treasurer Cindra Humphry noted her budget total is the same as 2017. Her staff has taken on other responsibilities in order to help other offices. They help the IT department with claim submission. One of her staff members may be available to help enter drain information to assist the surveyor.

10:20 Recess. 10:40 Reconvene

Recorder Kevin Spilman noted his budgets have not changed. The state has changed the fee schedule for the recorder office. He anticipates these changes will create additional revenue.

EMA Director Chuck Kemker noted that grant dollars are drying up. All of his job requirements have met in order for the county to get a percent of his salary reimbursed. Rush County is in compliance to receive federal aid should the need ever arise.

Area Plan Director Greg Duke asked the council to increase his supply budget by an additional \$2,000 then what he had originally proposed and to decrease the ordinance update line to \$22,300 to cover the additional supplies. He is working with different people within the community to gather information before he makes suggestions to updates to the current ordinances. Paul Wilkinson noted that Rushville City is not interested in revisiting a joint Area Plan Office.

Clerk Angela Buckley presented her budgets. 2017 was not an election year; therefore, there is an increase in the 2018 county general election budget. She has requested the full price of updating our current voting machines in the amount of \$86,000. The vendor has agreed to spread this amount over three years if the council would agree.

Cheryl McKinney presented the budgets for the Health department. She did mention that one of the county nurses spend approximately eleven hours a month at the jail which saves the county money. Councilman Hedrick asked about how many septic permits are done in a year? She thinks maybe three or four. Councilman Barnes asked if McKinney had a job description of what the sanitarian position does.

Auditor Jodi Harr presented her proposed budgets. Phase II of the Salary Classification being done by Waggoner, Irwin & Scheele will cost \$14,260. Travel and Supplies were increased to cover what could not be done in 2017 due to budget cuts.

Randy Herbert presented the IT budget. He expressed that he cannot cut any more from his budget. He will be short of funds by the end of 2017.

Sheriff Jim Cowan presented the proposed budgets for his department. It was noted that his contract for his salary states half of the prosecutor salary. He did request raises for all of his employees. It was noted to decrease the proposed part time amount to \$90,000 due to the civil process officer and transport officer salaries being tracked on a separate line. Due to new findings regarding the professional service line, he requested that be put to 0 and to add a new correction officer to replace this contract. The City of Rushville has requested that the base

salary for two of their dispatchers be paid from the E911 fund for 2018. Sheriff Cowan did include that in his budget request.

12:30 recess for lunch 1:50 reconvene

Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented his 2018 proposed budgets. He did request a salary increase for all but one of his employees.

Commissioner Chairman Paul Wilkinson was available to answer any questions regarding the commissioners proposed budgets. Councilman Steve McCorkle asked why there was such a large increase requested for Rush Memorial EMS in the EDIT fund. Wilkinson commented the goal of the commissioners is to provide good ambulance service though-out the entire county at the least expensive cost to the tax payers. He also stated the commissioners are holding a public meeting on Friday, September 15 at 2 p.m. to discuss EMS services within the county.

This completed the first reading of the Rush County budgets.

SOLID WASTE BUDGET

Carole Yeend, Director of the Rush County Solid Waste District, presented their 2018 budget. It has been approved by the local Solid Waste Board.

SECOND READING OF THE COUNTY BUDGET

After hearing from department heads, the council began going through each budget line by line.

The Circuit Court budget salaries for the administrator and reporter were reduced to remain the same in 2018 as in 2017. The armed bailiff and legal fees were reduced to 0. CASA fees were reduced to \$15,000.

The Coroner salary was increased to remain the same as the 2017 salary.

The Extension Office budget for summer assistant was increased to \$3,400. Secretary 2 was reduced to 0 and part time was increased to \$18,596.

The Surveyor part time was increased to \$18,096.

The Area Plan office part time was increased to \$18,096, supplies increased to \$2,000 and ordinance updates reduced to \$15,000.

The voting system in the clerk's election budget was reduced to \$36,000 and agreed to pay the contract over three years with commissioner's approval.

Regarding the Health Department budget, Scott Barnes made a motion to decrease the full time salary request back to the 2017 amounts and to move that difference to the vital records salary and home health aides salary, to increase their part time rate to \$12.00 per hour and to honor the other reductions they made. Charles Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Sheriff contract was reduced to \$72,072 to be in compliance with his contract that states half of the prosecutor salary. Misc supplies were reduced to \$6,000. Charles Smith made a motion to increase the sheriff deputy salaries by two percent over 2017 salaries. Warren Norris seconded. Smith and Norris voted Aye. Marvin Hedrick abstained due to family on sheriff department payroll. Scott Barnes, Steve McCorkle and Janet Kile vote Nay. Motion did not

pass. Steve McCorkle made the motion to increase the sheriff deputy salaries by three percent. Scott Barnes seconded. Marvin Hedrick again abstained. Steve McCorkle, Scott Barnes and Gerald Mohr voted Aye. Warren Norris, Charles Smith and Janet Kile voted Nay. Motion did not pass.

