

Proposed 2000 Budget

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
County Auditor June Pitchford
Deputy County Clerk Melanie Stapleton

The budget hearing was called to order by the Presiding Commissioner at 4:26pm.

Commissioner Vogt was absent due to health reasons.

Community Services Advisory Commission

Phil Steinhaus introduced the other members of the CSAC as follows: Scott Cristal, Reginald Kinsey, Diane Miller, and Eileen Rawson.

Scott Cristal thanked the Boone County Commission for the 3% increase that the CSAC received in last year's funding cycle. He stated that throughout the year, the CSAC holds meeting with different organizations to find out what the various groups are involved in and how their resources are directed. He stated that the proposals (recommendations to the County Commission on funding) summarize how the organizations are reviewed by the CSAC, clarifies how the CSAC ranks the different organization, and outlines the decisions made (for recommendations to the County Commission) by the CSAC.

Commissioner Stamper asked the CSAC to outline the special areas and the activities involved in each of those areas.

Phil Steinhaus stated that the CSAC receives proposals that are submitted for funding from both the City of Columbia and Boone County. He stated that their overall recommendation to the County Commission included first time funding for three groups: the Cedar Creek Therapeutic Center (\$1,000), Mid-Missouri Legal Services-Break the Cycle (\$1500), Rainbow House Parenting Center (\$1000). He stated that there were several organizations that have received small increases in funding. He stated that ten programs received level funding and two programs received decreased funding. He noted that the breakdown of funds (recommended by CSAC) was listed in the overall funding recommendations submitted to the County Commission.

Phil Steinhaus noted that no funds were requested for the meal voucher program from the Boone County Council on Aging. He stated that CMAAA did request funding for home-delivered meals in Boone County. However he noted that since the Boone County Commission reallocated those funds in 1999, the CSAC did not included CMAAA in their recommendation for funding.

June Pitchford asked the CSAC to follow-up on the questions presented by Stephanie Browning, Health Department about dental and utility assistance.

Phil Steinhaus stated that at present the funding for dental, utility, and HIV/AIDS rental assistance are filtered through the City/County Health Department as part of the County budget. He stated that the Health Department sends an authorization form to the CSAC. He stated the CSAC then copies the form and sends it to Linda Sloan, County Commission Office who in turn processes funds. He stated that there seems to be two levels of bureaucracy that are not really needed.

Phil Steinhaus recommended that the money for the aforementioned assistance be transferred directly into the Health Department budget so that they can process the requests for funding.

The County Commission directed June Pitchford to note that change in the budget.

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Commissioner Miller asked what groups received the \$15,000, that was previously allocated to CMAAA in early part of 1999, and then reallocated to the Boone County Council on Aging.

Phil Steinhaus stated that as noted in Section 3, the money went toward priority issues. He stated that there was a chart in the recommendation that outlined the direction of funds. Commissioner Stamper asked if there were any groups that were in dire need of additional resources.

Scott Cristal stated that all of the agencies and organizations are in need of additional funds. He stated that they constantly receive application received from new organizations for funds.

Phil Steinhaus stated that the food banks and food pantries have had a strain put on their services and availability of foods.

Commissioner Stamper noted that those kinds of organizations received a 30% increase in requests for their services.

The County Commission thanked the Community Services Advisory Commission for their presentation.

Boone County Council on Aging

Deb Bryer, Executive Director of the Boone County Council on Aging and Jack Miles, president of the Board of Directors for Boone County Council on Aging were present.

Deb Bryer presented a summary packet of the services provided by the Boone County Council on Aging. *The packet is available in the Auditor's Office.*

Deb Bryer stated they did not view the meals at Senior Center as the greatest need. She stated that the \$15,000 for the meals at the Senior Center had been reallocated in the format shown on the sheet.

Commissioner Stamper asked how much of the \$15,000 was used for senior meals.

Deb Bryer stated that they began to administer the funds in August of 1999. She stated that less than ¼ of the money set aside for meals has been used to this point. She stated that they are helping less than 20 people with those funds.

Deb Bryer stated that the first two pages of the summary sheet are about the history of the organization. She stated that the Boone County Council on Aging is a grassroots, volunteer organization. She stated that the needs in the community that the agency seeks to address include: providing premature nursing home aid, informational services, filling in the gaps in senior services, and aiding senior citizens in continuing to contribute to the community.

Deb Bryer stated that the agency used the following programs to address the above stated needs:

- **Enhanced Information Referral program**-guide people through the maze of services available, seek out those who need information, etc.
- **Care Management program**-encourage seniors to accept the services that are available, arrange for and coordinate services, help seniors fill out applications, serve as advocates and teach families how to aid their senior loved ones.
- **Volunteer and Support Services program**-recruit and train volunteers to stay at senior citizens residences
- **RSVP**- help seniors to find volunteers

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Deb Bryer stated that the summary sheet also provides information on the sources of local funding for the agency and outlines the importance of that funding. She stated that the last pages of the summary sheet outline what is happening in the senior citizen population of Boone County.

Jack Miles stated that the Boone County Council on Aging has an outstanding staff and a very dedicated Board of Directors. He stated that this year the BCCA completed a computerized senior information resource and data tracking system for which they received a grant from the Stafford Family Trust. He stated that this system is geared toward meeting the needs of local senior citizens and their families. He stated that the system allows them to track information and meet the needs of their clientele. He stated that this type of system provides very valuable information. Jack Miles cited an example of how the system has been used to help a senior citizen. He stated that with this new tracking system, the agency would need increased funding to utilize the services now available. He stated however that it would make the operation of the agency more efficient.

