

BARNSTABLE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF DELEGATES
Standing Committee on Finance
Minutes

The Standing Committee on Finance met to review the 2013 proposed budgets of the Resource Development Office, Regional Commissioners / Finance Department, Information Technology, and the Assembly on March 14, 2012, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Committee members present: Vice Chairman Thomas Lynch, Leo Cakounes, and Marcia King.

Also present: Darlene Johnson-Morris for the Resource Development Office, Mark Zielinski for the Board of Regional Commissioners and Finance Department, John Morse and Peter Karlson for Information Technology, and Janice O'Connell (Clerk/Secretary) for the Assembly.

Resource Development Office

Darlene Johnson-Morris met with the committee to review her proposed FY 2013 budget. There were a few increases: training for new staff due to turnover, transportation costs, cell phone communication costs, and tools. A packet containing information about the Resource Development Office and AmeriCorps projects, programs, and grants was circulated and reviewed by the committee. No large turn backs for FY 2012 are anticipated. If cuts were made to the proposed FY 2013 budget it would result in loss of services related to staff cuts.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend the Resource Development Office budget as submitted. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

Regional Commissioners / and Finance Department

Mark Zielinski met with the committee to review the proposed FY 2013 budgets for the Regional Commissioners, Finance, Shared Costs and Debt, the Unfunded Liability, and Regional Services.

The committee reviewed all account lines and it was noted that the professional service account, and charges and obligations account lines were reduced in the Commissioners budget for FY 2013. Questions were raised regarding the responsibilities and labor cost distribution related to county employees and Cape Light Compact.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend the Regional Commissioners section of the budget as submitted. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

The committee reviewed Finance account lines. It was noted that the charges and services account line increased due to financial software and hardware maintenance contracts. A 2% COLA for county employees is budgeted in Shared Costs and is not a part of the Finance budget account lines. Mileage reimbursement rates will not be increasing from the current .41 cents per mile rate. The 25% mitigation savings from health insurance costs (mandated per legislation) has been budgeted in Shared Costs and will be returned participants. There were a few questions regarding the current year budget that will be addressed by Mark Zielinski during the public hearing process for the FY 20123 budget on April 18th – or sooner if requested and scheduled.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend the Finance budget as submitted. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

The committee reviewed the Shared Costs and Debt account lines. There were reductions in the retirees' health insurance account line and the capital stabilization funds for FY 2013.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend Shared Costs and Debt budget as submitted. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

The committee reviewed the proposed FY 2103 budget for the unfunded liability related to the former Sherriff's Department for pensions.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend the Unfunded Liability budget as submitted. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

The committee reviewed and discussed the request for \$75,000 for regional services (Regional Umbrella Services Support Center a/k/a RUSS). The money will be used initially to fund a person (contractually) and eventually might become a county department to coordinate and oversee the applications and services that will result from OpenCape. E-permitting and telephone services would be looked at first and would need coordinating. A handout obtained at the Board of Commissioners meeting on 3/14/12 was provided to committee members and meeting participants. Discussion ensued and there were questions and concerns raised regarding this funding request and the relationship between the county, access and delivery of services, and the mission of OpenCape. John Morse and Peter Karlson participated in the discussion.

No budget recommendation was made and it will be reviewed by the Finance Committee at a later date.

Information Technology

John Morse met with the committee to review his proposed budget for FY 2013. Peter Karlson was also present to answer questions from the committee. No new staff positions were added to the budget but overtime and professional services account lines increased. As incidents and projects come up staff time and professional services are needed to handle the additional work. At some point in future budgets staff will be added at a greater value and benefit versus the hiring of professionals as consultants. The internship program is working very well for the department during the summer months. Increases in software and hardware account lines are due to maintenance requirements on new contract items.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend the Information Technology budget as submitted. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

Assembly

Janice O'Connell met with the committee to review her proposed budget for FY 2013. Several budget account lines for FY 2013 were redistributed from other accounts based on actual expenses anticipated for the current year. The Clerk does not anticipate any significant turn backs for the current fiscal year. There are no additional costs assumed in the Assembly budget related to the County Clerk's position other than a change in labor grade assigned to the Assembly Clerk in the current budget year.

Marcia King motioned, and it was seconded, to recommend the Assembly budget as submitted. Motion carried. 3-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Submitted by:
Janice O'Connell, Secretary/Clerk
Assembly of Delegates