

PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL
Budget Meeting – Second Reading
September 29, 2016

The Porter County Council met on Thursday, September 29, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Administration Center, 155 Indiana-Suite 205, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Mr. Whitten called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present were Council Member Dan Whitten, Council Member Karen Conover, Council Member Jim Biggs, Council Member Sylvia Graham, Council Member Mike Jessen, Council Member Bob Poparad and Council Member Jeremy Rivas. Also present was Council Attorney Harold Harper, Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Auditor Chief Deputy Toni Downing and Council Administrative Assistant Joy Blakely.

Tourism PCCRVC

Convention & Visitors Bureau – 7304-3000

Mr. Whitten, Ok, we are here for second reading again. Why don't we go back and re-visit Tourism.

Mitch Peters, We're actually third reading correct?

Mr. Whitten, No this is actually second reading...we are revisiting second. You will be at the third reading with everybody...

Mitch Peters, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, That's our final reading. You are at your second, second reading today.

Mitch Peters, Thank you. On line item 3993 the Expo, Parks, MOH and Museum we propose in the 2017 Budget in the spirit of cooperation and support of the venues to increase that to \$150,000.

Mr. Biggs, Thank you.

Mr. Whitten, Do you have a copy of...that.

Mitch Peters, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, If you just changed that it's got to change the big number right?

Mitch Peters, Oh yeah.

Mr. Whitten, Let's change that to a \$150,000 and see what the big number is.

Mr. Poparad, I'll make the motion of \$1,402,652. Is that the number?

Mr. Whitten, It appears to be.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a second on the floor, discussion? First of all I thank you guys for coming back. I know we have had a lot of conversations and I appreciate your...

Mitch Peters, Yeah, I did have some conversations with Dan about this and want to get it resolved now.

Mr. Poparad, Thank you.

Mr. Whitten, And from the Venues perspective I think that as I have said and I don't want to become long winded here, but I think this is an opportunity for the Venues to see this as a partnership with Tourism. And I think it is an opportunity for Tourism to partnership with the Venues. I think the Venues should be appreciative of this and I think that you guys should take advantage of the opportunity to show this publically as what it is a wonderful partnership.

Mitch Peters, And we appreciate the Venues being in attendance tonight as well, thank you.

Mr. Whitten, I think that from the Venues perspective you guys have come to really put monies to pretty good use correct...I think what we are probably going to do at some point...maybe I will have you guys come back at a meeting and give us kind of break-out of what you're doing and all the cool stuff that this money is helping you accomplish. You guys should come and we could have a real opportunity to see your generous monies go to what they are doing for the Communities.

Mitch Peters, Thank-you.

Mr. Whitten, Ok with that all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mitch Peters, Well that's a better vote than the last time.

Ms. Conover, Thank you.

Mr. Poparad, Thank you Lorelei.

Mr. Whitten, Thanks a lot.

Mr. Biggs, Thank you Lorelei.

West Porter Township Fire District

Special Fire Service – General

Mr. Whitten, Let's go to West Porter Township Fire Protection.

Attorney Dave Hollenbeck, Good Evening, Chuck and I are before you tonight because about three (3) years ago the legislature and their wisdom changed the law and provided that when you have a non-elected governing board and in our case the governing board is appointed by the County Commissioners. Then they don't have the authority to establish a budget, tax rate and a levy. They need to come before you...I think this is the third year that we've done this. I will be happy to answer any questions that you may have. Their budget and tax rate is pretty straight forward and they use about 90% of their money to enter into an annual contract with the Volunteer Fire Department so that there is Fire Protection for the Porter County side of Lake of the Four Seasons. And other than that they don't have a lot of function. Chuck has been our chairman for many years and I know that the Fire Department is very appreciative of the West Porter Township Work.

Mr. Whitten, So it looks like the number on West Porter Township Fire District Special Fire Service General is \$117,260. What's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Move to approve.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Whitten, A whole lot of motions and a second, discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Special Fire - Cumulative

Mr. Whitten, And then we have your Cumulative Fund which is \$75,000. What's your pleasure?

Ms. Graham, Move.

Mr. Poparad, Second, I've got...

Ms. Conover, I have \$72,500

Mr. Poparad, \$72,500

Mr. Whitten, \$72,500 that's what happens when you get older. \$72,500 I assume the motion and second concurs.