Scott Barnes made the motion to recess until Wednesday, September 13 at 9 a.m. Steve McCorkle seconded. Motion carried.

SECOND READING of 2018 BUDGET PROPOSALS CONTINUED

Council President, Gerald Mohr reconvened the 2018 Budget Hearings and Adoption at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, September 13. All members were present on this second day of hearings and adoption.

RUSH COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADOPTION

The Rush County Solid Waste 2018 Budget was approved as proposed with no changes on a motion by Charles Smith and seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried.

RECORDER PERPETUATION FUND

County Attorney Leigh Morning presented Ordinance 2017-6 permitting the Rush County Recorder to expend monies in the Recorder Perpetuation Fund as requested in the 2018 budget. Warren Norris made the motion to approve. Steve McCorkle seconded. Motion carried.

JAIL TRANSFER

Due to findings in the procedure of having a jail administrative position paid as a contract, the sheriff and the auditor requested permission to release the contract, make this a full time position and to transfer the funds from the professional service contract to full time commissary correction officer. The commissioners have approved changing the position from contract to full time effective October 1, 2017. Charles Smith made the motion to allow the transfer of \$7,593.75 from the professional service line in the jail budget to the commissary correction officer line and for an additional \$4.75 to be transferred from IDAX copier to the commissary correction officer line of the jail budget. Steve McCorkle seconded. Marvin Hedrick abstained due to a family member being involved. All in favor. Motion carried.

2018 SALARIES

Janet Kile made the motion to raise the sheriff department including jail and dispatch employees and the Rush County Highway Department salaries by 2.5% for 2018 because each department's employees work a total of at least 80 hours per pay period versus the courthouse employees working 64 hours per pay period. This motion is made with the understanding that each county office or county department establish a "pay chart" for their employees that can be used for establishing pay scales for individuals per skill or requirement. It is time to change the status quo from "we've always done that" to compete in today's work environment, and to

decide what is equitable and efficient for the performance and operation of each office or department. The “pay chart” should be evaluated with the job description protocol as approved by the commissioners and be available to use for the 2019 budget process. Charles Smith seconded. Marvin Hedrick abstained due to family members being employees. All in favor. Motion carried.

CONTINUE LINE BY LINE REVIEW OF 2018 BUDGET PROPOSAL

Excel spreadsheets were created to decipher the salaries of sheriff deputy, dispatchers and jail employees. They do show a 2.5% increase to the base pay for 2018.

Other changes to the jail budget were decrease part time to \$90,000, reduce professional service contract to 0, reduce lodging/meals to \$119,500, and add the commissary correction officer.

Commissioner budget changes consisted of reduce health insurance by \$50,000 and add a line in capital improvements for council use only. The amount on this line is \$285,023 and can only be approved for expenditure by the county council.

EDIT FUND PROPOSED BUDGET

Scott Barnes made the motion to reduce the proposed amount for Rush Memorial Hospital from \$475,000 to \$460,000 and to increase the proposed amount for Economic Development of \$50,000 to \$65,000. Marvin Hedrick seconded. Scott Barnes, Marvin Hedrick, Janet Kile, and Warren Norris voted Aye. Charles Smith and Steve McCorkle vote Nay. Motion carried. ECDC Director John McCane was present to update the council on current projects and to answer any questions they may have.

10:10 break 10:20 reconvened

PART TIME SALARY

Marvin Hedrick made the motion to increase the 2018 part time county pay rate from up to \$11.00 per hour to up to \$12.00 per hour effective January 1, 2018. Charles Smith seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

2017 SALARY ORDINANCE

Auditor Jodi Harr requested two changes to the 2017 Salary Ordinance based on prior motions passed by the county council. County Extension Office will now reflect one full time secretary instead of 2 and the Jail Department will now show five full time Corrections Officers instead of four. Charles Smith made the motion to approve the new 2017 salary ordinance. Scott Barnes seconded. Motion carried.

Recess until 1:30 p.m.

Once the meeting was reconvened, Auditor Jodi Harr informed the council that \$285,023 was reduced from county general budgets and added to the county general commissioner budget capital improvement line to be used by county council only.

After reviewing all recommendations, Steve McCorkle made the motion to approve the 2018 budgets with all changes mentioned above. Warren Norris seconded. Motion carried. Steve McCorkle moved to adjourn. Charles Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

<u>/Gerald Mohr/</u>	<u>/Warren Norris/</u>	<u>/Charles Smith/</u>
Gerald Mohr, Chairman	Warren Norris	Charles Smith

<u>/Janet Kile/</u>	<u>/Marvin Hedrick/</u>	<u>/Scott Barnes/</u>
Janet Kile	Marvin Hedrick	Scott Barnes

/Steve McCorkle/
Steve McCorkle

ATTEST:

/Jodi Harr/
Jodi Harr, Auditor