

MINUTES OF MEETING – SEPTEMBER 8, 2010

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

On Wednesday, the 8th day of September, 2010, the Commissioners' Court convened the Budget Markup Voting Session at 2:07 PM in the Commissioners' Courtroom, 1st Floor of the Ned Granger Administration Building, 314 West 11th Street, Austin, Texas. Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk, was represented by Deputy Gillian Porter.

The Commissioners Court adjourned the Voting Session at 3:57 PM.

Clerk's Note: Please refer to the Backup for FY 2011 Markup Worksheet for a listing of the Reference numbers located in the Minutes.

(2:07 PM) **APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET AS A STARTING POINT FOR MARK-UP**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, Planning and Budget Office (PBO); Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Jessica Rio, Assistant Budget Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Davis to approve the Preliminary Budget.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:15 PM) **CORRECTIONS**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor.

Motion by Commissioner Davis **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to approve all corrections.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:20 PM) BUDGET HEARING ITEMS

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO.

- (2:20 PM) Request from District Judges for flexibility in annual salary of County Auditor (Reference #1)
- Base Retirement Increase (Reference #13)
- Compensation Rank and File 2.5% (Reference #14)
- Elected Officials Increase (Reference # 15)
- Retiree Flat Rate (Reference # 16)
- TCSO POPS Increase (Reference # 17)
- Non-TCSO POPS increase (Reference # 18)
- Adjustment of pay-scale by 2.5%

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; Bill Derryberry, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO; Charles Vaughan, Chief Assistant County Auditor, Travis County Auditor's Office; and Eddie Gary, Organizer, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

Motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to approve the budget requests.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:31 PM) **Temporary Employees 2.5% increase and range adjustment for a total of \$60,870.00 (excluding Seasonal Temporary Employees paid a fixed hourly rate)**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; Travis Gatlin, Budget Analyst, PBO; and Todd Osburn, Compensation Manager, Human Resources Management Department (HRMD).

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Davis to approve the budget request.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:35 PM) **Civil Courts Courthouse Security (Phase II) Panic Buttons (Reference # 8)**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; and Bill Derryberry, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Huber to approve the budget request.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:37 PM) **Emergency Beds for Special Needs Probationers (Reference # 9)**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; and Katie Gipson, Budget Analyst, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Eckhardt to approve the budget request.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez yes

(2:39 PM) **EMS Ground Interlocal (Reference # 11)**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; and Danny Hobby, Executive Manager, Travis County Emergency Services.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Huber to approve the budget request.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez yes

(2:40 PM) **TOTALS**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; Jessica Rio, Assistant Budget Manager, PBO; and Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

(2:42 PM) Health and Human Services – Vehicle funding

Members of the Court heard from: Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Sherri Fleming, Executive Manager, Travis County Health, Human Services, and Veterans' Services (TCHHS&VS).

Motion by Commissioner Davis **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to approve the budget request.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:43 PM) Indigent Defense Task Force

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

Motion by Judge Biscoe **and seconded by** Commissioner Gómez to approve the request.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:44 PM) **Eliminate 28 Pay Day Cycle effective October 1, 2011
(Reference # 21)**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; Bill Derryberry, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO; Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor; and Greg Hamilton, Travis County Sheriff.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Eckhardt to approve the budget request, effective September 1, 2011. This would be funded from an earmark on the Allocated Reserve.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:47 PM) **Conservation Easement in Precinct One**

Motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to earmark the Allocated Reserve for \$250,000.00 for a Conservation Easement.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

(2:47 PM) **McKinney Falls Pedestrian Way – Grant Match**

Clerk’s Note: The Court noted that there needs to be an earmark on the Allocated Reserve for \$230,498.00 for the McKinney Falls Pedestrian Way Project as a grant match.

(2:49 PM) **Longevity Pay - Judges**

Members of the Court heard from: The Honorable Bob Perkins, Judge, 331st District; The Honorable Julie Kocurek, Judge, 390th District; Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO; and Debra Hale, Court Coordinator.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Davis to approve the request.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

Clerk’s Note: By approving the above request the Court are approving a policy issue. This request is cost neutral.

(2:57 PM) **Travis County Sheriff’s Office Increase in Corrections and Law Enforcement Staff Request**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO; Greg Hamilton, Travis County Sheriff; Major Phyllis Clair, Travis County Sheriff’s Office (TCSO); Major Darren Long, Jail Administrator, TCSO; Bill Derryberry, Senior Budget Analyst, PBO; Mike Hemby, Senior Planner, TCSO; Susan Spataro, Travis County Auditor; and Leroy Nellis, Budget Manager, PBO.

Motion by Judge Biscoe **and seconded by** Commissioner Eckhardt to add five Law Enforcement Officers, at the cost of \$341,230.00, without vehicles.

Motion carried:

County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

Clerk’s Note: The County Judge noted that of the 72 vehicles that are replaced the best five should be given to the five new Law Enforcement Officers.

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Gómez to add back in 12 Corrections Officers, for \$663,744.00.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe yes
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis yes
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt yes
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber yes
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez yes

Motion by Judge Biscoe and seconded by Commissioner Huber to delay this hit by 12 months by spending this one-time money and expect to annualize during the next budget cycle, and not to raise taxes at this time.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe yes
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis yes
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt yes
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber yes
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez yes

(3:55 PM) APPROVE PROPOSED FY 11 TAX RATE

Clerk’s Note: The Court discussed setting the Fiscal Year 2010 Tax rate at 0.4658 per \$100.00 valuation.

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez and seconded by Judge Biscoe to approve the tax rate of 0.4658.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe yes
 Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis yes
 Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt yes
 Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber yes
 Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez yes

(3:57 PM) **BALANCE FY 11 BUDGET**

Members of the Court heard from: Rodney Rhoades, Executive Manager, PBO.

Motion by Commissioner Gómez **and seconded by** Commissioner Huber to authorize PBO to balance the Fifth Revenue Estimate against Allocated Reserve.

Motion carried: County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe	yes
Precinct 1, Commissioner Ron Davis	yes
Precinct 2, Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt	yes
Precinct 3, Commissioner Karen Huber	yes
Precinct 4, Commissioner Margaret J. Gómez	yes

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Judge Biscoe **and seconded by** Commissioner Davis to adjourn the Budget Voting Session. (3:57 PM)

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

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT

Date of Approval

Samuel T. Biscoe, Travis County Judge