

**At a Special (Budget Work Session) Meeting of the
Sussex County Board of Supervisors
Held in the General District Courtroom on
Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

C. E. Fly, Sr.
Alfred G. Futrell
Susan B. Seward
John A. Stringfield
Rufus E. Tyler, Sr.
Steve White, Tie Breaker

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

Keith C. Blowe

STAFF PRESENT

Millard D. Stith, Consultant
Deste J. Cox, Treasurer
Ernest Giles, Sheriff
William Jenkins, General Registrar
Kelly W. Moore, Director of Finance
Jerry Murphy, Jr., Deputy Sheriff
Shilton R. Butts, Assistant to the County Administrator/
Deputy Clerk to the Board

Item 1. Call to Order/Determine Quorum

The May 14, 2019 Special (Budget Work Session) meeting of the Sussex County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Seward.

Item 2. The Invocation

The Invocation was offered by Supervisor Stringfield.

Item 3. The Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Item 4. Agenda Amendment(s)

There were no agenda amendments.

Item 5. Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR FUTRELL and carried: RESOLVED that the Sussex County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the May 14, 2019 Special (Budget Work Session) Meeting agenda as presented.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent: Supervisor Blowe

Item 6. Budget Discussions

Chairman Seward stated that she wanted to note that there was approximately a \$400,000 typographical, mathematic error that would affect other items in the budget. There would be discussion of this matter during Item 6.04 General Budget Discussions.

6.01 Improvement Association

Supervisor Tyler gave his statement of disclosure stating that he was an employee of the Improvement Association. Supervisor Tyler stated that he does receive a salary in excess of \$10,000 annually. He stated that the address of the Improvement Association are 1750 East Atlantic Street, Emporia, Virginia 23847 and 120 Coppahaunk Avenue, Waverly 23890. He stated that he was a member of a group of three (3) or more employees of the Improvement Association. He stated that he has a personal interest of a Board of Supervisors action related to funding the Improvement Association to serve children and families throughout Sussex County. He stated that he was able to discuss and act fairly and impartial in the best interest of the public in discussing funding for the Improvement Association of the Outside Agency.

Mr. Tyler introduced Ms. Miller, Director of Head Start for the Improvement Association.

Mr. Tyler provided a PowerPoint presentation. He stated that the Improvement Association (Association) is a community action agency that has been in existence since 1968. He noted that the Improvement Association has a Board of Directors. The Federal government requires that one-third of the Board consists of local elected officials, one-third business community representatives, one-third civic, or other groups in the community. The Improvement Association service areas include Brunswick, Dinwiddie (Head Start only), Greensville, the City of Emporia, Surry and Sussex.

He reviewed the Improvement Association mission statement. He noted that comprehensive initiatives is to move people forward to become self-sufficient taxpaying citizens.

Mr. Tyler stated that the Improvement Association has a \$4 million dollar budget and is the only organization still in existence.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Mr. Tyler discussed Early Childhood Education. He noted that the brain development is most significant from birth to age three (3). Ninety percent (90%) of the brain's capacity develops before age five (5).

Mr. Tyler noted that disadvantage children start Kindergarten 18 months behind economically advantaged children, wherein economically disadvantaged children know 500 words and economically advantaged children know 1,100 words.

He stated statistically children not Kindergarten-ready are 50% less likely to read well by the third (3rd) grade.

Mr. Tyler also discussed Social-Emotional Skills in Early Childhood Support Workforce Success (ReadyNation.org, April 3, 2018). He noted that across the country, business executives have observed that too many employees and job applicants lack the “social-emotional skills” necessary to succeed on the job. The foundation for these skills is laid in a child’s earliest years, as much of a child’s brain architecture is developed during the first five (5) years of life. This directly impacts the development of the social and emotional capabilities that support long-term success in school and the workforce.

He also discussed that soft-skills, such as working well with others, are just as important as reading and math.

Mr. Tyler stated that early interventions save local governments/school systems money: \$4,000 - \$7,000 per child.

Mr. Tyler introduced Ms. Fisher, the Coordinator of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program.

Ms. Fisher gave a brief overview of the MIECHV Program. Ms. Fisher shared the “whys” of “Why do Parent as Teachers” of the MIECHV Program at the Improvement Association. Some of the “whys” for the program are (1) children do not come with users’ manual; (2) parents are children first and best teachers, (3) brain development of a child—90% of the brain develop between birth and five (5) years old, and (4) the Improvement Association do the programs because they work.

