

At a Sussex County Finance Committee Meeting
Held in the Social Services Conference Room on
Thursday, January 26, 2023 - 6 p.m.

Committee Members Present

C. Eric Fly, Sr.
Wayne O. Jones

Others Present

Alfred G. Futrell
Debbie P. Jones

Committee Members Absent

Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.

Staff Present

Richard Douglas, County Administrator
Kelly W. Moore, Finance Director
Titiana Nicholson, Accounts Payable Clerk
Ellen G. Boone, Commissioner of the Revenue
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

1. Call to Order (6:14 p.m.)

Supervisor Fly, Chairman, called the Finance Committee meeting to order.

2. Agenda Amendments

There were no agenda amendments.

3. Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR FLY and carried:
RESOLVED that the Sussex County Finance Committee hereby approved the January 26, 2023
agenda. All Committee members present voted aye.

4. Refund of Atlantic Waste Disposal, Inc.

Supervisor Fly noted that the Board removed this item from its January 19, 2023 regular meeting
agenda to forward it to the Finance Committee for discussion or review of Atlantic Waste Disposal,
Inc.'s request for a refund for taxes paid for Machinery & Tool equipment in error. Supervisor Fly
stated that the taxes paid were for the equipment for the Wastewater Treatment Plant in regards to
Pollution Control Equipment.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR W. JONES, seconded by SUPERVISOR FLY and carried:
RESOLVED that the Finance Committee hereby recommends that the Finance Committee send

this item back to the Board of Supervisors for approval of payment. All Committee members present voted aye.

5. New Health Insurance Program

Supervisor Fly stated that the County was on a new Health Insurance Program, Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). In the past, the County offered the Key Advantage Expanded Health plan. The change of plan was in an effort to save money.

County Administrator Douglas provided an update. He noted that the County previously offered a low deductible plan for the employees. (Inaudible) He noted that the idea was to lower the direct payment to the insurance company whether it was used or not to a much higher deductible plan. It shifted the risk from the insurance company to the employer. County Administrator Douglas stated that a lot of jurisdictions has utilized this plan.

County Administrator Douglas stated that it was the goal of the Board to not reduce the benefits to the employees and make it more affordable for dual and family coverage, which this new program provided.

The County acquired the new plan through the same insurance program and medical network. In addition, every employee is provided with a HRA. The employee has a credit card, which is limited to medical purchases, i.e. prescriptions, doctor visits, for each employees in the amount of \$5,000.

County Administrator Douglas stated that a comparison was made between what the County would have paid under the old plan and what has been paid this far, based on 100 employees. (There was 6 months of data.) Any funds not used will be rolled over to the next.

Coverage	Total Monthly Premium	Employee Monthly Premium	Employer Monthly Premium	Annual Health Reimbursement Account
Single	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$650.00	\$5,000.00
Dual	\$1,203.00	\$214.00	\$989.00	\$10,000.00
Family	\$1,755.00	\$714.00	\$1,041.00	\$10,000.00

The actual cost to fund the Key Advantage Expanded Plan last year was \$1,110,987.00. The health insurance renewal Sussex County received for FY23 reflected a 10.5% increase in premiums. If the County continued to offer the Key Advantage Expanded Plan paying 100% single coverage, the budgeted cost for FY23 would have been \$1,526,664.00. Please note this calculation was based on 130 budgeted positions in the FY23 budget.

The decision to only fund and offer employees the High Deductible Health Plan with the Health Reimbursement Account during the FY23 does reflect a projected savings for the County totaling \$381,391.26. The actual cost for health insurance premiums and the funding of the Health Reimbursement Account from July 1, 2022 through January 20, 2023 is \$623,464.45. Therefore,

the projected total cost for FY23 based on usage is \$1,145,272.74. Please note that an additional \$31,750.00 was paid to prefund the Health Reimbursement Account.

A graph was provided to the Finance Committee to reflect the actual and projected cost of the County's decision to fund and offer its employees the High Deductible Health Plan with the Health Reimbursement Account instead of the Key Advantage Expanded Plan

County Administrator Douglas stated that the utilization numbers appeared higher than expected. However, the plan appears to be ahead. The HRA Account plan will continue to be monitored.

A handout was provided to the Finance Committee members.

6. Lifestar Billing

Supervisor Fly stated that the item was before the Finance Committee due to some concerns budgeted for the Revenue part of the budget in the amount of \$300,000 for billing for rescue squad based on prior years of billing of receiving 30%.

