

Executive Finance Committee Meeting
5/9/11
Commissioner's Conference Room, Newport

EFC members present: Reps. Philip "Joe" Osgood, Charlene Lovett, John Cloutier (Entered Meeting around 9:30 am), Spec Bowers, Beverly Rodeschin (ex officio), Thomas Laware

County Employees and Elected Officials Present: Registrar of Deeds Sharron King, County Adm. Greg Chanis, DOC Supt. Ross Cunningham, Ast. DOC Supt. Lori Keefe

Rep. Cloutier entered meeting at around 9:30am

DOC budget was being discussed, specifically the DOC's overtime line item, when Rep. Cloutier entered meeting.

DOC Supt. Ross Cunningham discussed retirement line item, and mentioned that all DOC officers are in Group II retirement system.

Also Mr. Chanis reviewed worker's compensation as well as employment compensation line items.

SCHC (Sullivan County Health Care) Adm. Ted Purdy entered meeting at 10 am.

Next, EFC reviewed DOC's Contract Services line item with the help of Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Chanis

EFC took a short break at 10:35 am, and returned to meeting at 10:38am.

Mr. Cunningham answered questions about DOC's dues, licenses, and subscriptions line item.

Mr. Cunningham answered questions from Rep. Cloutier and other EFC members about medical expenses line item. Said he thinks EFC and Delegation should consider increasing the Commissioner proposed line item of \$180,500 for Fiscal Year 2012, especially in the specific line items of inmate pharmacy and outside providers. Discussion on whether EFC should increase the \$180,500 line item, but the consensus of EFC members present was to hold off on making a fiscal decision until DOC budget is formally approved, within the next few weeks.

Mr. Chanis reviewed and answered questions about DOC and electricity line item which he said as of today is tied in with the rest of County Complex's electricity budget.

Mr. Chanis then reviewed fuel oil line item and added that he plans for the number of gallons of oil being used for DOC not rising. But the fund spike in oil prices as well as the end of last year's locked-in price agreement will likely mean a large increase in oil bill.

Mr. Cunningham reviewed telephone/internet, and gasoline, care of ground line items.

Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Chanis answered questions about sewer costs line item – a service provided by City of Claremont.

Mr. Chanis reviewed and answered questions about vehicle repairs line item. Then he discussed insurance line item, which is property and liability insurance for DOC. He said \$6,640 increase in this line item is because of new Community Corrections addition.

Then he discussed inmate commission expense line item which comes from money paid into a fund by inmates, and is not taxpayer funded.

Rep. Lovett suggested that a grant writer be included in future county budgets so as to encourage the county to apply for more grants for certain programs. Discussion then ensued between Mr. Chanis and the rest of the EFC about the wisdom of including grants and grant writers in budgets.

EFC broke for lunch around 12:10 pm.

EFC resumed meeting at 12:38 pm with SCHC Adm. Ted Purdy doing the proposed budget review for SCHC, which is commonly known as the nursing home.

Mr. Purdy started by reviewing SCHC's proposed census for Fiscal Year 2012, which is vital to considering the nursing home's revenue. (See attached sheet)

Then along with Mr. Chanis, he reviewed SCHC's proposed revenue line item by line item including Medicaid private patient income, laundry fees from Valley Regional Hospital, as well as reimbursement of meals prepared for DOC inmates

He continued with line items for respite care income, proportional share funds and Medicaid. In reference to Medicaid, he stated under present federal and state laws and regulations, it will cost county taxpayers approximately \$996,000 per year to help pay for the care of SCHC Medicaid patients in 2011. Next, he distributed a county-by-county medications funding for every nursing home in N.H. (See attached sheet) in 2010.

Then Mr. Purdy reviewed proposed revenue for Fiscal year 2012 from Medicare, Part B and Part A.

Rep. Rodeschin left meeting at 2pm.

General discussion then ensued among EFC, Mr. Purdy, and Mr. Chanis about the county budget, SCHC, and county nursing homes in general. Their discussion then turned to EFC members making various advertising suggestions on how to make SCHC more attractive to new patients and residents, especially once air conditioning is installed.

Mr. Purdy then reviewed the marketing section of the SCHC budget on the expense side. While discussing the marketing budget, he said that 75% of patient referrals are from local hospitals.

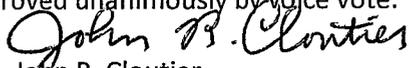
Various marketing sections were offered by EFC members, and Mr. Chanis said it was a good idea for SCHC to have a "professionally done" marketing plan developed that the county could then implement.

At Rep. Bowers request, Mr. Purdy first discussed health insurance increase under the dietary section of the proposed SCHC budget. Next he reviewed nursing section of the same budget and distributed a nursing dept staffing sheet for Fiscal Year 2012 (See attachment)

Mr. Purdy and Mr. Chanis also discussed rationale for SCHC decreasing per diem or agency nursing staff and increasing regular full-time nursing staff.

Finally, the EFC Chair, Rep. Osgood reviewed the tentative agenda for the next EFC meeting on Mon., May 16 at 8:30 am in Newport

Rep Cloutier moved, Rep Bowers seconded a motion to adjourn meeting at 3:39pm. Motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.


Rep. John R. Cloutier
Acting Clerk

Date Approved: 5-23-11