Ms. Graham, Move to approve.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? Fantastic.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Attorney Dave Hollenbeck, Thank you.

Mr. Whitten, Alright have a good evening...thanks.

Mr. Poparad, They're all leaving...come on don't leave.

Mr. Whitten, You don't want to stay for the whole show and you are welcome to leave now that's fine.

Mr. Poparad, We only got about three more hours.

Mr. Whitten, Because we will be...

Mr. Poparad, We'll be out of here by ten.

(Laughter)

Audience member, you are making history

Public Defender

Public Defender General Fund 1000-1084-84

Mr. Whitten, Public Defender

Attorney Ken Elwood, Good evening.

Ms. Conover, Good evening.

Mr. Whitten, Hello Mr. Elwood, do you want to go now or at the end?

Attorney Ken Elwood, Now would be fine Mr. Whitten.

Judge Bradford, He would definitely like to go now.

Mr. Whitten, So it looks like the \$651,964 is the same as it was the year before.

Ms. Graham, Move.

Ms. Conover, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a second on the floor discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Rivas, (Inaudible)

Public Defender Supplemental 1200-0000-84

Mr. Whitten, PD Supplemental

Ms. Conover, Move.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion...

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, And a couple of seconds, any discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Attorney Ken Elwood, Thank you.

Superior Courts #1: Judge Bradford

General Fund Judge Bradford – 1000-1082-82

Judge Bradford, Good job, maybe you ought to stay here and help me with mine. Mr. President, would it be too much of an imposition to take Superior Courts 1 ahead of General Courts?

Mr. Whitten, No, that's fine, let's go right to it Judge. Superior Court #1.

Judge Bradford, Ok, I have something that I want to share with you and I can guarantee that you will be hearing about this situation all night. Ok, what I have given to you is a memorandum as to why the salaries in Superior Court #1 should be increase to the level that you increased Superior Court #6 too last spring. I won't sit here and read this to you, you can read it on your own. But it's basically fairness...there are three staff members in DO6 so they do thirty-three percent of the support work load for one Judge. In DO1 we have two full-time Judicial Officers and five employees so they're doing forty percent. So like I said, I see it as basic fairness that those positions should be treated the same. They all work hard, everyone of the Courts...everyone of the employees. I have been blessed with some excellent employees and survived the turnover after three of them had been here over twenty-three years. And so far so good with the new ones, but they get a little frustrated when they see people doing the same thing they do getting paid more.

Mr. Whitten, In all fairness...and by the way I am not disagreeing with what you are saying. Two things, one is we are going to be dealing with our raises at the end so this is something we will address when we address the raises. And two there will be other requests for particular reasons for giving raises. So this is one that we will take up at that particular time as well...all the Courts quite frankly I would expect to be coming. And I think we probably saw this coming a mile away as they say.

Judge Bradford, Oh well, I assumed you were are going to take this up later that's why I put it in writing.

Mr. Whitten, Sir, I appreciate that...

Judge Bradford, Because you hear a lot of things in this short period of time and I wanted to make that point before we went to anything else.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Bradford, I didn't do any comparisons on the General Courts salaries, but those positions are comparable to the others in the court system.

Mr. Whitten, Very good, so Madame Auditor make sure we have this as part of our salary discussion. Ok, so your proposed 2017 Budget it has salary increase in it is that because of this?

Judge Bradford, Yes, and that is the only increase...

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Bradford, The total budget was up \$16,000 dollars and that because the salary increase was \$16,000 dollars...

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Bradford, In Superior Court #1.

Mr. Whitten, And by the way the reason we are...so the number is the same as it was without the raises?

Judge Bradford, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, And the reason we are looking at these numbers at the end is...quite candidly I want to make sure when we get to the end how much money we have.

Judge Bradford, Oh, I absolutely understand that.

Mr. Whitten, That's why we are doubling back to them. But about that guys, you understand the Judges and when I say Judges you understand there will probably be more than one consideration requests.

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, With that in mind the number is \$169,400 dollars, what's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Ms. Conover, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a couple of seconds, discussion?

Mr. Poparad, I thought it was...

Ms. Graham, \$169,400.

Mr. Whitten, \$169,400.

Mr. Poparad, Ok, I was look at something else.

Mr. Biggs, Can I ask a question?

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Mr. Biggs, Judge Bradford...

Judge Bradford, Yes?

