

Regular Meeting #09-51
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
December 10, 2009

9:00 a.m. Meeting with Aundrea Cordle

The Board of Commissioners met with County Human Resources Director Aundrea Cordle to discuss the county workers' compensation program. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present was Scott Zody.

Ms. Cordle provided an overview of the options available to the Board, and stated that the Group Retrospective Program (Group Retro) is the least risk and best return option for the Board. Group Retro is similar to the Group Rating Program the Board is currently enrolled in, but the County will not be eligible for that program in 2011.

Commissioner Shupe commented that Meals on Wheels had one of their drivers involved in a serious accident recently, and asked if MOW was under the county policy, and Ms. Cordle stated MOW is under its own policy and not part of the County coverage.

Ms. Cordle informed the Board that she needs to complete an application and submit it to BWC by December 21st, so time is running short. Mr. Zody stated he could scan the application and send it to Jason Dolin for review, and he will be back next week. Ms. Cordle stated the new coverage would take effect January 1, 2011.

Ms. Cordle added that one other piece for the Board to consider is how to apportion the premium costs to county agencies and departments. The Board could charge based upon claims experience instead on payroll amount, which could save the General Fund dollars but could cost some non-GRF agencies more.

Ms. Cordle provided some scenarios she worked up relative to premiums payments based upon claims experience, and if premiums were based 100% on claims experience, the General Fund would save approximately \$33,000. The Sheriff's Office costs would increase substantially, but savings to other GRF departments would offset the increase. The real negative impact would be to the Engineer, Utility Department and Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Commissioner Myers commented that overall the General Fund would experience some savings, and Commissioner Kiger stated that \$33,000 is not insignificant. Ms. Cordle noted that her main concern would be the impact to the Engineer, as their premiums would increase from \$47,000 per year to \$207,000 per year.

Commissioner Shupe stated the Engineer is one of the few offices that has not been significantly impacted by the recent state budget cuts or economic slowdown, and has stable funding. Ms. Cordle stated the problem is the Engineer tends to have higher claims, but is truly making efforts to reduce claims, improve safety and control costs. Commissioner Myers stated one advantage of the claims based premiums would be to provide agencies an incentive to improve even more.

Mr. Zody asked what the impacts would be under a 50-50 scenario between claims experience and payroll, and Ms. Cordle stated the savings and impacts would be lessened, but the Engineer's premiums would still increase to around \$134,000. Commissioner Shupe stated the goal should be to help the General Fund, and Mr. Zody noted the budgeting for premiums would have to change, and agencies would no longer just assume a certain percentage of payroll for premiums.

Ms. Cordle noted the other issue would be the ability to direct charge the Engineer for CORSA premiums is still in litigation, although a recent court decision on the matter appears to favor the ability of county commissioners to enact a direct charge. Ms.

Cordle continued that the odd result of the scenarios is BDD, which increases somewhat but not nearly as dramatically as the other agencies with large claims experience.

Commissioner Myers asked if the Board should make the change effective for next year, or have it as a discussion for 2011. Commissioner Shupe asked if the Board needed to make a decision now, and Ms. Cordle stated the Board could make the change effective for 2010, but she is hesitant to advise that, as budgets are pretty well set for 2010. Commissioner Shupe asked if one claim could have a large negative impact on the county, and Ms. Cordle stated she did not believe that would be the case, and Mr. Zody noted that is a risk under the Group Retro program, but it would have to be a catastrophic claim.

The Board directed Ms. Cordle to prepare the issue for discussion at the next Commissioners Roundtable meeting.

Executive Session

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to enter into Executive Session at 9:20 a.m. for discussion relative to the 911 Coordinator position and sick leave policy involving an Auditor's Office employee.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn from Executive Session at 9:35 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

No official actions were taken.

Commissioner Myers stated they would need to look into the issue of sick leave donation more closely, and Commissioner Shupe stated she was not sure why the Auditor would entertain any such policy. Ms. Cordle stated her concern is the Engineer and some other offices have stated a desire to implement a leave donation policy, but the Board has thus far declined to do so.

