

**At a Budget Work Session of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors
Held on Monday, March 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m., in the
General District Courtroom, Sussex Judicial Center**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

T. Wayne Birdsong
Harris L. Parker

Charlie E. Caple, Jr.
Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.

Wayne M. Harrell

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

C. Eric Fly, Sr.

STAFF PRESENT

George E. Morrison, III, Interim County Administrator
Henry A. Thompson, Sr., County Attorney
Jerry L. Whitaker, Director of Finance
Deborah A. Davis, Assistant to County Administrator
Montaque M. Gilliam, Building & Grounds Supervisor
W. Travis Luter, Building Official
George A. Taylor, Environmental Inspections Supervisor

Item 1. Call To Order

The March 7, 2011 budget work session of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Parker.

Item 2: Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Overview

Jerry L. Whitaker, Director of Finance, provided updated work sheets to the Board to be included in their budget work books. Mr. Whitaker advised that currently, the proposed budget shows a \$399,043.00 deficit.

Chairman Parker asked the Board to consider reducing the contribution to the Blackwater Regional Library.

George E. Morrison, III, Interim County Administrator, advised that the Treasurer has researched and did not find where the towns had not made any contribution to the Blackwater Regional Library.

Supervisor Birdsong says that if the Board wants to cut funding to the Blackwater Regional Library, now is the time to do it, but the Board needs to consider that a number of students still utilize the library.

Supervisor Birdsong suggested that the tipping fees be included in the budget at \$5.5 million.

The Board, by general consensus decided on the following reductions in the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget:

Board of Supervisors:

Lodging, include \$4,900 in the budget
Tuition Reimbursement, include \$5,000 in the budget
Telecommunications: include \$1,600 in the budget
Management Consulting Services: include \$8,000 in the budget
Board of Supervisors total reduction: \$10,000.00

County Administration:

No reductions as of this meeting:

Buildings and Grounds:

Management Consulting Services: budget zero

Housing Office:

(Supervisor Tyler left the meeting at 6:48 p.m.)

Housing Office: continued

Lodging, include \$1,500
Mileage – training only, include \$250
Commission/Board Compensation: include \$1,500
Postage – include \$3,000
Printing – include \$1,000
Advertising – include \$1,000
Office Supplies – include \$2,500 ask coordinator to justify

Planning Department:

Publications, etc., include \$300
Transportation – no mileage, include \$150
Mileage – include \$350
Management Consulting fees – include \$4,500

Building Department

Commission/Board Compensation – budget zero
Other Professional Services – include \$3,500
Linen Supplies – add \$300 back in

Supervisor Birdsong requested that staff start to keep track of the cost of vehicle repairs and maintenance on each vehicle.

Environmental Inspections

Mr. Morrison advised that Environmental Inspections Department is in need of another four wheel drive vehicle. Staff has located a 1999 Ford F150 that has 120,000 miles for a price of \$3,275.00.

Supervisor Birdsong suggested that staff gets a mechanic to check the vehicle prior to the purchase.

Item 3. Wood Fuel Developers, LLC Tax Abatement

George E. Morrison, III, Interim County Administrator asked the Board for clarification on tax abatements for Wood Fuel Developers, LLC.

The Board of Supervisors, by general consensus, authorizes the Interim County Administrator to provide a counter offer to Mr. Steve Gordon of Wood Fuel Developers, LLC, a five (5) year tax abatement for both real estate and machinery and tools taxes at a discounted rate of fifty percent (50%).

Item 4: Recess

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR CAPLE, seconded by SUPERVISOR BIRDSONG and carried: RESOLVED that the March 7, 2010 budget work session of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors shall hereby recess until Thursday, March 10, 2011 at 5:00 p.m., in the General District Courtroom.

Voting aye: Supervisors Birdsong, Caple, Harrell, Parker, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent: Supervisor Fly