

MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 10,1999

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT BUDGET MARK-UP

On Friday, the 10th day of September, 1999, the Commissioners' Court convened the Budget Mark-Up Voting Session at 9:11 AM 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 Melissa Nuñez.

The Commissioners' Court retired to Executive Session at 11:28 AM.

The Commissioners' Court reconvened the Voting Session at 11:54 AM.

The Commissioners' Court recessed the Voting Session at 12:01 PM.

The Commissioners' Court reconvened the Voting Session at 12:49 PM.

The Commissioners' Court recessed the Voting Session at 1:57 PM.

The Commissioners' Court reconvened the Voting Session at 3:17 PM.

The Commissioners' Court adjourned the Voting Session at 5:11 PM.

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1. THE TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT WILL CONDUCT BUDGET MARK-UP SESSIONS FOR THE PROPOSED FY 2000 BUDGET. (9:11 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, Planning and Budget Office (PBO); Alan Miller, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; and Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Discussion Only.

10. REVIEW AND APPROVE BUDGET WORKSHEET FOR CHANGES TO PRELIMINARY BUDGET: (10:54 AM)

b. 2 or more votes to place on Mark-up agenda (yellow) (9:33 AM)

TNR FY 00 Budget Requests

Parks 2000 – budget request (9:34 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, Transportation and Natural Resources (TNR); Jessica Rio, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to approve, including the \$67,160.00 for TNR and the \$31,000.00 for the annualization.

Clerk’s Note: There was no Vote on the Motion and Second.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to make an adjustment to the utility line item from \$277,000.00 down to \$200,000.00 and that the \$77,000.00 gets put into the restoration of the park maintenance.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

Conversion of .5 FTE to 1.00 FTE (9:52 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

Clerks Note: Commissioner Sonleitner without objection of the Court requested that this be put on the special markup list.

Discussion Only.

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Other Issues

Integrated Justice System (IJS) Items: (9:53 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Dinah Dinwiddie, Executive Manager, Justice and Public Safety (JPS); Joe Harlow, Director, Information and Telecommunications Systems (ITS); Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; and Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor.

Discussion Only.

Item Integrated Justice System (IJS) Items: to be reposted on September 20, 1999.

Option B (submitted by Constables August 12, Analysis of full ASAP costs suggests that reimbursement from school districts could equal \$334,219)
(10:13 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; and Mark McCray, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO.

Discussion Only.

Do not fund FICA tax for employee contributions to FSA's and pre-tax group benefits (10:13 AM)

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

Discussion Only.

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Other Issues Continued

Allocated Reserves Earmarks – TCCES Rent (10:14 AM) (1:15 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Belinda Poppa, Capital Planning Coordinator, PBO; David Escamilla, First Assistant County Attorney; Dinah Dinwiddie, Executive Manager, JPS; and Ken Oden, Travis County Attorney.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Baxter that the earmark on the Allocated related to Travis County Education Center rent be lowered by \$50,000.00, and that the Education Center special fund be encumbered by up to \$50,000.00 related to the CES rent on 5th Street.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

Renovate Pretrial space for District Clerk Use (10:35 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; and Belinda Poppa, Capital Planning Coordinator, PBO.

Motion by Judge Biscoe **and seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to budget \$8,000.00 to do the necessary preliminary work on the storage problem.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	no
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Reserves

TNR Parks (10:42 AM)

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

Discussion Only.

Other Issues

District Attorney Director Victim Witness (10:44 AM)

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

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis to add to the general fund additions list in the amount of \$9,814.00

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	no
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Other Issues

Legislative Interim Studies (10:46 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis to add to the general fund parking lot \$25,000.00, and that during the next ten days the Court not only look at the Speakers List, and the Lieutenant Governor's List, but also brainstorm to find out what issues matter to Travis County, and how the Court should work with The Council of Urban Counties and The Texas Association of Counties over the next year and a half.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Sheriff's FY 00 Budget Requests

Restore Corrections pay scale (10:52 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Shoshanna Lansberg, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Margo Frasier, Travis County Sheriff; Patty Eacret, Director of Fiscal and Personnel, Travis County Sheriff's Office (TCSO); Debbie Rich, Human Resources Coordinator, TCSO; Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor; Blaine Keith, Chief Assistant County Auditor, Travis County Auditor's Office; and Jim Connolly, Assistant County Attorney.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis to restore the amount necessary to leave the pay scale intact, \$418,798.00, conditioned upon us taken the cuts in the amount of \$253,671.00 and the Auditor's ability to certify at least \$165,000.00, and that motion further includes the Court's approval of the proposed fees to the extent that the County Attorney authorizes them.