The MIECHV Program is an early childhood development home visiting program that serves prenatal to three (3) years, using teachers as parents to provide school readiness skills to enhance vocabulary.

Mr. Tyler stated that the Parents as Teachers program has 66 funded enrollments, 18 families visited, and 26 children served. Seventy-seven percent (77%) of the children received health and development screenings and other services available in the Greenville/Emporia and Sussex areas.

It was stated that the “Parent as Teachers” Curriculum does assessments, parent-child interaction, family engagement and goal setting, provides resources to a number of children/families.

HEAD START

Mr. Tyler stated that Head Start comprehensive services have been rendered successfully for 28 years. Head Start promotes school readiness by addressing the key domains of language, literacy, mathematics, science, social and emotional development.

Mr. Tyler stated that one (1) of the whys of Head Start is it's the number one (1) 1 early childhood program in the United States. Also, all of the children receive comprehensive services, education, health, nutrition, mental health, and dental screenings. Head Start emphasizes family engagement because of critical role parents' play in supporting healthy developments and school success. The Improvement Association's Policy Council consists of 50% parents who help with the decision-making—budgeting, hiring and firing, strategic planning, etc. Head Start provides comprehensive services to empower the family become self-sufficient.

Mr. Tyler stated that each class has a teacher and an assistant to be able to provide one on one instruction for a class of approximately 1:8 ratio.

There is an evidence-based curriculum, the Creative Curriculum, which is the same curriculum of the schools in the surrounding localities. Mr. Tyler reviewed teachers' qualifications and requirements. The teachers in the Improvement Association have, at minimum, a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field. The teachers are required to do Home Visits which are three (3) a year. One teacher is Certified Class Observer.

The teachers receive professional development/coaching to provide high quality education to children. The Improvement Association serves 56 students and their families. The Early Childhood/Workforce Development Center serves 40 children at the Waverly location. Sixteen children are served at the Sussex County Elementary School.

Mr. Tyler reviewed the data of Head Start Results of the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screen (PALS) of the students entering and exiting the program on writing, upper case, lower case, letter sound, beginning sound, print and word, rhyme awareness and nursery rhyme.

Ms. Miller gave a brief overview of Teaching Strategies. Ms. Miller noted that Head Start is basically a data driven program. Online assessments are done in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. This assessment measures that early childhood skills and milestones are being met. The curriculum is aligned with the Virginia Foundation Blocks for Early Learning and the Head Start Child Outcomes Framework and is used to plan for "intentional" teaching strategies to achieve specific outcomes. Ms. Miller reviewed the domain areas of focus of students entering and exiting the program to include Mathematics, Approaches to Learning, Cognition, Language and Literacy, Social and Emotional Development, and Perceptual Motor and Physical Development.

PROJECT DISCOVERY

Ms. Faye Perkins works with students in Project Discovery. She provided a brief overview of the program. Ms. Miller stated that Project Discovery has been run for 27 plus years and has been successful in Sussex County. It is an educational program offered to students in grades 6 through 12. It is designed to ensure that students are prepared for post-secondary education and/or securing an occupational skill after high school. Workshops are provided on various topics such as goal

setting, time management, and financial aid. Students are taken on sponsored college tours and fields trips. Fee waivers for college aptitude tests and college applications are also provided. There are 63 students currently enrolled in Project Discovery in Sussex County Middle and High Schools. Ms. Perkins stated that there was a high success rate. Last year, there were 15 seniors. Twelve students went to college. One student enrolled in the Newport News Shipbuilding/Huntington Ingalls Apprentice School. One student joined the United States Army. One student was gainfully employment.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Tyler stated that the Improvement Association located in Waverly, Virginia has a Workforce Development program. Mr. William Ricks was introduced to provide an overview of the program.

Mr. Ricks stated that the Workforce Development Initiative seeks to assist under and unemployed individuals in reaching unemployment and education goals through developmental skills to allow participants to complete their education and/or secure viable employment. Mr. Ricks stated that the program includes job-readiness assessments, development of individualized action plans (IAP), interactive workshops to assist in sharpening job-readiness skills, as well as supportive services aimed at assisting the participant in reaching the ultimate goal of self-sufficiency and job placement.

HOUSING/RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. Tyler stated that the Housing/Rental Assistance is an Emergency Services Assistance program to assists families. If a family is working, through no fault of their own, they are facing eviction, this program will step in to assist the family with rental assistance to avoid eviction. Moving assistance to avoid homelessness is provided. This program is used to try to stabilize children and families.

