

MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 5, 2001

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT BUDGET MARK-UP

On Wednesday, the 5th day of September, 2001, the Commissioners' Court convened the Budget Mark-Up Voting Session at 9:12 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 Robert Resnick.

The Commissioners' Court recessed the Voting Session at 12:02 PM.

The Commissioners' Court reconvened the Voting Session at 2:06 PM.

The Commissioners' Court adjourned the Voting Session at 4:37 PM.

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1. THE TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT WILL CONDUCT BUDGET MARK-UP SESSIONS FOR THE PROPOSED FY 2002 TRAVIS COUNTY BUDGET. (9:12 AM)

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

Discussion Only.

1. REVIEW OF FY 02 BUDGET PARAMETERS IN PRELIMINARY BUDGET – A REFRESHER. (9:23 AM)
 - A. General Fund (Attachment A)
 - B. Other Funds (Attachment B)
 - C. Capital Acquisition Resources Account and Road and Bridge Capital (Attachment C)
 - D. Bond Funds and Certificates of Obligation (Attachment D)

Clerk's Note: Items 1.A-D are associated with one another and were called for concurrent discussion.

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

Discussion Only.

2. STATUS OF FUNDS AVAILABLE DUE TO THE 4TH REVENUE ESTIMATE (ATTACHMENT E). (9:27 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Dinah Dinwiddie, Executive Manager, Justice and Public Safety (JPS); Alan Miller, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor; Blaine Keith, Chief Assistant County Auditor, Travis County Auditor's Office; Margo Frasier, Travis County Sheriff; Mike Hemby, Research Analyst, Travis County Sheriff's Office (TCSO); and Jessica Rio, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO

Discussion Only.

3. REVIEW OF TELEVISION SCREENS AND HOW MARK-UP CHANGES WILL BE TRACKED (ATTACHMENT F). (10:16 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; and Chris Broussard, Business Systems Consultant, PBO.

Discussion Only.

4. DISCUSSION OF REBUDGETING BONDS AND CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION. UPDATE ON REBUDGETED FY 01 CAR (ATTACHMENT G). (10:20 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Jessica Rio, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Roger El Khoury, Director, Facilities Management; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, Transportation and Natural Resources (TNR); and Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to approve Attachment A – Analysis of Outstanding Certificates of Obligation and FY 02 Budget Recommendations, including the minor changes that were made.

A Clarification of the previous Motion was made by Judge Biscoe that the Motion includes Attachments A and A1.

Clerk’s Note: The previous Motion includes the following change, noted in Fund 454: Adding in the Facilities Management Roof Replacement for the Annex project, for \$2,093.00, which would reduce the Allocated Reserve by that same amount. The Motion also includes the following actions: To close out Fund 423, and move the balance to Interest and Sinking Fund 349; to close out Fund 428, and move the balance to I & S Fund 349; to close Fund 435, and move the balance to I & S Fund 336; and to close Fund 449, and move the balance to Fund 339. The following Funds are to be rolled forward: Funds 431, 433, 453, 454, and 456.

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

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to approve the PBO recommendations on Attachment B – Summary of Outstanding Road Bonds/Certificates of Obligation for Roads in the 1984 Authorization.

Clerk’s Note: The previous Motion includes the following actions noted in Attachment B: To close out Fund 420, and move the balance to Interest and Sinking Fund 348; to close out Fund 427, and move the balance to I & S Fund 325; and to close out Fund 404, and move the balance to I & S Fund 320. The following Funds are to be rolled forward: Funds 406, 422, 432, 434, 437, and 452.

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 4 CONTINUED

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to approve the PBO recommendations on Attachment C – Summary of Outstanding Balance for CJC/Del Valle Project.

Clerk’s Note: The previous Motion includes the following actions noted in Attachment C: To close out Fund 438, and move the balance to Interest and Sinking Fund 336. The following Funds are to be rolled forward: Funds 451 and 455.

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

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to approve Attachment D.

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 previous Motion includes the following actions noted in Attachment D – Summary of Outstanding Bonds for Projects Approved as a part of the 1997 Authorization: To roll forward Funds 439, 440, 441, 443, 444, 446, and 450.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to approve the PBO recommendation to leave the interest with the corpus.

Clerk’s Note: The previous Motion includes the following action: To roll forward the \$265,439.00 into the Allocated Reserve in Fund 457.

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

5. REVIEW CORRECTIONS LIST (ATTACHMENT H). (11:44 AM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Bill Derryberry, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; and Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR

Motion by Judge Biscoe **and seconded by** Commissioner Sonleitner to approve the Corrections List.

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

6. STATUS OF UNRESOLVED MAJOR REVENUE AND EXPENSE CHANGES STILL UNDER REVIEW.

No action taken on Item 6.

7. ACCEPTANCE OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET (GENERAL FUND, SPECIAL FUNDS AND CAPITAL ITEMS) AND CORRECTIONS LIST TO ESTABLISH A BASELINE FOR THE BEGINNING OF MARK-UP. (4:10 PM) (4:35 PM)

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

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to approve the baseline budget, and all the corrections, and all the assumptions that we talked about this morning, and incorporating all the things we did this afternoon; and that would be THE baseline, simply for purposes of, we start there tomorrow morning.

A Clarification of the previous Motion was made by Commissioner Sonleitner that it is for purposes of the baseline.

A Clarification of the previous Motion was made by Judge Biscoe that part of the request is to put the decisions made today into the baseline.