Commissioner Shupe asked if a grandparent has the ability to take sick leave for a grandchild, and Ms. Cordle said only if the grandparent is providing the direct care for the child.

Ms. Cordle noted that the Franklin County Benefits Cooperative had contacted her to inform her that claims reserves for health care have fallen below 10% to about 6%, and she believes there may be an increase in premiums coming to replenish the reserves.

9:30 a.m. Meeting with Jon Kochis

The Board of Commissioners met with County Emergency Management Director Jon Kochis to discuss personnel and positions within the EMA Office. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present was Scott Zody.

Mr. Kochis stated that he is currently ending one grant period and is preparing to begin another, and needed to discuss filling a position with the Board.

Mr. Kochis stated that he currently has a vacancy for the Field/Operational Manager position, and he would like to fill that position and classify it similar to that of Christy Noland, the other full time employee in the office. Mr. Kochis noted that his budget would support the position, and he would like to bring someone on to work with Bob

Clark, his part time employee who will be retiring within the next year. Mr. Kochis stated his 2010 budget would accommodate the Commissioners 9% reduction, and the LEPC has committed to make up the difference for 2010 so no impact would be made to the General Fund. Mr. Kochis stated his budget would even accommodate a 3% pay raise for employees, but he understands the current fiscal climate may not allow that to occur.

Commissioner Myers asked how Mr. Clark's position is funded, and Mr. Kochis stated Mr. Clark is funded under his Homeland Security grant, while he, Ms. Noland, and the Field/Ops position were funded under the Emergency Management Planning Grant (EMPG). Commissioner Shupe asked if the grant would be renewed in 2010, and Mr. Kochis stated the EMPG grant has been in pace for decades, and has increased each year, as it is a favored Congressional Program, so he expects funding to remain very stable.

Commissioner Kiger stated that the Commissioners recently approved a raise for Mr. Kochis, and Mr. Kochis stated that was an adjustment approved by the Board to bring his position more in line with similar sized counties, and he understands if the Board is reluctant to grant any pay raise for 2010.

Commissioner Myers asked if there would be any cost to the General Fund, and Mr. Kochis stated there would be zero impact, since the LEPC would make up the match differential. Commissioner Myers asked if there would be any equipment costs, and Mr. Kochis stated equipment is covered through a different grant.

Commissioner Myers asked why the Field/Ops position would be equivalent to Ms. Noland's position, and Mr. Kochis stated that positions are very similar, just with slightly different focus – Ms. Noland is more of an office manager, and the Filed/ops position works more directly with first responders.

Commissioner Shupe asked if Mr. Kochis had any candidates in mind for the position, and Mr. Kochis stated he is aware of two possible candidates – a retired Ohio National Guardsman, and a current state employee, but others will likely apply as well.

Commissioner Shupe asked if Mr. Kochis would be asking for any funding, and Mr. Kochis stated he only needs the Board's approval to fill the position. Commissioner Myers stated his concern is providing any pay raise at this time, and Mr. Kochis stated he understands, but at the same time does not want to lose Ms. Noland to a better-paid position elsewhere. Commissioner Myers stated that if Ms. Noland is happy, she should not want to leave, but if she wants to leave, she will, regardless of pay, but added the new office space the EMA has moved into should help.

Commissioner Shupe asked how Mr. Kochis determined pay raises, and Mr. Kochis stated he usually follows the Commissioners guidance. Commissioner Myers noted the office has grown from one employee to three and one-half, and Mr. Kochis stated most of that is the post-9/11 response to emergency management.

The Board approved moving forward with hiring the Field/Ops position.

10:00 a.m. Commissioners' Regular Meeting

A regular meeting of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, December 10, 2009 beginning at 10:00 a.m., with the following Commissioners present: Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Mary Beth Lane, Romana Kaleem, Becky Baughman, and Scott Zody.