Ms. Darlean Whiting introduced one (1) of the home parents, Ms. Christine Newman, to the Board. Ms. Newman gave a brief testimony of services received from the program. She noted that she was new to the Waverly area and was introduced to this program through Social Services. She discussed the assistance received with her daughter in the development of her social skills and her readiness for kindergarten. She also discussed the education that her daughter and students were receiving during her visits and sit-ins in the class.

Mr. Marvin Drew, II, gave a brief overview of the things his son, Caleb Drew, learns and his appreciation of the Head Start program. His son did an awesome and most outstanding job of reciting a poem he learned in the Head Start program.

Ms. Perkins introduced Ms. Cecile Eke. Ms. Eke was one of last year's graduates who was a participant in the Project Discovery Program.

Ms. Eke stated that she was present to ask the Board to support the Improvement Association's budget request. She gave a brief report of her experience with the Improvement Association noting that she was in Head Start and a participant in the Project Discovery program. Ms. Eke stated that

she graduated from Sussex Central High School with a 3.6 GPA and finished her freshman year at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia with 3.4 GPA. Ms. Eke also stated that she was the recipient of \$1,000 scholarship from Project Discovery wherein she had the pleasure of meeting Governor Northam when he presented the scholarship to her.

Mr. Ricks introduced Mr. Jerry Murphy, Jr. He stated that Mr. Murphy came to him because his job was moving. Mr. Murphy wanted to stay and give back to the community. Mr. Ricks stated that Mr. Murphy came into the Workforce Development Center. An assessment and IAP were completed to find what he needed of which was only interview skills and resume updating. He stated that Mr. Jerry Murphy, Jr. is a proud Deputy Sheriff with the Sussex County Sheriff's Department.

Deputy Sheriff Murphy discussed his background briefly. He thanked Sheriff Giles for the opportunity to work with the Department. He also thanked Supervisor Futrell.

Mr. Tyler thanked the Board for assistance provided to the Improvement Association in the past.

A copy of the federal law requirements, HEAD START ACT (as amended 42 USC 9801 et. Seq.) for the Improvement Association was provided to the Board members.

There was inquiry as to whether the budget request was going to be distributed between the four (4) departments. Mr. Tyler stated that he didn't have the request before him; however, part of the request was for the teachers' salaries and professional development.

There was discussion of the Public School system's request for level funding and providing the Improvement Association an increase. Mr. Tyler stated that Head Start program was different than public schools, as noted during a Budget Work Session with the public schools. He noted that the Improvement Association staff conducted home visits for the whole family and not just the child. He discussed the difference in Improvement Association teachers' pay, teaching the same children, with teachers with college degrees as well, making approximately \$12,000 less than the Public Schools teachers.

There was inquiry of how much of an increase does Head Start in Virginia get from the House Appropriations Bill. Mr. Tyler stated that the Improvement Association's Board had to decide whether they would apply for funding. He stated that the Federal government would give 80%; the Improvement Association would have to provide the match of 20%. He stated that if they came up short for one (1) year, the Federal government would not provide money the following year. Once the grant is written, there has to be a 20% match. One (1) grant application effects the whole program. It was noted that once a program is out of compliance, programs would be defunded.

There was also discussion of the County's In-Kind match and being allowed to use funding for salaries. .

There was inquiry as to whether any other service locality approved an increase in their budget this year and how would the Improvement Association handle the teacher pay disparity from

region to region. It was noted that Surry provided an increase last year. He wasn't sure of increases at the time.

There was inquiry as to percentage of the teachers' salary is submitted to the Federal government. It stated that 100%?? was submitted to the Federal Government. It was noted that teachers only received the one percent (1%) cost of living adjustment (COLA). It was noted that the Improvement Association could not spend over 15% on Administrative costs for Head Start which includes salaries, rent, insurance, utilities, etc.

There was inquiry as to whether the approximately \$45,000 budget request would be used in programs in other localities. Mr. Tyler stated that Sussex County funding would be spent in Sussex County.

There was discussion of current funding and the \$45,000 budget request in regards to In-Kind funding. There was also inquiry in regards to the Improvement Association applying for the grant and requesting the match from the Board. There was discussion of whether the County being at poverty level, would that be an incentive. It was noted that the grants had to be competitive.

