

**MINUTES OF A
RECONVENED WORK SESSION
OF THE JACKSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD ON
MARCH 19, 2018**

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met in a Reconvened Work Session on March 19, 2018, 3:00 p.m., Justice & Administration Building, Room A227, 401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Sylva, North Carolina.

Present: Brian McMahan, Chairman
Charles Elders, Vice Chair
Boyce Deitz, Commissioner
Mickey Luker, Commissioner
Ron Mau, Commissioner

Don Adams, County Manager
Heather C. Baker, County Attorney
Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Darlene Fox, Finance Director; Sheriff Chip Hall; Chief Deputy Kim Hooper; Major Shannon Queen; Ken Henke, Board of Education Chairman; Dr. Kim Elliott, JCPS Superintendent; Jacob Buchanan, JCPS Assistant Superintendent; and Darin Allison, Director of Capital Projects and Facilities, were present for the meeting.

Chairman McMahan called the meeting to order and stated this was a reconvened meeting from the joint work session with the Board of Education on March 15, 2018. At that meeting, they discussed potential ways to move forward with capital project funding and personnel items relating to the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Adams stated that if the Board chose to move forward, there were opportunities to act on capital requests as they related to school safety.

(1) BOARD OF EDUCATION SAFETY REQUESTS: Ms. Fox presented:

	Requested Amount
Capital Improvements	\$610,000.00
Capital Improvements	\$131,000.00
Capital Outlay Equipment (cameras)	\$361,000.00
Capital Outlay Equipment (monitors)	\$39,000.00
Cort Architectural	\$27,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,168,000.00

School Capital Reserve Funds Available

Funds on Hand	\$1,152,301.35
FY 2017-2018 Addition	\$131,755.00
TOTAL	\$1,284,056.35

Ms. Fox stated that they did have the funds on hand to do these improvements, if the Board chose to do so.

Mr. Adams stated that the opportunities the Board had to move forward would be the \$27,000 request, as that was what was needed for engineering documents to support the \$610,000 and \$131,000 requests. Also, the Capital Outlay Equipment for \$361,000 for the cameras and \$39,000 for the monitors that had been discussed.

Ms. Fox stated that the Cort documents should be ready that week.

Mr. Adams stated the contract would be not to exceed \$27,000 and the Board would need to authorize the Chairman or staff to sign off on the agreement when it was approved by the school system and the County Attorney.

Consensus: Add the following items to the regular meeting agenda at 6:00 that day for consideration:

- Cort Architectural for \$27,000
- Capital Improvements (cameras) for \$361,000
- Capital Outlay Equipment (monitors) for \$39,000

(2) **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER / ROAD PATROL DEPUTY:** Ms. Fox presented:

(a) SRO/Road Patrol Deputy Grade SH46*1:

Salary and Benefits One Deputy	
Salary	\$30,277.83
FICA	\$1,877.23
Medicare	\$439.03
Retirement	\$4,011.81
Insurance	\$9,900.00
WC	\$66.10
TOTAL	\$46,572.00

Start Up Costs

Uniforms	\$600.00
Body Armor	\$780.00
Taser	\$1,025.00
Glock Model 27	\$425.00
Vehicle	\$30,000.00
TOTAL	\$32,830.00

Annual Costs - 3 positions

Salary and Benefits	\$139,715.99
Start Up Costs	\$98,490.00
TOTAL	\$238,205.99

(b) Current Year Budget for three deputies Grade SH46, effective April 1, 2018 (6.5 pay periods):

	One Deputy	Three Deputies (6.5 PP)
Salary	\$30,277.83	\$22,708.37
FICA	\$1,877.23	\$1,407.92
Medicare	439.03	\$329.27
Retirement	\$4,011.81	\$3,008.86
Insurance	\$9,900.00	\$7,425.00
WC	\$66.10	\$49.58
	\$46,572.00	\$34,929.00

(c) Remainder of Current Fiscal Year Effective April 1, 2018:

Salaries and Benefits	\$34,929.00
Start Up Costs	<u>\$98,490.00</u>
	\$133,419.00