A Restatement of the previous Motion was made by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis to restore the amount of \$418,798.00, which puts the Corrections Officers back on the existing pay scale. That restores that amount to the budget, conditioned upon the cuts that the Sheriff proposed in the amount of \$253,671.00, the proposed fees, the work release per diem fees, and the work release processing fee.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Sheriff's FY 00 Budget Requests Continued

Restore 31 FTE (4:21 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Patty Eacret, Director of Fiscal and Personnel, TCSO, and Margo Frasier, Travis County Sheriff.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner that whatever the Sheriff can do in terms of reassigning those FTE's, that's fine, in addition to any money that can be generated in new revenue, or any other cuts that can be made by the Sheriff to generate new funding, to indicate the Court's willingness to use that money to restore some of these FTE's.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	abstain
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent

Emergency Services FY 00 Budget Requests

Interlocal with COA (12:49 PM) (3:58 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Dinah Dinwiddie, Executive Manager, JPS; and Bill Campbell, Financial Analyst, JPS.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner Gómez that the Court put the \$612,000.00 amount back into the EMS line items, and put this all into the parking lot.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	no
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

TNR FY 00 Budget Requests

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Jessica Rio, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR; and Sheryl Holder, Financial Analyst, TNR.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Baxter to approve, out of the Road and Bridge Fund, what the Court has laid out (Signals \$120,000.00, Brodie Lane Sidewalks \$57,000.00, General Williamson \$125,000.00, Drainage \$761,380.00, Imperial Drive \$393,000.00, “F” Mix Surface Treatment \$500,000.00, and International Cemetery \$12,000.00), which handles County wide needs, and the Court will leave the \$11,000.00 on the table as a reserve, or in case something runs over.

Motion carried:	County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
	Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
	Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
	Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
	Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

Pace Bend Septic Improvements (1:45 PM)

Clerk’s Note: The Court, without objection, asked that the LCRA CIP Fund handle Pace Bend Septic Improvements.

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Preliminary Budget Issues recommended funding from CAR (1:48 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations; and Joe Harlow, Director, ITS.

Motion by Commissioner Davis **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez that the ITS Director Joe Harlow, along with assistance of Executive Manager Alicia Perez, conduct a thorough research and investigation to bring back on the computer list of items, as far as computer hardware and software is concerned, that we have appropriate now and make a change according to the cost savings that we can realize with the County, and also to further recommend that all departments who are interested in making purchases as far as computer hardware and software, please go through Joe Harlow, ITS and Alicia Perez.

Maker and Second accept the Friendly Amendment by Commissioner Sonleitner to ask them work with PBO to re-run the CAR list of items so that the Court can get a new listing and bottom line dollar.

Acceptance of the Friendly Amendment was made by Commissioner Davis.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

Clerk’s Note: The Court gave direction to intend to fund the \$85,000.00 dollars for the standardized operating system (Novell Network Upgrade) if, in fact, the savings are there.

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Criminal Justice Planning FY 00 Budget Requests

County Wide RDMT Effort (3:17 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Tommy Blackwell, Director of Information Services, TCSO; Teresa Reel, Manager of Emergency and Wireless Communications, JPS; Belinda Poppa, Capital Planning Coordinator, PBO; and Dinah Dinwiddie, Executive Manager, JPS.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to put in the radio figure of \$318,400.00 on the CAR parking lot.

A Restatement of the Previous Motion was made by Judge Biscoe to park all of the options under RDMT except the Combined Communications Center.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	yes

ITS FY 00 Budget Requests

Tiburon work around procedures and enhancements (4:32 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Karen Shafer Castro, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Dinah Dinwiddie, Executive Manager, JPS; Joe Harlow, Director, ITS; Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations.

Motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Judge Biscoe to delay consideration of the \$85,000.00, the \$300,000.00, and the \$475,000.00 until we hear more from Joe Harlow, Director, ITS, on Tuesday, September 14, 1999.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent

Item Tiburon work around procedures and enhancements to be reposted on September 14, 1999.

ITEM 10.b CONTINUED

Debt Capacity (4:49 PM)

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

Discussion Only.

CAR Reserve (5:07 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Baxter to move the helicopter blades earmark against the CAR Reserve, and that the Court move that over against the EMS Reserve.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	-	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	-	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner	-	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter	-	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	-	absent

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Davis to adjourn the Budget Mark-Up Voting Session. (5:11 PM)

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe - yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis - yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Karen Sonleitner - yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Todd Baxter - yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez - absent

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Date of Approval

Samuel T. Biscoe, Travis County Judge