County Administrator Douglas stated that he asked, based on his experience, what could the County expect? He stated that he stated that the County could expect \$200,000. County Administrator Douglas stated that the urging of the Treasurer, he strongly suggest to move things along. The County has collected \$6,800.

Deste Cox, Treasurer, noted that her concerns was, after speaking Life Star, they advised that they could only back a year. She noted that the County was getting ready to lose revenue

It was noted that Life Star owns/holds the license.

There was discussion of whether there was any tracking system. It was noted that the CAD system could be used to track how many calls were dispatched/responded. Calls are to be synced within 12 hours.

A copy of the letter from Life Star was provided to Finance Committee members. The County Administrator noted that he had responded to the letter received.

7. Virginia Cooperative Extension Services

Supervisor Fly stated that the MOU that the County has with Virginia Cooperative Extension hasn't updated since 2015. He noted that the County Attorney advised that Appendix A needs to be updated.

There was a discussion of the new Agriculture Agent. It was noted that the County provides space and a portion of the salary. There was discussion of review 4-H programming and guidelines aligning with the County activities.

There was inquiry of sharing an agent with Prince George and or Dinwiddie. It was noted that the County was currently sharing with Surry County.

8. Waverly Fire Department Equipment (Truck)

Supervisor Fly stated that there was a request received regarding apparatus for Waverly; however, the request wasn't received through the normal channels.

There was discussion that Waverly may get their apparatus paid for by the Town of Waverly.

It was noted that Wakefield didn't have a set at all. The Town of Wakefield representative stated that the Town of Wakefield wasn't asking the County to buy hydraulic tools.

It was requested to have Mr. Foster review what the Courthouse Fire Department needs. Mr. Foster stated that Courthouse is requesting \$37,855. He stated that \$20,000 was available in Four for Life funds that could be used towards the purchase. He said that there was Aid to Locality funds that could possibly be used. Mr. Wyatt stated that he would rather avoid using funding from Aid to Localities because it would take away from other departments to buy tools for their department.

There was inquiry of whether there was any funding available from solar funds when equipment were purchased for radio system in Wakefield.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried: RESOLVED that the Finance Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors to approve the request for the Association to purchase the Jaws of Life equipment for the Courthouse Fire Department. All Committee members present voted aye.

Mr. Foster noted that the Four for Life funds are only used for EMS equipment. Jaws of Life are a part of this. Aid to Locality funds is basically used for Fire equipment.

Mr. Foster noted that last year, he brought forth the plan to move forward with Phase 2 of CIP to purchase Fire Trucks for Stony Creek and Wakefield Fire Departments. Both departments have specifications.

There was discussion of height restriction for the

There was discussion of a thirty-seven percent (37%) increase in prices in comparison to the previous purchase of equipment. Another manufacturer advised that February 1st, there will be another three to seven percent (3% to 7%) increase. It is estimated to take 24 to 36 months to have a truck built making it, basically, two years to get a fire truck.

County Administrator Douglas noted that the Board two years ago, at the suggestion of Davenport, secured 10-year line of credit plan that basically locked in guaranteed funding to have the ability to secure the debt for various equipment items--Courthouse and Jarratt and Wakefield trucks and

Stony Creek and Wakefield trucks. Mr. Foster noted that Phase 2 also calls for two pumpers and a brush truck in Jarratt with an estimated cost of \$75,000.

Mr. Foster noted to get the Board approve the purchase of two pumpers. He recommended that the brush truck be purchased with Escrow funds.56:15

There was discussion of getting a Letter of Intent to secure pricing.

County Administrator Douglas recommended working with Davenport, LLC. There was discussion of calling the company the next day.

Stony Creek Fire Department, Courthouse Fire Department and Wakefield Fire Departments were in attendance.

It was noted that if there was a need to proceed sooner, the Chairman could call a Special meeting.

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried:
RESOLVED that the Sussex County Finance Committee recommends moving forward with the purchase of the Stony Creek and Wakefield Fire Trucks at the February 23, 2023 Board meeting. All Committee members present voted aye.

9. Recommendation(s) to the Board of Supervisors.

Recommendations, if any, were made per item.

10. Citizens' Comments

There were no Citizens' comments.

11. Adjournment

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR FLY, seconded by SUPERVISOR W. JONES and carried:
RESOLVED that Sussex County Finance Committee hereby adjourned at 7:30 p.m.