

July 5, 2018

The Ottawa County Excise Board met in regular Session at 1:15 PM with the following members present: Chairman, Greg Leonard and Larry Gatewood.

Notice of the meeting was posted at 4:04 pm, on July 2, 2018.

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, that Leonard remain chairman. By vote: Gatewood, aye; Leonard, aye.

Motion by Leonard, second by Gatewood, to nominate Gatewood as vice-chairman. By vote: Gatewood, aye; Leonard, aye.

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to approve the minutes of June 29, 2018. By vote: Gatewood, aye. Leonard, aye.

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to approve the following cash fund estimates of need and requests for appropriation:

C-5-D	\$95.00
COMM	\$6,835.61
COMM	\$2,621.33
B5-D	\$4,901.00
RESALE-D	\$799.32
HWY 3	\$15,662.26

By vote: Gatewood, aye; Leonard, aye.

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to approve supplemental estimate of needs for Wyandotte School district I-1. By vote: Gatewood, aye; Leonard, aye.

A public hearing was held on financial statements for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 presented by Bill Turner, CPA, and estimates of need for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 presented by each individual county office. Kenny Wright, District Attorney, addressed the Board stating that other counties across the state are contributing to the budget of district attorneys. This county has been running short staffed for quite some time and he has hired an addition attorney and is in need of another staff member. His request is for \$45,000, \$5000 for books, he is asking the county for \$40,000 for personal services to help offset the costs of those two employees.

1:41 PM

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to recess. By vote: Gatewood, aye; Leonard, aye.

1:44 PM

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to reconvene. By vote: Gatewood, aye; Leonard, aye.

Chairman Leonard questioned Sheriff Jeremy Floyd, whose budget request is \$2,754,470.90, about spending over his last years budget and the sheriff explained that was due mainly to personal services, improvements, repairs, food and healthcare for inmates. When asked where he could make cuts to help the budget concerns, the sheriff responded that he is practically running the jail on a skeleton crew now and the state wants more staff at the jail. Leonard explained that he can't continue to overspend and let it reflect on the overall budget. The sheriff was presented with figures from Bill Turner, CPA, and Chairman Leonard asked if the sheriff would like some time to go over those figures and continue with his presentation later. The Sheriff stated that he would like some time to go over the figures. The sheriff will continue later.

Kathy Bowling, County Treasurer, stated that her request is pretty close to the usual, the only difference being insurance. Her budget request is \$163,858.87.

Commissioner Chad Masterson said his is basically the same with the exception of \$2000 request for travel. He is requesting that be taken out of general instead of highway. The budget

request is \$207,254.36. Commissioner Clarke stated that's the only way we can bring our staff up to what everyone else is. Chairman Leonard asked about the \$9000 increase in personal services. Earls said mark that out, it should only be for the \$2000 travel.

Kathy Enyart, OSU Extension Director, says theirs is a little over \$9000 from last year, which is the 4 year plan the State put into place, this is the 4th year. The county is only paying for the program assistant, as agreed in the 4 year plan. Leonard remarked that surrounding counties did not pay the \$9000 last year but they kept the same amount of staff. Kathy said they would have had to cut something somewhere. The budget request is \$101,170.00.

Robyn Mitchell, County Clerk, stated her request of \$339,904.43 is for personal services, an increase for two employees, and insurance.

Cassie Keys, Court Clerk, stated if there's any increase at all, it would be insurance. Her request is \$419,670.36.

Becky Smith, County Assessor, stated nothing has changed, only difference would be personal service and insurance, asking for less due to converting to Land Mark last year she had to have \$20,000 for conversion fees. She won't have that fee this year but does need a new server which is a little over \$9000. Her request is \$76,847.96. Bill Turner added that 80% of her budget is paid by the schools. Her visual inspection request is \$219,280.10

Verna Ferris, Election Board Secretary, is requesting an increase for postage, paper and new desks. Also, there will be a run-off election and general election this year. Her request is \$156,705.38.

Summer Aldridge, Emergency Management Director, request is for travel for training. Also, she needs a new desk and furniture for her office. The request is \$78,281.35.

Leonard asked Bill Turner about the audit expense request of \$41,776.29. Bill said we have to have \$41,000 available for the audit.

Leonard says the County Cemetery is the same as always, \$400.00.

Leonard asked Kathy Enyart about the \$9500 for Free Fair. Kathy stated that's used to pay premiums at the fair. About 85 to 90% goes to youth, the rest to adults. That's only a small portion of the costs for county fair. We're very fortunate to have a board that gets out and works and has fund raisers for the fair.

Earls informed the Board that the city and county are in talks about air conditioning the old building.

Leonard stated we feel pretty comfortable that we're not going to set the budget today. Need to set a time to continue.

Bill Turner stated if what he has is all the sheriff's cash funds and general funds amounts and if \$2.754 million is roughly what his office is going to spend next year, that there may be enough to offset the \$906,000 shortage. If that is correct, then this would be enough to meet everyone's budget.