Announcements

Mr. Zody announced there would be two potential add-on items pending the outcome of the Review Session.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of minutes of Tuesday, November 24, 2009

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voiting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Approval of Partial Assignment of Rights and Obligations under easement agreement – Toll Gate Road Elementary and Middle School Subdivision - RPC

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Partial Assignment of Rights and Obligations under easement agreement – Toll Gate Road Elementary and Middle School Subdivision – RPC, see resolution 09-12.10.a

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voiting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Approval of Delinquent Sewer Rentals – Licking County Water & Wastewater Department

On motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve Delinquent Sewer Rentals – Licking County Water & Wastewater Department, see resolution 09-12.10.b

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voiting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Approval of Contract Award for the removal and land application of Biosolids - Utilities

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a contract award for the removal and land application of biosolids for the Utilities Department, see resolution 09-12.10.c

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voiting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Approval of entering into a contract between the Fairfield County Commissioners and the Fairfield County Community Action Agency for Recycling Services for 2010

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve entering into a contract between the Fairfield County Commissioners and the Fairfield County Community Action Agency for Recycling Services for 2010, see resolution 09-12.10.d

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voiting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Approval to Rescind Resolution 09-09.15.w, Approval of Account to Account Transfer (3688 MUNIS)

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners

voted to approve to Rescind Resolution 09-09.15.w, Approval of Account to Account Transfer (3688 MUNIS), see resolution 09-12.10.e

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Approval to Rescind Resolution 09-12.01.o, Approval of Memo Expenditure – Fairfield County Job & Family Services

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to Rescind Resolution 09-12.01.o, Approval of Memo Expenditure – Fairfield County Job & Family Services, see resolution 09-12.10.f.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Approval of Engineer resolutions

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve resolutions for the County Engineer as follows:

09-12.10.g Approval of an Agreement between Fairfield County, Robert L. Stebelton, Rita Stebelton and Harold Stebelton - Engineer

09-12.10.h Approval of the LPA Safety Study Agreement between the Fairfield County Engineer and the Ohio Department of Transportation - Engineer

09-12.10.i Approval of Change Order for the GRE-21, FAL-C54-1.03 City of Lancaster Campground Road over the Hocking River Bridge Replacement Project - Engineer

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Approval of contract amendment for the FY2008 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Agreement of Administrative Services – CDC of Ohio

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve a contract amendment for the FY2008 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Agreement of Administrative Services – CDC of Ohio, see resolution 09-12.10.j

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Approval of request for payment and status of funds report – FY2008 CDBG Formula Program – Drawdown #204

On the motion of Mike Kiger and the second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve request for payment and status of funds report – FY2008 CDBG Formula Program – Drawdown #204, see resolution 09-12.10.k

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Approval Board Appointments (FCBDD & RPC)

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve appointments to the Board of Developmental Disabilities and Regional Planning Commission as follows:

09-12.10.m Approval of Appointment of Raymond Schmidt to the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities

09-12.10.n Approval of Appointment of Frederick Destadio to the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities

09-12.10.o Approval of the Appointment of Doug Ingram to the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

09-12.10.p Approval of the Appointment of Phil Stringer to the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Approval to Amend Certificate, and Reduction of Appropriations for Fund 7016 – County Lodging Tax

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve to Amend Certificate, and Reduction of Appropriations for Fund 7016 – County Lodging Tax, see resolution 09-12.10.q

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Approval of resolutions for the Major Crimes Unit

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve resolutions for the Major Crimes Unit as follows:

09-12.10.r Approval to Amend Certificate, Update Revenue budget and appropriate from unappropriated for Fund 2701 – 2007 OCJS MCU Grant fund

09-12.10.s Approval to Amend Certificate, Update Revenue budget and appropriate from unappropriated for Fund 2670 – 2006 OCJS MCU Grant fund

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Approval of Financial Resolutions

On motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve financial resolutions as follows:

09-12.10.t Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – MCU Project Income into 2764 FY2010 MCU Byrne JAG Grant and 2765 FY2010 MCU OH Drug Law Enforcement Grant

09-12.10.u Approval of Fund to Fund Transfer – General Fund 1001 – Fairfield County Job & Family Services – CPS Relief