There was discussion as to whether Federal money can be received wherein the Improvement Association could get the money needed for salary increases with only needing about \$15,000 or \$20,000 from the County.

There was discussion of requesting more money would require serving additional children. It was noted that the number of children served has been basically consistent; however, the class size has been lowered. The number of children were lowered two (2) per class. It was noted that more students are served in Sussex County than any other locality.

There was discussion of teachers conducting home visits (Parents as Teachers) and the funding cap. It was noted that the increase was for the eight (8) teachers in the Head Start program which is different program for Parents as Teachers.

There was inquiry of salaries for teachers and their assistants. It was noted that the teachers' salaries were approximately \$32,000 - \$37,000. Teachers' assistants are paid hourly. There was discussion of how the budget request would be allocated.

It was stated that, in public schools, there was no difference in salaries for teachers with provisional licenses versus certified teachers.

There was inquiry of the biggest expense for the Head Start Program. Mr. Tyler stated that he believes the biggest expense is personnel.

There was inquiry as to whether the Improvement Association applied for a waiver to exceed the 15%. Mr. Tyler stated that they had not applied for a waiver due to the fact that it was understood to be mandatory. The only waiver applied for was for transportation. Kids were being required to be in harnesses. The Improvement Association was given a waiver by the Federal government

because children/students were riding public school buses for transportation. It was confirmed that the 20% match for the approximately \$500,000, comes from all of the localities.

It was noted that in reviewing a Head Start government website, the Federal government encouraged the Head Start program to not use the terms father, mother, boy or girl. They encouraged to stay gender neutral. There was inquiry as whether this was done in the Sussex County program. It was noted that parents are considered customers—to be treated with dignity and pride. Children are called children.

There was an inquiry of whether there was a way to apply for the grant and using some Federal government funding to maximize the amount of money needed from the County to get the amount of the budget request. It was noted that the money had to go to the families and children.

It was noted that the Improvement Association program was impressive.

Chairman Seward noted that the Board would not vote on the budget at the time. There would be another Budget Work Session to decide on what monies the County had and how it would be spent.

6.02 Jessica A. Moore Foundation

Supervisor Futrell stated that he was speaking on behalf of the Jessica A. Moore Foundation (the “Foundation”) which is located in the Waverly District. He stated that the Foundation is open and fully operating. He noted that the Foundation requested \$12,000. Supervisor Futrell requested the Board to fund the Jessica A. Moore Foundation \$6,000—half of the budget request amount.

It was noted that the request for \$6,000 for the Jessica A. Moore Foundation would be one of the items added to the Outside Agency list.

6.03 Senior Citizens, Eastern

Supervisor Futrell was speaking for the Senior Citizens, Eastern. Their budget request was not submitted by the deadline. No budget request was funded. He noted that a couple of members were deceased. He requested the Board to fund the Senior Citizens, Eastern in the amount of \$10,000.

It was noted that the request for \$10,000 for the Senior Citizens, Eastern would be added to the Outside Agency list.

SUSSEX COUNTY YOUTH AND ADULT RECREATION ASSOCIATION

There was discussion that the Sussex County Youth and Adult Recreation Association (SCYARA) requested \$10,000 last year and received \$6,000. It was noted that the Waverly Pool didn’t open. There were discussion of bank statements received and checks with even numbers.

It was noted that in previous discussions at another Budget Work Session, Mr. Ricks stated that part of the \$6,000 funded by the County had been spent to pay electric and water bills, and grass

cutting services. Mr. Ricks noted that funding is received approximately mid-July. Funding is carried over to prepare for the opening of the pool. Mr. Ricks noted that in preparing for opening, there were operational and facility problems in which money was spent reducing what was received in July. Mr. Ricks noted that payments with even numbers were for services provided by individuals not charging the full rate, i.e., the individual would pay for a portion, SCYARA would pick up the remainder. He noted monies were paid for work on the pump.

There was discussion of the County's deposit of \$6,000 in September 2018 bringing the total to \$8,200. There was discussion of different expenses paid for a pool that wasn't open. Mr. Ricks noted that the expenses were for work being done on the pool to bring it into compliance as the insurance company had asked them to do. He noted the different items that they were required to have done to include depths around the pool, signs stating the rules, fire extinguishers, and water problems had to be fixed.

There was discussion of even payment checks at Home Depot and purchases on bank statements and check details to account for taxpayers' money. Chairman Seward noted the need of check details before making any budget decision.

