

MINUTES – AUGUST 12, 1998

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

PLANNING AND BUDGET PROCESS

On Wednesday, the 12th day of August, 1998, the Commissioners' Court convened the Planning and Budget Process Voting Session at 1:44 PM in the Commissioners' Courtroom, 1st Floor of the Travis County Administration Building, 314 West 11th Street, Austin, Texas. Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, was represented by Deputy Robert Resnick.

The Commissioners' Court adjourned the Planning and Budget Process Voting Session at 5:01 PM.

- 1. CONSIDER AND ACT ON PLANNING ISSUES AS PART OF THE FY 1999 PLANNING AND BUDGET PROCESS (1:44 PM)**

OVERALL STATUS OF BUDGET (1:44 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, Planning and Budget Office (PBO).

Discussion only.

**BALANCING THE FY 99 GENERAL FUND BUDGET – REVISED 8/12 FOR
AUDITOR’S 3rd REVENUE ESTIMATE (1:49 PM)**

Members of the Court heard from: Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Jessica Rio, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Shoshanna Lansberg, Budget Analyst, PBO.

Motion by Judge Aleshire and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner to direct Executive Managers to work with PBO, with PBO providing information so that the Executive Managers may assign staff to review, and see if the dollar level of encumbrances can be reduced, or if the encumbrances can be eliminated if it is found that they are not needed at that level. Special attention must be given to 12-month contracts that, for whatever reason, will not be executed for a full 12 months.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

**RECOMMENDATIONS ON MAINTENANCE OF CURRENT EFFORT
REQUESTS – ALL FUNDS (1:49 PM)**

Clerk’s Note: Items OVERALL STATUS OF BUDGET and RECOMMENDATIONS ON MAINTENANCE OF CURRENT EFFORT REQUESTS – ALL FUNDS are associated with one another and were called for concurrent discussion.

UPDATE ON REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES/FINES AND FEES (2:26 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Dinah Dinwiddie, Executive Manager, Justice and Public Safety (JPS).

Motion by Commissioner Moore **and seconded by** Commissioner McKee that, for Budget Planning assumptions, Starflight fee increases be presented to the Auditor’s Office for certification.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

NEW EXPENSE PROPOSITIONS AND/OR “PARKING LOT” PRIORITIES

SHERIFF’S OFFICE CORRECTIONS FTO PAY (2:43 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Margo Frasier, Travis County Sheriff.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Moore to approve an additional \$21,424.00 for the FTO program to be expanded to the Corrections Bureau, which would amount to a \$25/month stipend for officers participating. Further instructions are given by the Court that if the Sheriff can find internal resources during the year to increase that stipend for the Corrections and the Law Enforcement side, up to \$75.00, the Sheriff has permission to do so, if the Court is informed.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

SHERIFF'S OFFICE CORRECTIONS AND MEDICAL ACCREDITATION
(2:48 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Margo Frasier, Travis County Sheriff.

Motion by Commissioner Moore **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez that the Court approve \$25,800.00 for Medical Accreditation, with the request to the Sheriff that, should some sort of internal savings occur, they be identified to the Court, so that funding might be covered within the Sheriff's Office.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER (3:56 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Tom Forbes, Board Member, Children's Advocacy Center; Michael Torres, Associate Director, Children's Advocacy Center; Amanda Van Hoozer, Program Services Director, Children's Advocacy Center; Alan Miller, Budget Analyst, PBO; Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Jessica Rio, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; and Ronnie Earle, Travis County District Attorney.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner Moore that the Court make the appropriate contract adjustments so that the Court directly contracts with the Children's Advocacy Center for \$64,000.00, and decrease the CAN funding by \$64,000.00, with the additional \$3,000.00 recommended by PBO rolled into whatever contract changes are made.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner Moore to allow the Children's Advocacy Center to join the "Parking Lot" for a maximum figure of \$35,000.00.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

A Clarification was made of the previous Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner that the HHS contribution to CAN would be reduced by \$64,000.00, and the DA's budget would be increased by an equivalent amount, through which a contract would be issued with the Children's Advocacy Center, with a net zero effect on the overall budget, with a budget rule for the DA that this is a dedicated fund. Money cannot be moved out of this appropriation without the prior approval of the Commissioners' Court. The additional \$3,000.00 recommended by PBO is also enveloped in this dedicated fund. It is further indicated that the \$64,000.00 amount is actually \$64,315.00.

TNR CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION PROJECTS (4:27 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Carol B. Joseph, Assistant Director, Transportation and Natural Resources (TNR); Jessica Rio, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; and Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner Gómez that the Court group together the leftover second round of savings on the CO's related to the hot mix overlay (\$173,000.00), the items inadvertently put in the CO and the 1997 bonds (which frees up \$180,000.00), and to proceed with the innovative idea about how to get the needed equipment for the new rehab crew (which will save another \$380,000.00), totaling \$733,000.00, to be recycled in the following way: \$100,000.00 for the match on Southwest Parkway, \$175,000.00 for bridge design in Precinct 1, \$125,000.00 for the Perkins-Mozelle drainage project, \$254,000.00 for capital equipment for the Southeast Metro Park, and the remaining \$79,000.00 to go towards increasing the Unallocated Reserve requirements in the Road and Bridge fund to help it reach its 100% level.