09-12.10.v Approval of Account to Account Transfer – General Fund – Veterans Services

09-12.10.w Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Coroner

09-12.10.x Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Coroner

09-12.10.y Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Family Drug Court

09-12.10.z Approval of Account to Account Transfer - Auditor

09-12.10.aa	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Adult Probation
09-12.10.bb	Approval of Account to Account Transfer - EMA
09-12.10.cc	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Economic Development
09-12.10.dd	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Family Adult & Children First Council
09-12.10.ee	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Auditor
09-12.10. ff	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Auditor REA
09-12.10.gg	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – ADAMH
09-12.10.hh	Approval of Account to Account Transfer – Commissioners Advertising
09-12.10.ii	Approval to Appropriated from Unappropriated – EMA Homeland Security
09-12.10.jj	Approval to Appropriated from Unappropriated –Engineer
09-12.10.kk	Approval to Appropriated from Unappropriated – Engineer
09-12.10.ll	Approval to Appropriated from Unappropriated – Engineer – Road & Bridge Levy

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
 Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Approval of Authorization for Payment of Bills, December 10, 2009, check date December 11, 2009

On the motion of Mike Kiger and second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the authorization for payment of bills December 10, 2009, check date December 11, 2009, see resolution 09-12.10.mm

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
 Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Review Session

The Board of Commissioners met to review legal issues, correspondence, and pending and future action items. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Romana Kaleem, Becky Baughman, Joe Spybey, Staci Krisley, Mary Beth Lane, Michelle George and Scott Zody.

Ms. Kaleem explained that she was present to represent Glen Pratt of Peck Schaffer relative to seeking the Board's approval to redo the amortization schedule for some bonds that were issued in 2006 for the Fairfield County District Library. The Library has paid ahead on the principal amount and would now like to rework the amortization schedule to reduce their payments for the remainder of the term of the bonds.

Commissioner Myers asked why the library made the pre-payments on the principal, and Ms. Baughman stated the library had sufficient funding to do so, but now with recent state budget reductions, the library needs to save some money, and can do so by reducing their payments on the bonds. Commissioner Myers asked if the rate of the bonds could be reduced or refinanced, and Ms. Kaleem stated the type of bond being used doesn't allow that, and the current interest rate is very good.

Approval of Authorizing an amendment of certain documents in connection with Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2006 (Fairfield County Library Foundation Project) of the County of Fairfield, Ohio and related actions

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an amendment of certain documents in connection with Economic Development Revenue Bonds, Series 2006 (Fairfield County Library Foundation Project) of the County of Fairfield, Ohio and related actions, see resolution 09-12.10.00

Review, cont.

Mr. Spybey provided an overview of options for installing back up generator power for the Courthouse in the event of a power outage such as what occurred the previous day. Mr. Spybey stated the Claypool Electric had conducted an estimate back in 2006 for a 500Kw unit to power the Courthouse and Hall of Justice, and their estimate was \$150,000, and to do the same for the Liberty Center would be \$114,000. Mr. Spybey stated the units are large, and would be mounted on trailers so they could be pulled in the parking lot or parked in front of the buildings

Mr. Spybey stated the alternative would be to hook up smaller units just to power the Data Processing Room with the computer and telephone server in order to keep those units running, along with the heating and cooling units in the server room. That would cost approximately \$29,000.

Commissioner Myers asked if that would also operate the elevator, and Mr. Spybey stated the elevator requires three-phase power, and only the large generator unit could provide that. The elevator can be manually lowered, but if it is at the ground floor when the power goes out, it cannot be moved up.

Commissioner Kiger asked if power could be run across the street from the Sheriff's Office, which never seems to lose power, and Mr. Spybey stated that the Sheriff's Office is on a different electrical grid, and does not think it would be possible.

Mr. Spybey stated he would prefer to install the larger unit, but right now they are cost-prohibitive unless there might be some grant funding or EMA available to help.