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

- 8. ALL REQUESTS ON THE BUDGET PREFERENCE WORKSHEET TO PLACE ON THE AGENDA OF MARK-UP (ATTACHMENT I). (2:06PM)

Various Departments (Constables, Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) FY 02 Budget Requests

(4:04 PM)

ASAP Temps

Members of the Court heard from: Bill Derryberry, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; and Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner to approve Item ASAP Temps.

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

- A. Items that have four or more checks to change or discuss in Mark-up. (2:30 PM)

Travis County Sheriff’s Office FY 02 Budget Requests

Compensation Issues (TCSO only) (2:30 PM)

Law Enforcement Staffing

Clerk’s Note: The above Travis County Sheriff’s Office Items are associated with one another and were called for concurrent discussion.

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Bill Derryberry, Senior Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Margo Frasier, Travis County Sheriff; Valerie Spinelli, Planning and Budget Analyst, PBO; Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations; Linda Moore Smith, Director, Human Resources Management Department (HRMD); Norman McRee, Budget/Process Improvement Analyst, HRMD; Patti Eacret, Director, Fiscal and Personnel, TCSO; Jim Sylvester, TCSO; James Gonzalez, President, Travis County Sheriff’s Officers Association (TCSOA); and Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR.

ITEM 8.A CONTINUED

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis to increase the 4.8% to 5%. That will spend \$292,000.00, and will apply to all Travis County employees.

Clerk’s Note: The Court did not take a Vote on the Standing Motion and second at this time.

A Substitute Motion was made by Commissioner Baxter to do a 2.5% pay increase for all employees, except for all Peace Officers, which would be 4.8% increase, with the understanding that, in addition to that 4.8% pay increase, we will be talking later about some degree of either an APD match, or looking at the Sheriff’s recommendation on how we would achieve some sort of APD parity, whether it is the way PBO has laid it out in their memo, or the Sheriff’s recommendation.

A Clarification of the previous Motion was made by Judge Biscoe that for the rank and file, it would be 2.5%, for Peace Officers right now, 4.8%, with a commitment to revisit the Peace Officer pay later in mark-up.

Clerk’s Note: The Motion died for lack of a Second.

Clerk’s Note: The Court took a Vote on the Standing Motion and second at this time.

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

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis to take the Sheriff up on her 7 FTE’s for Law Enforcement, cost those out, and see what exactly we are talking about.

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 8.A CONTINUED

County Clerk FY 02 Budget Requests

Election Day Judges Increased Pay – extra \$1/hr – (as Discussed at Budget Hearing)
(4:00 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner to approve Item Election Day Judges Increased Pay.

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

Constable Precinct 3

Reclassification Funding for 2 DPS Court Clerk I positions discussed at Hearing.
(4:03 PM)

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

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Sonleitner to approve Item Reclassification Funding for 2 DPS Court Clerk I positions.

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

B. Items that have three checks to change or discuss in Mark-up.

No action taken on Item 8.B.

C. Items that have two checks to change or discuss in Mark-up.

No action taken on Item 8.C.

D. Items that have one check to change or discuss in Mark-up. (3:57 PM)

Medical Examiner FY 02 Budget Requests

Investigator Salary Adjustment. (3:57 PM)

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

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Davis to indicate the JPS investigators to be an earmark against Allocated Reserve, contingent upon HRMD completing their analysis, which, by this Motion, they should expedite, and get done as quickly after October 1, 2001 as possible.

A Clarification of the previous Motion was made by Commissioner Sonleitner that it is the Medical Examiner within the JPS family.

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

9. REVIEW OF RESERVES: ECONOMIC DOWNTURN; COMPENSATION, TOBACCO SETTLEMENT. (3:41 PM) (4:18 PM)

Members of the Court heard from: Christian Smith, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; Joe Gieselman, Executive Manager, TNR; Alicia Perez, Executive Manager, Administrative Operations; and Linda Moore Smith, Director, HRMD.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to increase the County minimum wage from \$8.50/hr. to \$9.00/hr.

An Addition to the previous Motion was made by Judge Biscoe that if a certain Department feels a kind of special impact, we should be able to visit it before implementation.

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

Motion by Commissioner Sonleitner and seconded by Commissioner Davis that the TNR Parks Seasonal employees discussion be moved into the Parking Lot.

A Clarification of the previous Motion was made by Judge Biscoe that it would be TNR and other Departments.

Clerk’s Note: The Court approved the previous Motion without objection.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to increase retirees’ benefit by 3%, that we take the \$66,000.00 savings and pay for as much of it as that amount will allow us, and pick up the difference from the General Fund.

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

10. USE OF THE PARKING LOT AND POST MARK-UP REVENUE CHANGES – AUTHORIZING PBO TO USE ALLOCATED RESERVE AS A BALANCING FACTOR.

No action taken on Item 10.

11. APPROVE EARMARKS ON ALLOCATED RESERVES: GENERAL FUND (ATTACHMENT J); CAR (ATTACHMENT K).

No action taken on Item 11.

12. APPROVE NEWSPAPER AD LANGUAGE (ATTACHMENT L).

No action taken on Item 12.

13. CHANGES TO THE BUDGET RULES – SEPTEMBER 18.

Clerk's Note: Please refer to the Minutes of the Travis County Commissioners' Court Voting Session of September 18, 2001 for the Court's action on this Item.