Deb Bryer stated that it would require more staff to perform the data entry for the new tracking system, however the agency would become an invaluable resource for the community.

Commissioner Miller asked if the Boone County Council on Aging could now apply for grants from the Division of Aging since the new tracking system would allow the agency to track statistics that were not available before.

Deb Bryer stated that this was something the agency would look into.

Commissioner Miller stated that she did not like to circumvent the process of the Community Services Advisory Commission in the funding process.

Deb Bryer stated that the CSAC was recommending that the County allocate \$2,000 to the Boone County Council on Aging for meals. She stated it was her understanding that the CMAAA meals program had continued without the aid of the County Commission.

Commissioner Miller stated that she did not think it would be a good idea to take away the \$2,000 that was allocated to CMAAA after everything that occurred last year.

The County Commission thanked the representatives from the Boone County Council on Aging for their presentation.

Downtown Association

Jack Waters, president of the Board of Directors for the Downtown Business Association was present.

Jack Waters stated that the Downtown Association was requesting the same amount (\$7500) as last year. He stated that the request was being made in lieu of an allocation for real estate taxes. She stated that the County's funding is a primary resource for the organization.

Jack Waters stated that the organization has \$172,000 budget projected for FY2000. He stated that this budget reflects a one-time expenditure in the holiday lighting ceremony, office equipment acquisitions, enhancement to the sidewalk maintenance program, and payroll administration. He stated that the organization has maintained the same level of staffing over the years.

Jack Waters stated that the Downtown Association is working with the city of Columbia on a masterplan for the downtown streets. He stated that there are a couple of issues relevant to the appearance of the streets downtown. He stated that they want to work with the city of Columbia to find out what should be done with the benches, lighting, canopies, etc as far as appearance is

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concerned. He stated that they have worked with the city of Columbia on a couple of crosswalks projects this past year.

Jack Waters stated that the Downtown Association is also working with the Solid Waste Department of the city of Columbia on developing a Solid Waste District to address a solution to compactor trash cleanup and the cleanup of alleys.

Commissioner Miller stated that she is very pleased with the work that the Downtown Association is doing in the downtown area and also with the work they have done with the MKT Trail and in the Flatbranch area.

Jack Waters stated that he is very pleased with the Courthouse Square. He stated that it is a wonderful gathering space for the community.

The County Commission thanked Jack Waters for coming.

Information Technology

Commissioner Miller stated that she asked Bob Ormiston to appear in a hearing to address the process used to develop the Information Technology Department's proposed 2000 budget.

Bob Ormiston, Director of Information Technology stated that the process began with letters that were sent out by the Auditor's Office requesting that every department turn in their requests for computer hardware, software, upgrades, etc. He stated that the letter further requested that the department assign priority to those requests. He stated that the Director of IT then had the responsibility of determining the priority of all the departments' requests. He stated that the IT Advisory Committee aided in determining the priority of those requests. He stated that every department head/elected official was represented on the committee.

Bob Ormiston stated that the IT Advisory Committee assigned the following designations to the requests: mission critical, enhancements to services, or preferences. He stated that there were a lot of questions asked and answered. He stated that the IT Advisory Committee completed a very democratic and cordial process of determining the designation of the requests. He stated that the supplemental requests for the IT Department were a result of the IT Advisory Committee meetings.

June Pitchford asked Bob Ormiston to address how issues were determined to be part of the core budget vs. a supplemental request.

Bob Ormiston stated that the IT Department set out objectives the upcoming year. He stated that the IT Department has already started working on one of the objectives--the re-engineering and redesign of the network. He stated that they decided that the objectives already set out would be part of the core budget.

Commissioner Miller asked Bob Ormiston to explain what was occurring with the imaging program and why it was not included in the budget.

Bob Ormiston stated that the current imaging system is at least seven years old and has been out of maintenance/service contract for several years. He stated that the current imaging program is not supported by any other service that is known to the department. He stated that the IT Department is working with the Assessor's Office, County Clerk's Office, and the Recorder of Deeds Office to put together some preliminary specifications for a new imaging system. He stated that there is also an outside consultant working on this who has brought in a company that is a value-added reseller of several different systems and software programs for imaging.

Bob Ormiston stated that the IT Department sent the company some information on volumes sizes and indexes, etc. He stated that it would be helpful to get together as many people in the County as possible who may have a future use for imaging to design a system in order to address

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those needs with the new imaging system as well.

Commissioner Stamper stated that the IT Department budget included requests for additional staffing and the proposed reception area. He stated that the County should probably take a look at the space for the current mailroom as it relates to the function of the GIS Department.

Bob Ormiston stated that he prepared a draft document containing space recommendations for separate locations including Mail, GIS, and the IT staff. He stated that he would send the County Commission a copy of those space recommendations.

Commissioner Miller noted that the two, current mail staff will now be full-time employees.

Commissioner Stamper asked if there was anyone that wished to comment on this portion of the hearing.

There was no one present that wished to comment.

The hearing adjourned at 5:30pm.

Attest:

Don Stamper
Presiding Commissioner

Wendy S. Noren
Clerk of the County Commission

Karen M. Miller
District I Commissioner

Linda Vogt
District II Commissioner