

March 30, 2009

The Carroll County Board of Supervisors held a Budget Workshop meeting on Monday, March 30, 2009 in the Board Meeting Room of the Carroll County Governmental Center.

Present were: David V. Hutchins, Chairman
Wesley G. Hurst, Vice-Chairman
W.S. "Sam" Dickson
Andrew S. Jackson
Dr. Thomas W. Littrell
Manus McMillian
Gary Larrowe, County Administrator
Ronald L. Newman, Assistant Administrator
Nikki Shank, Assistant Administrator

Mr. Hutchins welcomed everyone and asked Mr. Hurst to lead in prayer and pledge.

SCHOOL BUDGET PRESENTATION

Dr. Greg Smith told that the budget is a fair representation of the needs of the school. He told that in Section 1 it discussed Achievement Highlights and told that the Adult Ed program received a Tier 1 Rating. He told that Section 2 lists the Budget Goals and told that no job loss was a big goal. He told that the School Board is requesting level funding for FY09-10. He told that for debt service that the State provided \$802,251 for FY09 but for the upcoming year the County would pay 100%. He told that for expenditures that 72.23% is instruction. He stated that the Debt Service is \$3,052,208 and the total school debt \$28,206,785. He told that the largest expenditures for other educational programs are the Title 1 program at \$1,120,111 and AmeriCorp at \$291,514. He told that the budget shortfall is \$1,341,827. He showed that this could be made up with a one-time usage of Textbook Funds of \$444,868, using Title VI B Stimulus funds, and using State and Federal Stimulus funds. He told that using the State and Federal Stimulus Funds allowed for no job loss for FY10 but they are still unsure if they are allowed to use these funds. He told that he is uncertain how the County will be affected if the stimulus funds are not available in FY11-12. Dr. Smith discussed planning for the future.

Dr. Smith told that the Food Service Fund is self supporting and in the Textbook Fund that there was no transfer of State funds because they are using funds to balance to budget. He told that they would be asking the Board to appropriate the rollover funds.

Mr. McMillian told that when he was growing up they had a book that they took home and the parents helped and now they just have a guideline with very little to assist at home.

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Dr. Smith told that each class has a book but they don't dictate how the teacher uses the book. He told that usage of the internet is an alternative resource. He told that he encourages teachers to look for resources outside of the text book.

Dr. Littrell told that it looks like \$2 million was saved in instruction but asked how is this possible without job loss.

Ms. Tammy Quesenberry told that they reviewed every line and cut where they could.

Dr. Smith told that he met with principals to see exactly what was needed and where they could make cuts.

Mr. McMillian asked with the cut backs what will the effects be on the classroom. He told that sometimes when you cut money it meant quality.

Dr. Smith told that they identified staff that would directly impact student learning. He told that they have specifically targeted areas for attrition and they are looking at it in a common sense way.

Mr. Hurst told that in food service there is \$108,000 less in employee benefits.

Ms. Quesenberry told that they have several retirements of full time that will be replaced with part time so they will not be on VRS and also they have a cut back in health insurance participation along with some over estimation from last year.

Dr. Smith told that the cost of the food goes up each year and the quality is good. He told that they are looking at making the cafeteria a productive part of the school system.

Mr. Hurst told that some schools are placing food service out to bid.

Dr. Smith told that those groups look at school systems where the numbers make it profitable and they have discussed this with a vendor that it interested in further discussions.

Dr. Littrell asked what the student numbers are for next year.

Dr. Smith told that it is 3916 this year which is down considerably. He told that there are lots of transients taking place in the County and that decreases State funding. He told that they have students traveling to Mount Airy or other locations.

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Dr. Littrell asked if the County gets reimbursement is for home schoolers.

Dr. Smith replied not yet. He told that the County does not have a lot of home schoolers and they have retrieved about 30 students with the virtual classroom and they do get ADM from the Commonwealth for these.

Mr. McMillian asked how to get more participation.

Dr. Smith told that many find it is very positive for the student or when they can get them to take a couple of classes then they want to take more.

Mr. Dickson told that instruction is down \$2 million and asked if teachers get a raise or a step increase.

Dr. Smith told that they do not get a raise, but the step increase is built into the budget. He told that the step increase is less but it keeps staff on a salary scale for VRS benefits.