There was inquiry as to what dollar amount was needed to insure that the pool opens this summer. Mr. Ricks stated that the funding request was \$10,000. It would take approximately \$19,000 to open the pool. It was stated that if the County funded the \$10,000 request, the pool still couldn't be opened. Mr. Ricks noted that SCYARA was on a rigorous campaign. There is a "Go Fund Me" page and SCYARA is receiving donations. SCYARA has applied for grants and letters were mailed.

It was inquired that if no other funding was received and the County funded the \$10,000 request, would the pool still open July 1. Mr. Ricks stated that it would not be opened because the County's funding would not be received by July 1.

It was asked again, what would it take to open the pool? Mr. Ricks stated \$19,000, again. It was stated that for the County to insure that the pool opens, the County needed to fund SCYARA \$19,000. Mr. Ricks stated that the \$19,000 wouldn't not be accepted. He noted stated that SCYARA made a request to the County for \$10,000. He stated the County was not the only contributors to the pool.

It was stated that in a previous Budget Work Session, there was mention of losing contributors. Mr. Ricks stated that SCYARA loss one (1) major contributor, the Gray Foundation.

It was stated that \$10,000 could be put in the Contingency Fund. If the \$9,000 was raised that the County would match, then the County would have the discussion. There was a statement of the want/need to see receipts and check payees/detail.

There was inquiry of whether a generator was at the pool due to the purchase of \$14 worth of gas from a gas station. Mr. Ricks stated that there was no generator at the pool. The \$14 worth of gas was purchased for the machine that drains the pool.

There was discussion of how soon construction could be started. There was no definite dates that could be set. Contractors would have to be contacted in which the contractors would ask for money.

Mr. Ricks stated that the \$19,000 includes the painting of the pool, installing lights, making sure all the lights are **AGFI** certified and replacement of the filtration system.

There was discussion of donation for roof.

There was discussion that due to timing issue of opening the pool July 1, if the \$9,000 match could be raised, could the money be funded from the current fiscal year budget.

There was discussion of the utility bill from Dominion and large purchases from Walmart.

There was discussion of the number of people served. It was stated that approximately 500 people are served from Sussex County.

There was discussion of, if it was the Board's desire to take the money from the current budget, would this enable SCYARA to do the preliminary work to open the pool. Mr. Ricks stated that with what's in the SCYARA bank account currently, they would need to raise approximately \$4,000 more. Mr. Ricks noted that more funds would be generated for operation and maintenance. There was discussion of staff on payroll which included one (1) full time lifeguard with hopes of hiring a junior lifeguard—a school aged student that would be offered summer employment, and a gate monitor. Mr. Ricks also discussed offering free swimming. Mr. Ricks noted that everyone, except the lifeguard, there are volunteers. He stated there are approximately 15 volunteers. It was noted that the Treasurer keeps the books, who is a volunteer as well.

After inquiry of SCYARA's annual budget, Mr. Ricks stated that SCYARA's annual budget is approximately \$18,000. It was noted that the bank statements didn't reflect any amounts close to that number.

6.04 General Budget Discussions

Chairman Seward stated that the Board would review the discrepancy in the FY20 Proposed Budget found by Supervisor Fly.

Supervisor Fly noted Page 4-4, Line 129, Local Sales, Use and Taxes. He stated that there was a mathematical error in the 2019/2020 budget. The \$1,379,132 should be \$984,868 which decreases the available revenue by \$394,264. This is a miscalculation of \$394,264 of money received from tax revenue. This was confirmed by Ms. Deste Cox, Treasurer. Ms. Cox stated the revenue line item that goes to the towns, should have been entered as a debit instead of a credit. Ms. Cox stated that the remittance to the towns, Lines 124, 125, 126, and 127 should have been debits.

There was discussion of getting revenue from somewhere else or cutting costs. There was discussion of Machinery and Tools taxes received from one (1) of the businesses. Ms. Cox stated that she had discussed it with Ms. Ellen Boone, the Commissioner of the Revenue. The business

had submitted the listing and will be paying their machinery and tools taxes. Ms. Cox noted that \$150,000 was already in the budget, page 4-3, line 98. The \$702,342 will become \$945,942 which is an increase of \$243,600. Ms. Cox also noted that there were corrections that could be made in the remittances to the Towns. There are updated figures. Ms. Cox stated that basically remittances to the Towns are code related. With the updated figures, the amounts to be paid to the Towns will be reduced. That line item will be reduced, saving approximately \$5,186. The \$5,186 savings along with the Machinery and Tools taxes would leave a deficit of approximately \$145,478. Ms. Cox suggested unless costs are cut, the Designated Use of Fund Balance be used to balance the budget.