Commissioner Kiger asked if the back up generators owned by the Utilities Department could be used, and Mr. Spybey stated they could, but if a water or sewer plant is down, the units would go there first, and there would be at least an hour or two delay in transporting and hooking up the units.

Commissioner Shupe asked what the costs would be for the whole building units, and Mr. Spybey stated about \$200,000.

Commissioner Myers stated he would at least like to see an ability to keep minimal functions going, and Mr. Spybey stated the smaller option would provide enough power to allow some limited functions out of the Data Processing Room – for example, the Auditor's Office could process payroll there.

Ms. Knisley noted that there is only \$600,000 available for capital project through the end of 2010, and if the Prosecutor moves to the JFS building, renovations will need to occur. Mr. Spybey stated the he believes the Prosecutor's request for remodeling is too extensive, and some value engineering could be applied to significantly reduce those costs. Commissioner Myers stated there may be some options for funding some of the work that could be explored. Commissioner Shupe stated the Worknet still needs to find somewhere to move to as well. Mr. Spybey stated he believes it would be a good idea to move the Prosecutor's Office to JFS – when utility costs are factored in, the resulting move would provide a 3 year payoff to the General Fund. Commissioner Myers stated the former EMA/Parks office building could also be sold to help finance the renovations.

Mr. Spybey stated that, getting back to the generator issue, he has 2 small 5000 watt units that they currently use to supply emergency power to the dog shelter and one for the server room, but the server room needs a better solution.

Commissioner Myers asked Mr. Spybey which alternative he is recommending, and Mr. Spybey stated it would be nice to have instant change-over when the power goes out, but that option is expensive. Commissioner Myers asked if the unit would be gas or diesel, and Mr. Spybey stated he can hook into the existing natural gas lines to power the units.

The Board approved a proposal from Fairfield County Utilities Director Tony Vogel to reclassify several employees and make necessary adjustment to their pay scales. Commissioner Myers stated he favors Mr. Vogel moving towards a merit pay based system. Commissioner Shupe asked if the Utilities Department provided pay raises in 2005, and Ms. Knisley stated they did. Commissioner Myers stated that Mr. Vogel is reorganizing the department and doing better, and Commissioner Kiger stated he would prefer to see no pay increases at this time, due to the perception.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to prepare a resolution for the following week to appoint Chris Swindells to the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Ms. Knisley presented the Board with a resolution for the Prosecutor's Office, stating the Prosecutor needs approximately \$30,000 to balance his 2009 budget, and will transfer \$20,000 from the Furtherance of Justice Fund to cover most, but needs approximately \$10,000 from the General Fund.

Commissioner Myers asked if the Victim/Witness employee was still full time, and Ms. Knisley stated that she believes she is, and Commissioner Shupe asked if this would be all that would be needed to get them through to the end of the year, and Ms. Knisley stated that as far as she knows, yes.

Approval of Account to Count Transfer – Prosecutor

On the motion of Jon Myers and second of Mike Kiger, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve an account to account transfer for the Prosecutor, see resolution 09-12.10.nn

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Jon Myers, Mike Kiger and Judith Shupe

Review, cont.

The Board directed Mr. Zody to prepare a resolution to appoint Tom Alexander to the Fairfield County Alcohol, Drug Addition & Mental Health Board.

Commissioner Shupe stated that, according to an email received from Patty Bratton, the Solid Waste District is attempting to stop commercial recycling, and is defining school and non-profits as "private businesses". Commissioner Shupe stated she believes the Board should challenge Ms. Phillips on that interpretation.

11:00 a.m. Meeting with Jeanette Addington

The Board of Commissioners met with Financial Consultant Jeanette Addington to review the 2010 General Fund budget. Commissioners present were Judith Shupe, Jon Myers and Mike Kiger. Also present were Staci Knisley Mary Beth Lane, Michelle George and Scott Zody.

Ms. Addington stated the numbers are looking close – she and Ms. Knisley reduced the Auditor's Office by 9% and she talked to the Prosecutor about reducing his budget but he only volunteered about \$2,000. Ms. Knisley stated it should be about \$87,000 less.