An Clarification was made to the previous Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner that the \$254,000.00 for capital equipment for the Southeast Metro Park should not be purchased out of the Road and Bridge fund. The Unallocated Reserve in the Road and Bridge fund should be increased, which would free up funds in the General Fund, which could be used to increase CAR to buy the \$254,000.00.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

CONSTABLE 2 DEPUTY AND CLERK (2:52 PM)

Motion by Judge Aleshire and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner to approve the Constable Precinct 2 Deputy and Clerk.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

INSURANCE SPECIALIST IN HRM (4:46 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations; Daniel Mansour, Risk Manager, HRMD; Linda Moore Smith, Director, HRMD; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner Gómez that this be a one-year pilot project, to be reconsidered after one year for renewal, based on savings created.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	absent
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

ITS STAFF TO BEGIN 10/1/98 vs 2/1/98 (4:56 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations; and Brad Powell, Acting Director, Information and Telecommunications, Systems (ITS).

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner McKee to approve Staff recommendations to move up the start dates for the ITS positions, assuming that this will be budget-neutral, and any net additional costs will be absorbed by ITS through salary savings.

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	absent
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUNDING (4:06 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Alan Miller, Budget Analyst, PBO; Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Stephen Williams, Executive Manager, Austin-Travis County HHSD; and Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner McKee **and seconded by** Judge Aleshire that for planning and budget purposes, the Workforce Development program should be funded at \$650,000.00, which would be a \$602,000.00 increase added to the \$48,000.00 existing funding,

A Clarification was made of the previous Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner that the funding be added to the deficit, but allowing PBO to identify sources within the budget for the \$602,000.00.

The previous Motion was restated by Commissioner McKee **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez that for planning purposes, \$650,000.00 for Workforce Development be plugged into the budget (\$602,000.00 added to the existing \$48,000.00).

Motion carried:

County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

POPS FUNDING (2:52 PM)

PERFORMANCE PAY AND MSS '99 (2:52 PM)

Clerk's Note: Items POPS FUNDING and PERFORMANCE PAY AND MSS '99 are associated with one another and were called for concurrent discussion.

Members of the Court heard from: Margo Frasier, Travis County Sheriff, Rick Whitehead, Lt., Law Enforcement, East Substation; Carlotta Valdez, Compensation Manager, Human Resources management Department (HRMD); Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations; Lynne Andrus, Senior Human Resources Analyst, HRMD; Linda Moore Smith, Director, HRMD; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Judge Aleshire that the assumptions to be plugged into the budget in relation to POPS be based on the numbers run as a result of the August 10, 1998 (which would bring salaries close to the APD match), and would slightly widen the gap between Corrections (non-certified) and Law Enforcement, from 5% to 6%. It is further indicated to PBO that the Court is operating under a worst-case scenario of a February 1, 1999 start date, with the hope and good will of the Commissioners' Court that if the Court can move up the start date, it will.

Motion carried:	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
	Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

FOLLOW-UP ON ITEMS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED (2:22 PM)

REVIEW OF ASAP BUDGET (2:22 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Discussion only.

COUNTY CLERK (2:23 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Dana DeBeauvoir, Travis County Clerk.

Discussion only.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE WORKLOAD (4:28 PM)

Item JUSTICES OF THE PEACE WORKLOAD was not discussed.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTOR TEACHER

Item EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTOR TEACHER was not discussed.

DECISIONS ON REMAINING REDUCTIONS-IN-FORCE STILL ON HOLD

Item DECISIONS ON REMAINING REDUCTIONS-IN-FORCE STILL ON HOLD was not discussed.

Constables – 2 Positions

Item Constables – 2 Positions was not discussed.

Justices of the Peace – 4 Positions

Item Justices of the Peace – 4 Positions was not discussed.

County Clerk – 1 Position

Item County Clerk – 1 Position was not discussed.

County Attorney – 1 Position

Item County Attorney – 1 Position was not discussed.

EMERGENCY SERVICES, INCLUDING FLIGHT NURSES/PARAMEDICS AND
IMPACT ON UNALLOCATED RESERVE (2:38 PM) (4:58 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; and Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

Discussion only.

IJS FUNDING ISSUES

Item IJS FUNDING ISSUES was not discussed.

EARMARKS ON ALLOCATED RESERVES

Item EARMARKS ON ALLOCATED RESERVES was not discussed.

STATUS OF CORPORATIONS AND MAGNITUDE OF TRANSFER (2:16 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Cheryll Adair, Manager, Cash Investment Division; and Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Judge Aleshire that the Corporation Board of Directors transfer \$200,000.00 from the Health Facilities Corporation and \$50,000.00 from the Housing Finance Corporation.

Motion carried:	County Judge Bill Aleshire	-	yes
	Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

STATUS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES

Item STATUS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES was not discussed.

BCP TRANSFER FOR INDIVIDUAL 10A PERMITS (4:59 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Discussion Only.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner McKee **and seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to adjourn the Planning and Budget Process Voting Session. (5:01 PM)

Motion carried: County Judge Bill Aleshire - yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Darwin McKee - yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Margaret Moore - yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - yes

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Date of Approval

Bill Aleshire, Travis County Judge