Mr. Dickson asked if other professional salaries have increased.

Ms. Quesenberry told that they were previously contracting with Mount Rogers and now it is a staff person so they have moved funds from purchased services to salaries and wages.

Mr. Dickson told that there is an increase from \$63,000 to \$71,000 in Operations and asked if one person is getting a raise.

Ms. Quesenberry told that it is not a raise; they had the wrong amount in last year.

Mr. Dickson asked if any programs had been cut or added.

Dr. Smith told that they had not added any programs. He told that they looked at not filling vacancies throughout the year and that gave them some flexibility in the budget.

Mr. Jackson asked if outsourcing transportation had been reviewed.

Dr. Smith told that it is not fiscally prudent in rural areas.

Mr. Dickson asked if the projections were based on student enrollment and asked if the projection has increased or decreased.

Dr. Smith told that the projection is 3910 and last year it was 3970.

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Mr. Dickson congratulated the schools system on the honors received.

Dr. Littrell asked if the Health Insurance rate increased.

Dr. Smith told that it stayed the same as well as the VRS rate. He told that the salary range is in the 120's in the state and they need to improve that.

Mr. Larrowe told that a lot of hard work went into the budget.

Mr. Hutchins thanked Dr. Smith for the presentation and also commended Dr. Smith, Mr. Dickson and Mr. Gardner for the work on the budget and told that he appreciated a balanced budget.

Dr. Smith told that the School Board and staff worked closely together on the budget and also worked closely with Mr. Larrowe.

Mr. Hutchins told that the County could all benefit from central purchasing for the entire county and asked if the School and the County could look at this together. He told that maintenance of vehicles is another area to consider combining. He stated that any dollars saved gives dollars to do things with.

Mr. Gardner told that they will certainly look at areas that could produce savings.

It was a consensus of the Board to hold a Public Hearing concerning the proposed Fiscal Year 2009-2010 School Operational and Debt Service Budget, the proposed Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Food Service Fund Budget, and the proposed Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Textbook Fund Budget on Tuesday, April 14, 2009, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

CITIZEN'S TIME

Mr. Brian Dixon thanked the Board and Dr. Smith for their support and told that Gladeville is a good school.

Ms. Angie Dixon told that she appreciates everything the school is doing for her son. She told that her son was diagnosed with Fragile X and there was an article about it in the Gazette to educate people. She commended the staff at Hillsville Elementary and Gladeville and told that she would like to encourage people to be tested if they have symptoms. She told that they are praying for a cure. She told that the Special Education program here is one of the best.

(Order)

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 2.2-3711(A1,A5,A7)

Upon motion by Mr. Dickson, seconded by Dr. Littrell, and passed unanimously, the Board convened a Closed Session at 8:15 p.m. to 10:02 p.m. for the discussion of personnel, for the discussion of a prospective business or industry where there has been no public announcement of the business or industry's desire to locate or expand in the County, and for the discussion of legal matters pertaining to threatened or pending litigation as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A1, A5, A7).

VOTES

Mr. Jackson Yes
Mr. Hurst Yes
Mr. Hutchins Yes
Mr. Dickson Yes
Dr. Littrell Yes
Mr. McMillian Yes

(Order)

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Mr. Hurst, seconded by Dr. Littrell, and passed unanimously, the Board adopted the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, the Carroll County Board of Supervisors convened a Closed Session this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and on the motion to close the meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3711(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Board of Supervisors that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carroll County Board of Supervisors hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and (II) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which this Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

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VOTES

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| Mr. Jackson | Yes |
| Mr. Hurst | Yes |
| Mr. Hutchins | Yes |
| Mr. Dickson | Yes |
| Dr. Littrell | Yes |
| Mr. McMillian | Yes |

(Order)

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Dickson, and passed unanimously, the Board adjourned at 10:04 p.m. until April 13, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

VOTES

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| Mr. Jackson | Yes |
| Mr. Hurst | Yes |
| Mr. Hutchins | Yes |
| Mr. Dickson | Yes |
| Dr. Littrell | Yes |
| Mr. McMillian | Yes |

David V. Hutchins, Chairman

Ronald L. Newman, Assistant Clerk