Mr. Biggs, It is our understanding was that last year or the year before last the Criminal Code procedure were re-written...

Judge Bradford, I believe that it was effective July 2014.

Mr. Biggs, How has that effected your case loads?

Judge Bradford, I haven't noticed any difference in the case load. Because they basically reclassified the same things that were crimes before are crimes now. But they did reclassify them. We may have a few less Class D or Level 6 felonies because they turned some of those into misdemeanors and those end up in the County Division. And they may have gotten an increase, but I haven't notice appreciable difference.

Mr. Biggs, Your saying it hasn't lessened...

Judge Bradford, Oh no, I've never in the thirty some years that I have been on the bench found that thought about the possible penalty before he or she committed the crime.

(Laughter)

Mr. Whitten, They don't do a cause benefit analysis?

Judge Bradford, No, no.

Mr. Whitten, That's too bad.

Judge Bradford, Like the classic story on the death penalty on the hangings in Old England there would be pickpockets roaming the crowds stealing things which was a hanging offense too, so obviously it didn't have much effect.

Mr. Whitten, As an deterrent. Ok, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Bradford, What was that figure that you had?

Mr. Whitten, \$169,400 dollars.

Judge Bradford, Oh ok, I was looking at the wrong line...got it.

General Courts

General Courts General Fund 1000-1078-78

Mr. Whitten, General Courts 1078

Judge Bradford, Again, except for the salaries they are the same. I did move some things from one line item to another. I wanted to mention two of those.

Mr. Whitten, Sure.

Judge Bradford, I took \$11,000 dollars from Juror expenses and put it into Law Books for two reasons. It is my hope that for the first time in I don't know how many years that I could not come back here at the end of next year to get money for

Law Books...it's a never ending battle. And I have instructed the Court Administrators, who are the Jury Administrators who would request the Auditor pay jury fees per diems and mileage out of the Jury pay fund. That is a separate fund and not a General Budget Fund.

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Judge Bradford, And deplete that before they start on line item 1350 (Jury Expense). The Jury Pay Fund \$2.00 dollars from every criminal court cost and infractions and I think I even saw in the statue this evening, even in deferred Prosecution from Prosecutors \$2.00 dollars goes into that fund for every one of those cases. And it can only be used to pay Juror fees and mileage.

Mr. Whitten, Ok. You know that the Prosecutor was telling us that before this change in law that there were...it effects cash bonds or requirement for cash bonds, would that effect any of your money?

Judge Bradford, Well the Supreme Court has adopted Criminal Rule 26.

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Judge Bradford, It won't be effective in Porter County until January 1st, 2018.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Bradford, There were nine pilot counties that were in this study on evidence based bond issues and reduction of bond or...nobody's quite sure the total understanding of that.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Bradford, Basically, as I understand it said that if there is a defendant who is not a threat to the Community or a flight risk that you can release him without bond. And the language maybe stronger than that...maybe you must.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Bradford, I haven't reread it.

Mr. Whitten, Gotcha, ok thank you very much on that.

Judge Bradford, But I know that the Prosecuting Attorneys Council are hoping that they can convince the court to un-adopt that.

Mr. Whitten, I understand. A \$318,438 dollars, what's your pleasure?

Mr. Poparad, I'll make the motion.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion.

Mr. Biggs, Second.

Mr. Whitten, And a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Bradford, Thank you all.

Mr. Whitten, Thank you very much, have a good evening.

Ms. Graham, Thank you.

Superior Courts #2: Judge Alexa

General Fund Judge Alexa – 1000-1083-83

Mr. Whitten, Superior Court #2.

Judge Alexa, Good evening.

Mr. Whitten, Hello Judge, how are you?

Judge Alexa, Good, mine is just a little bit different.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Alexa, As you might know, if it weren't for the last minute nothing would get done. So, I looked over the budget today and I have an amended on for you because I had some changes to make.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Alexa, And I have copies for each of you as well. I will tell you what they are briefly. Number one I have in the budget here I think was \$16,500 dollars for chairs for the Court room...twenty (20) chairs. They chairs that are in there people are sitting down and going through them. In fact we got so bad that the Prosecutor would bring his own chairs for the hearings.

Mr. Whitten, From home?

(Laughter)

Judge Alexa, No, from his office...maybe from home, I'm not sure. But in any event that's what they were doing. And I have looked at that, we have twenty (20). We tipped one of them over and those chairs were there when I was in the Prosecutors office in 1975 and I looked at the back and it says here Paoli Chair Company, Paoli Indiana 1966. That's when those chair were put in.

