Robertson County Budget Committee
Minutes of November 5, 2024 Meeting

The Budget Committee met at 4:30 P.M. with the following members present: Bobby Couts, Eric Roberts, Billy Ray Dorris, and Faye Stubblefield were present. Mayor Billy Vogle and Jody Stewart were also present. Bob Stroud was absent.

Mr. Bobby Couts called the meeting to order and following main discussions and actions took place during the meeting:

The Budget Committee minutes of September 10, 2024 were approved as presented.
Bobby asked if the Public had any comments about the agenda, there were no Public Comments at this time.

1. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #11 in the amount of $21,000 for a retiring employee's payout and training for a new employee in the Finance Department. All voted yea.

2. It was moved by Faye Stubblefield and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #12 in the amount of $2,153,877 for the School System to the County Commission. This balanced budget amendment #12 is for various grant revenues and matching expenditures, plus miscellaneous housekeeping items. All voted yea.

3. It was moved by Faye Stubblefield and seconded by Eric Roberts to recommend informing the County Commission that the School Board approved an internal transfer of funds for the School Capital Projects Fund 177. This internal transfer decreases Westside Renovations and Miscellaneous Maintenance Projects by $100,000 and increases Innovation Academy (IA) Renovation Project by $100,000. All voted yea.

4. It was moved by Faye Stubblefield and seconded by Eric Roberts to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #13 in the amount of $23,130 for an Annual Homeland Security Grant to the County Commission. All voted yea.

Chris Traughber, Assessor of Property, requested a new employee. Chris presented budget amendment #14 in the amount of $68,040. There was much discussion about technology to help with the Property Assessor's office and Chris stated new technology will cost more than a new employee. Bobby Couts stated the County is facing large expenses for HVAC units for the Robertson County Office Building. There was a question/answer session and Eric asked Chris if he has the funds for this new employee in his budget. Chris stated he does not have extra funds in his FY2025 budget. Chris also stated that there is a State Statute that authorizes his office to be staffed with eight (8) employees based upon the County's 41,000 parcels. Chris is not included in the staff of eight (8) employees. Bobby said he will entertain a motion to approve this request, if there is not a motion then this request will die due to the lack of a motion. There was not a motion regarding this request and Chris thanked everyone for their time.

5. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Faye Stubblefield to recommend balanced budget amendment #15 in the amount of $65,423 for two Ventilators and a Defibrillator to the County Commission. The funds for the Ventilators will be moved from line item 413 in the Ambulance Service budget and the funds for the Defibrillator will be from the Mayor's discretionary opioid settlement funds. All voted yea.

6. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Faye Stubblefield to approve Randy Peach's request to increase the pay by $4.14 per hour for his acting Assistant Director. Randy presented a job compensation study from the Human Resources Consultant and explained that he will be able to afford only the $4.14 per hour increase at this time. He stated that he does not need a budget amendment because of restructuring employees in his Department. Randy stated the additional $1.18 needed for this person to be paid the minimum amount of $24.51 per the job compensation study will be requested in his FY2026 budget. All voted yea.

7. It was moved by Faye Stubblefield and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to recommend a resolution to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Robertson County Commission and the Robertson County Mayor relative to retaining funds for improvements to the County Health Department Building to the County Commission. The Renovation Project for the Health Department funds in the amount of $386,400 were committed with a budget amendment resolution on June 19, 2023 from the County's Fund 127 American Rescue Plan Act funds. Because of a December 31, 2024 deadline, the State is requesting the County Commission to approve an MOU between the Robertson County Commission and the Robertson County Mayor. All voted yea.

8. It was moved by Billy Ray Dorris and seconded by Eric Roberts to recommend a resolution to approve budget amendment #14 in the amount of $73,254 to the County Commission. This budget amendment is for engineering fees for eight (8) HVAC units for TRANE to proceed with Development and Design Services for a Design-Build HVAC unit replacement project at the Robertson County Office Building. There was much discussion concerning the need for replacing these old HVAC units. This budget amendment will require two readings and the budget committee will request the County Commission to suspend the rules at their November meeting. All voted yea.

Randy Mauldin, TRANE Representative, stated that he has a quote for $30,952 to place the Robertson County Plaza on the same energy efficiency program system as all other County units. There was some discussion and Eric stated that he thought it was not needed at this time.

9. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #16 in the amount of $36,458 for a generator as requested by the Sheriff for the Emergency Radio Communications Project to the County Commission. There was much discussion about Motorola working to finalize this project by the end of December. There was also discussion about the $1,044,966 the County will pay to Motorola for the State and then the State will reimburse the County. Once it is determined this project is near completion, the Sheriff will notify the Finance Department that all is on track to pay the $1,044,966 to Motorola and Motorola will notify the State to reimburse the County. All voted yea.

The meeting adjourned at 5:47 P.M.

Bobby Couts, Chairman

Jody Stewart, Finance Director