(d) FY 2017-2018 Funding Source Contingency:

	Amounts
Contingency Balance as of March 19, 2018	\$266,087.00
Less Budget Amendment - 3 Deputies	<u>\$133,421.00</u>
Balance Contingency	\$132,666.00

(e) New Year Budget:

3 Deputies	\$144,132.00
1 additional Deputy Grade SH46	\$48,044.00
1 additional Detective Grade SH48	\$51,054.00
Start Up Costs for 2 positions (2 vehicles to remain in fleet)	\$5,660.00
Student Support Services	\$366,000.00
Director of Safe and Healthy Schools	\$70,000.00
Comprehensive Assessment and Training	<u>\$8,000.00</u>
Total Increase if fully funded	\$692,890.00

Mr. Adams stated that this was all inclusive except for the SRO officer that was mentioned for the Charter School. The information presented was based on the Sheriff's original request.

Commissioner Luker inquired why the SRO officer for the Charter School was not included.

Mr. Adams stated that staff needed direction for how many SRO's was needed. The original request was for four additional SRO's and a detective. They needed three SRO's to have one person at each campus and the fourth was for the Catamount School. They were talking about the fifth one at the Charter School.

Ms. Fox stated that they still had the grant application that would possibly fund one SRO.

Commissioner Luker stated that the Chairman of the Board for Summit Charter School had talked with him and the Summit Board had discussed approaching the Board of Commissioners, at least by budget time, to request an officer at their school as well.

Chairman McMahan stated that the Sheriff made a request and what was presented that day was based on that request. He thought they should go with what was presented from the Sheriff's perspective and then wait for the Charter School to come forward with a request and also evaluate the grant, as this was new and different territory they would be going into.

Commissioner Luker stated that to him, a student was a student and a public school was a public school and they should not be trying to protect one any more than another. They were all important and should get the same protection.

Sheriff Hall inquired if the Summit was requesting a fully or partially funded position.

Commissioner Luker stated they wanted a fully funded position.

Sheriff Hall stated that with the current SRO's, a percentage was funded through the school system and the two SRO's at SCC were funded through the community college, not the county.

Commissioner Luker stated that would need to be a discussion with Summit. They just wanted to make sure this was on the radar.

Commissioner Deitz stated it would be good for them to come talk to the Board.

(f) Timing:

Chairman McMahan stated that if the Board added this to the agenda for the meeting in April, what would be the timing.

Sheriff Hall stated he had some deputies that were interested and were ready to work. The issue would be if they were senior deputy positions at a higher grade than what they were looking at. What would be the pay plan in the future?

Ms. Fox stated that if they did use the senior deputies, the funds were already in the budget and they would retain their steps if they were reclassified and would continue on the path. The numbers would basically be the same because they would be hiring entry level road deputies. They would be approving the same dollar amount.

Mr. Adams stated staff could look at all of the details and bring back a recommendation to the Board in April.

(g) FY2018-2019 Funding Source:

Tax Rate: 1 cent on FY 2018-2019 Tax Values \$916,890.50

Chairman McMahan stated that realistically, to pay for this, they may be talking about levying a one cent tax increase for school safety. The Board would need to make sure it was comfortable with this or be ready to cut approximately \$800,000 out of the budget to come up with the additional revenue.

Commissioner Elders stated that for him, there was not a resource more valuable than the schools. They had to do what they had to do to get this done.

Commissioner Luker stated that to protect the students and faculty in the county, if it was one cent, he felt like it was justified.

Ms. Fox stated approval of the \$133,421 Budget Ordinance Amendment for the three road deputies would leave the contingency fund balance at \$132,666.

Ms. Adams stated this would allow staff to order the vehicles and then he would bring the personnel portion back before the Board in April to finalize.

Consensus: Add a Budget Ordinance Amendment for three road patrols in the amount of \$133,421.00 from contingency, to the regular meeting agenda at 6:00 that day for consideration.

There being no further business, Commissioner Elders moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mau seconded the Motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman