

TERM OF COMMISSION: December Session of the November Adjourned Term

PLACE OF MEETING: Boone County Government Center Commission Chambers

PRESENT WERE: Presiding Commissioner Don Stamper
District I Commissioner Karen M. Miller
District II Commissioner Linda Vogt
Deputy County Clerk Michelle Malaby
Auditor and Budget Officer June Pitchford

The budget hearing was called to order at 2:36 p.m.

SUBJECT: Prosecuting Attorney

Prosecuting Attorney Kevin Crane stated they requested funding for a part-time witness location investigator assistant. Additional information, dated October 7, 1996, on the increase in subpoenas over the years was submitted to the Auditor. The increase is a result of trying to accelerate cases. The additional part-time employee would primarily handle contact with witnesses in the Courthouse. The Prosecuting Attorney's office handles subpoenas for felony cases and misdemeanor assault cases. The assault case load is increasing. That is the only request is budget 1261 which Ms. Pitchford does not propose funding. Mr. Crane stated he would like to propose funding additional supplemental items with the bad check fund. They would like to add a work station panel to each desk in the secretarial areas. The panels make a marked difference in noise reduction. The fund is solvent.

In response to a question from Commissioner Vogt, Mr. Crane replied this fund supports the Bad Check Coordinator. They would also like to purchase shelves to replace file cabinets in order to conserve space.

In response to a question from Commissioner Vogt, Ms. Adkins replied they would use the replaced file cabinets in their storage area.

Mr. Crane stated the cost of the panels is \$2,200.20. The cost of the shelving is \$1,864.40. Mr. Crane emphasized the need for the law library, a computerized system which would eliminate the need to purchase appellate reports and Pocket Parts. Ms. Pitchford recommends funding the request. The budget request reflects a decrease in the category from which such reports are purchased based on the assumption that the computerized law library will be operational at the first of the year.

Ms. Adkins noted she mistakenly did not allow for the continued purchase of the reports pending installation of the system.

Ms. Pitchford stated the issue is timing in terms of bidding, receiving and installing the software.

In response to a question from Commissioner Miller, Mr. Crane replied the reports can be issued weekly.

The commission agreed to ask Information Services Director Scott Monnig about the timing of acquisition.

In response to a question from Commissioner Stamper, Mr. Crane replied they began serving subpoenas in 1992. The Sheriff's Department was overloaded. They were able to ease their burden and increase efficiency.

In response to a question from Commissioner Stamper, Ms. Pitchford noted the existing Witness Locator/Investigator was originally funded with the bad check fund. In 1994, changes were made so that the bad check fund supported items related to the bad check fund.

Commissioner Stamper noted there is not a lot of supplemental funding available.

Mr. Crane replied he understands. Mr. Crane stated the Auditor recommends funding the conversion of the Attorney II to an Attorney I classification. He sincerely hopes the commission approves the recommendation. The change is very appropriate and long overdue.

The meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Attest:

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Linda Vogt
District II Commissioner

June Pitchford
Auditor and Budget Officer