

The Banks County Board of Commissioners held a called budget worksession/meeting on April 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the Banks County Courthouse Annex.

**Members Present:**

Chairman Charles Turk  
Vice Chairman Danny Maxwell  
Commissioner Keith Gardiner  
Commissioner Bo Garrison  
Commissioner Sammy Reece

**Staff Present:**

County Clerk Regina Gailey  
Finance Officer Randy Failyer

**1. Call to Order**

Ch. Turk called the worksession/meeting to order.

**2. FY2022 Budget**

Department budgets were discussed as follows:

**Public Utilities:**

**Horace Gee**

- **Wastewater**

Due to the new wastewater being constructed soon, Mr. Gee asked for 1 additional operator now in order to achieve certification before the plant is built. Ch. Turk asked if the 2 existing were certified yet. Mr. Gee stated not yet. Ch. Turk stated once they had achieved their Class III certification, the other position could be considered. Ch. Turk clarified that the county pays for the first certification test for each class but all additional tests are to be paid by the employee. Mr. Gee confirmed.

- **Water Administration**

- **Waterplant Operations**

Mr. Gee stated there were 4 Class I operators that must renew their license this year. He also stated there was 1 Class II operator up for renewal as well.

- **Water Distribution**

Mr. Gee stated the current employees will need to be certified in Collection as well as Treatment when the new plant is open. He also asked that the board to consider an additional position in order to have 2 crews.

- **Planning & Zoning**

**Paul Ruark**

- **Contingency**  
All agreed to leave the contingency at \$100,000
- **Technology**
- **Recycling** **Leslie George**
  - Ch. Turk stated the water/sewer, propane & telephone could be moved to Fire/EMS since they share a building.
  - Ms. George stated another Tire Grant/Roundup was coming soon.

**Recess: 10:38 a.m.**

**Reconvene: 10:53 a.m.**

- **Magistrate Court** **Judge Ivan Mote**
- **Historic Building Maintenance**
- **Natural Resources**
- **Department of Family & Children Services**
- **Mental Health**  
Ch. Turk stated Banks County received no services in the county last year. Comm. Reece stated he would check with the Sheriff to see if they utilized the services.
- **Extension Service** **Greg Pittman, Acting County Agent**  
**Zach McCann, Ag Resource Agent**
  - Mr. Pittman stated the new agent should be on board by June 1<sup>st</sup> and the Fulltime Administrative Assistant should be on board July 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Mr. McCann stated camp would be happening this year and all training and events should resume. He stated he would be working toward grants for additional education.
- **Board of Equalization**
- **Courthouse**
- **Annex**
- **Coroner**
- **Roads & Bridges:**

- Prison Detail: Ch. Turk stated the goal was to move the prison detail to the Sheriff's Department and the funds used for the contract currently would be transferred.
- Uniforms: Ch. Turk stated the uniforms should be for boots only.

- **Hotel/Motel**

**Recess: 11:38 a.m.**

**Reconvened: 2:00 p.m.**

- **Tax Commissioner**

**Becky Carlan**

Ms. Carlan stated she is considering the possibility of migrating to a web-based software which would require a \$15,000 setup fee and \$20,000 yearly maintenance fee. She stated that she was negotiating the price.

**Recess: 2:15 p.m.**

**Reconvene: 2:30 p.m.**

- **Adult Education**

**James Dumas, Adult Literacy Council**

**Jenny Kitchens, Literacy Council Treasurer**

**Sharon Clark, Adult Learning Lead Teacher**

Mr. Dumas stated the Council had applied for grants asking for assistance in funding scholarships for GED students and funds for transportation. Ms. Clark stated they planned to graduate at least 20 for FY2022.

- **Clerk of Superior Court**

**Tim Harper**

- **Fire/EMS**

**Steve Nichols**

Chief Nichols stated he was asking to move the part-time training officer to fulltime. He stated this would be a firefighter/paramedic. This would be a salaried position and would be the same as a Captain. Human Resources Director Arlene Ivey stated it could not be a salary exempt employee unless the position supervised 3 or more employees. She stated it could be a salary nonexempt but would have to be paid overtime and would have to clock in and out.

### **3. Adjournment**

With no further business:

Motion to adjourn: Bo Garrison

Second: Danny Maxwell

All aye votes and meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

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Chairman

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County Clerk

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