There was inquiry of what was used in previous years in Fund Balance. It was noted that the Fund Balance was used previously for a much higher amount.

There was inquiry of the Transfer from General Funds. It was noted that this Fund was used to balance the budget.

There was discussion of correcting the deficit to the mathematical error. There was discussion of Local Sales, Use and Taxes and the Machinery and Tools tax.

There was discussion to be cautious in reoccurring expenses. There was inquiry as to whether money was being put the Fund 135 Reserve Fund Account.

Ms. Kelly Moore, Director of Finance, advised the Board of administrative changes that had been discussed and the Board was aware of; however, the budget needed to be changed officially. Some of those changes include:

Animal Control – Increase the Vehicle Maintenance Line by \$2,000 bringing it to \$5,000. The Contingency Fund will be decreased by the \$2,000.

Crater Youth Care Commission increase by \$1,453. When the initial budget was done, level funding was done. However, when actual percentages that were due to each County was received, Sussex had an increase in the amount of \$1,453. The Contingency Fund will be decreased by \$1,453.

The 6th Judicial Circuit Court added another judge to the County's responsibilities to allow for office supplies. There will be an increase of \$2,717. The \$2,717 will be taken from the Contingency Fund.

Ms. Moore stated that with the noted reductions, the Contingency Fund Balance will decrease from \$115,000 to \$108,830. She noted that there were discussions of taking \$145,478 from the Unassigned Fund Balance. The budget's bottom line would not change. Ms. Moore noted that the items discussed will stay in the budget. Ms. Moore also stated that the Board needed to be mindful that any increases or decreases need to be offset so that the budget can stay balanced.

There was inquiry of the increase in Judicial Administration. Ms. Moore noted that this amount includes the Circuit Court Clerk, General District Court, Special Magistrates, Juvenile & Domestic

Relations Court, Clerk of Courts, Commonwealth's Attorney, and Victim Witness Program. It was noted that the Commonwealth's Attorney's increase was due to body cameras and the additional attorney.

It was also noted that the Victim's Witness Program is State funded. There is no Local funding.

There was discussion of whether the increase in Health and Human Services was State or Local funded.

Ms. Moore noted that the Health & Human Services is a combination of different departments. Ms. Moore explained that this is one of the coded departments; however, it is not how the County breaks the budget down. It's under State Code so it has to be provided in the book; however, Social Services coding is not in the County's Accounting system. It was added in the budget to stay in compliance.

It was discussed that in the Social Services Department, some of the line items are 100% funded by the County. Some of the line items are 85%/15% funded; some are 80%/20% funded. Different lines have different percentages. Ms. Moore noted that Social Services provided the total breakdown.

Chairman Seward noted that there is approximately a \$145,000 deficit that has to be taken from the Unassigned Fund Balance or other items in the budget have to be reduced.

There was discussion of holding a meeting Thursday prior to the regular Board meeting. There was general consensus to recess the meeting to Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

Item 7. Citizens' Comments

Comments were heard from:

Kevin Bracy (Courthouse District) – Budget; cutting salaries and positions; Improvement Association school buses; businesses, Iluka Resources; landfill; tires and trash dumping; bids; subbing work out; employees making decisions not living in County.

Jacqueline Ricks (Education Specialist for Improvement Association) – Thanked the Board for the decision they were going to make on the budget for the children of Sussex County.

William Ricks (Improvement Association/SCYARA) – Thanked the Board for listening to all the requests; Board does what best for citizens of Sussex County.

Alice Harris (Teacher for the Improvement Association) – Thanked for the Board for taking the time to listening to presentation; appreciate decision; children investment of future.

Ludia Batad (Teacher for the Improvement Association) – Thanked for the Board in advance when decision is made to increase pay.

Item 8. Recess

ON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR TYLER, seconded by SUPERVISOR STRINGFIELD and carried: RESOLVED that the May 14, 2019 Sussex County Board of Supervisors Special (Budget Work Session) Meeting hereby recessed at 10:05 p.m. to Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 4 p.m.

Voting aye: Supervisors Fly, Futrell, Seward, Stringfield, Tyler

Voting nay: none

Absent: Supervisor Blowe