Commissioner Earls advised the chairman that the county has been doing some work at the Boys and Girls Club building. They helped them move to their new location, helped put up the fence and will probably put in a ball court.

Sheriff Floyd stated they have started the new program with a turnpike crew this week. Will get some income from that but with deputy pay to watch them and with expenses it will basically be a wash. The Turnpike Authority built a trailer with a port-a-potty, at no cost to the county and provide the needed supplies for the workers.

After further figuring, Bill Turner advised that the sheriff may be short about \$550,000.

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to recess until 10:00 am, August 6, 2018. By vote: Gatewood, aye; Leonard, aye.

August 6, 2018

The Ottawa County Excise Board reconvened in regular Session at 10:00 AM with the following members present: Chairman, Greg Leonard and Larry Gatewood.

Motion by Gatewood, 2nd by Leonard, to reconvene in regular session. By vote: Leonard, aye; Gatewood, aye.

The public hearing on financial statements for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 presented by Bill Turner, CPA continued. Chairman Leonard turned meeting over to Bill Turner. Turner advised that the court clerk reimbursement for payroll and utilities have been added into the budget, as well as the child advocacy payroll reimbursement to the sheriff's office. The way it is figured right now, the sheriff's budget is \$89,564.88 over his request. Leonard stated that he wants the committee involved in the roofing of the jail. Commissioner Earls stated that they will have insight into that because they will have to bid it out. The estimated cost of the roof is \$150,000 and is included in the sheriff's budget request. Turner stated that we could fund everyone else's request if we cut the sheriff back to what he got last year, which was approximately a million off what he wants this year. Turner stated that if we funded everybody (with their request), we would leave about \$500,000 in capital outlay. If the sheriff's board of prisoners money doesn't come in, then we'll have to cut into the \$500,000.

After much discussion, motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to set the sheriff's budget at \$1,700,000.

The county officers were asking for a 3% raise for their employees. Leonard suggested that they only give 2% and build up the capital outlay account. Robyn Mitchell, County Clerk, stated that it is not fair that we bailed the sheriff out and it is not fair to our employees. Verna Ferris, Election Board Secretary, asked if the department heads could give a raise to any employee at will. Kenny Wright responded, "Yes, they do." After Mitchell's statement and Ferris' question, Leonard remarked that the Excise Board is not going to bail you out. Talk to those three gentlemen at the table, they are the ones who approved the sheriff's raises. Earls then remarked, "Let's stay focused, let's do a 3% raise." Turner stated that would still add about \$87,000 to our \$500,000. Leonard asks what repercussion does it have if the sheriff is \$300,000 short on down the road. Kenny Wright, District Attorney, responded that is what the committee is trying to do by going over his purchase orders. That's where you come in, you have to figure out where and who gets cut. Hopefully, it would come into play at re-election. I suppose mis-financing can roll over as malfeasance. Wright further stated that his budget is similar to the sheriff's; I look for places to increase cash flow and make decreases. If he's not into finance, he needs to be or have someone employed who can handle that. At some point, we're just going to have to be firm and say this is all you're getting and you're going to have to work with it. Earls agreed. Leonard directed the conversation back to the numbers with Bill (Turner). Turner agreed the sheriff should have some financial person to look at the figures as to where they are at all times. Leonard stated that in looking at transfers, it was very evident six months in that he was spending more than he had. Mitchell stated that she has a problem with holding purchase orders and bringing them in late, that it's quite a problem for Tasha to deal with. Earls stated that the sheriff is lucky to have a dedicated sales tax.

Leonard asks Wright if they give him the \$40,000 he requested, is he going to have someone at the commissioners' meetings, adding that they used to have someone at theirs

(Excise Board's). Wright responded that he would like to have Rogers (Hughes) come to both meetings. He said they lost money through the state, mostly losing money to help victims of violent crimes. The Legislature gave them money to cover that loss and to cover the mandatory raises. He's been working short staffed for quite some time. He's going back to three Assistant District Attorneys in both counties and is really counting on the \$40,000 from Ottawa County and Delaware County to make this happen. He took in donations to keep running before, doesn't want to go begging again. He needs the money from the counties to keep up. So, the short answer is yes, he's going to try to have an attorney at all the meetings. Leonard asked Turner if he gets that we're at 3% increase and cut in the sheriff's. Turner responded yes. Gatewood stated that it is still going to hinge on the three of you sitting at that table. Earls stated that at the end of the day it is going to fall on our shoulders. Mitchell added that these meetings are costing us a fortune to put in the paper. Earls stated it will get better.

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to approve the budget as discussed. By vote: Leonard, aye; Gatewood, aye.

Motion by Gatewood, second by Leonard, to adjourn. By vote: Leonard, aye; Gatewood, aye.

Chairman

Robyn Mitchell
Ottawa County Clerk