Commissioner Shupe asked what the Prosecutor's reasoning was, and Ms. Addington stated nearly all of the Prosecutor's General Fund budget goes to salaries and benefits. Ms. Knisley added that Dave Kessler will only be one payroll in 2010, but the Board will need to make it clear to Mr. Landefeld that they cannot afford to provide any additional funding in 2010. Ms. Addington stated that the Prosecutor did seem willing to work with them.

Ms. Knisley stated she is still concerned relative to encumbrances and how those will affect year-end cash carry over. The Finance Department will be sending an email out next Tuesday relative to year-end activities, and Ms. Knisley plans to piggy-back that email with one of her own asking agencies and offices to cancel as many General Fund P.O.'s as possible.

Ms. Knisley stated the Historical Parks allocation is still unresolved, and she has not heard any reaction from the Auditor relative to her budget numbers. Commissioner Shupe stated the Auditor won't have to lay off any employees, and Ms. Knisley stated she believes she can make payroll based upon her numbers.

Commissioner Kiger asked if the budget numbers include the 9% cuts, and Ms. Knisley stated they do – the Auditor requested \$1.3 million and the budget appropriates \$1.1 million.

Commissioner Kiger asked if the Auditor was being cut, why wasn't the Prosecutor being cut as well? Ms. Knisley stated the Prosecutor would have to eliminate positions, but it appears the Auditor would not need to lay anyone off. Ms. Knisley stated she should have a better idea once the Sales Tax receipts are deposited.

Commissioner Myers asked if the Board should ask the Auditor to meet regarding her budget, and Commissioner Kiger stated she knew that she needed to reduce her budget and refused to voluntarily do so, so she will just have to work with the numbers provided. Commissioner Shupe stated there is enough funding left that her personnel will not be affected.

Ms. Knisley cautioned that while cash carry over is projected to be around \$6.1 million, she believes it will be less due to encumbrances – probably in the \$5.8-5.9 million range. Regarding the Auditor's payroll, right now she is at \$502,000, and Ms. Knisley budgeted her for \$515,000.

Commissioner Myers stated he remains concerned relative to the Historical Parks budget. Ms. Addington asked if a partial allocation would be better, and Commissioner Shupe stated the \$127,000 represents a \$140,000 allocation minus 9%. Commissioner Myers stated the agreement made with Historical Parks was that extra funding would be provided as long as it was available.

Commissioner Kiger stated that he shares those concerns, and Ms. Addington stated she recalls that same commitment. Commissioner Shupe stated that Mr. Fey is investing most of his resources in Rock Mill, and it is paying dividends in that a national covered bridge association is holding it's convention in Fairfield County this year.

Commissioner Kiger stated that while he supports the Parks, he does not believe the county finances are in good enough shape to support this for 2010. Commissioner Shupe stated the Board approved the sales tax increase and things should start improving soon. Mr. Zody cautioned that, even though the sales tax rate has been increased, collections over the past 4 months have been trending down. Ms. Addington agreed, stating that people are struggling right now between wants and needs, and government is no exception.

Commissioner Myers stated he would feel better knowing what Barb is doing. Commissioner Shupe stated she has not reacted to the letter, and Ms. Addington stated elected officials tend to react to each other.

Commissioner Shupe noted that Gene Wood even offered to send one of his employees down to the Auditor to help out. Commissioner Myers asked what the separate appropriation of \$53,000 represented, and Ms. Krisley stated that is for a real estate assessor, and for some reason, Ms. Curtiss always wants that budgeted separately, but it only represents salary and benefits.

Commissioner Shupe stated Fairfield County is in better shape than many other countries, and the other county officials worked well with the Board in making cuts.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, on the motion of Mike Kiger and the second of Jon Myers, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 11:40 a.m.

Roll call vote on the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Mike Kiger, Jon Myers and Judith Shupe

Mike Kiger Commissioner	Jon D. Myers Commissioner	Judith K. Shupe Commissioner
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Scott Zody, Clerk/Manager

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS' IS SCHEDULED FOR
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M.**