Mr. Biggs, So the warranty is expired.

Judge Alexa, It has.

Mr. Poparad, We bought local though.

Judge Alexa, You did...no they're in Paoli...well that's local isn't it. But in any event the Commissioner's stepped in and said you know we can help you with that and so they did so I am removing that \$16,500 dollars from the budget.

Mr. Whitten, Alright, so the revised budget is...

Judge Alexa, Well there's more.

Mr. Whitten, Well I am looking at this and I want her to update it...

Judge Alexa, I'm sorry...here is a copy for Vicki too.

Mr. Whitten, Yes...

Ms. Graham, Everybody have one? There is an extra one.

Mr. Whitten, Pass that extra one down there.

Judge Alexa, I'm sorry, as I said if it weren't for the last minute.

Mr. Whitten, That's ok.

Judge Alexa, So it removes those. The other thing it does in the Salary section of it in the top line it's say Judge in the County Contribution it didn't carry through all the zero's it only had \$500 dollars in that.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Oh, we fixed that.

Judge Alexa, They fixed that.

Mr. Whitten, Well that seems like a fair compromise.

Judge Alexa, Well, you know.

Mr. Whitten, \$500 dollars for the Judge.

Judge Alexa, (Laughter) and the new chairs.

Mr. Poparad, So he gave up his salary for the chairs...

Judge Alexa, So that takes care of that part of it. The other part has to do with...and Roger (Judge Bradford) talked about that for a bit on the salaries and I put together...well that's not true, I had my Bailiff put together a sheet for you that lists by court each of the different positions that we are talking about. And you will see at the bottom...well let's back up. If you go through it line by line you will see Court Reporters, Bailiffs and Secretaries. You will see that all of the five Courts the first five are all the same for all those salaries. If you get to the last line you will find that DO6 is about \$4,000 dollars higher. That happened in a midyear change, based upon I think an employee leaving and they just distributed the salary among the others and of course you folks approved that. But it through things out of balance, at the top you'll see there is five (5) employees and two (2) Judges...Roger (Judge Bradford) talked about that. But I put that in all the way across the top to give you some idea what's going on.

Mr. Whitten, Sure.

Judge Alexa, If you were to grant that and equalize that for all twenty-four (24) employees that would amount to the...

Ms Graham, \$96,000 thousand.

Judge Alexa, \$96,000 thousand dollars. And that brings us back to...and I understand what you are talking about where you are going to look at all these salaries. But if you are looking at the current salaries and you are going to either increase them either by a percentage or a lump sum, that inequity will remain throughout the whole thing. Unless it is corrected before the salary talks begin. So that's the reason that I wrote this out as I did here.

Mr. Whitten, Ok...

Judge Alexa, One additional thing...

Mr. Whitten, That sounds reasonable.

Judge Alexa, One additional thing here.

Mr. Whitten, Sure.

Judge Alexa, You talked about the new rule 26, let me show you what that does...I don't have extra copies. In the fourth quarter of last year cash bonds were \$521,000 thousand dollars over the year that is two million dollars in cash bonds. Of that two million dollars in cash bonds, of that two million dollars \$170,000 x's 4 = \$682,000 were release to the attorneys fees and the rest go to Court Cost, PACT and all the rest. If there is no cash bond there the County could lose two million dollars a year and you are going to have to make that up somewhere. That could mean more Public Defenders...it probably would, because the people who are in that Jail they

come up with the money. They are not going to do it if they are out of the Jail and the Public Defender will be appointed. That's not now...I just thought you might like to hear it because it's coming...maybe if they don't change it. So that's what I have done, I have changed that. I did not change the \$4,000 additional for each of my employees in that and there I sit.

Mr. Whitten, \$162,511 dollars, what's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Poparad, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a second, discussion? Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Whitten, So you raise an interesting point, I understand your concerns for parody. So as we discuss our salaries at the end we will certainly not forget your thoughts on trying to maintain parody across the Courts.

Judge Alexa, Thank you and that is part of it, we have a Secretary in there a young woman that has been there for nineteen (19) years. She is making \$30,500 dollars or \$30,650 dollars. We hired somebody new in at \$30,500 dollars and that not right.

Mr. Whitten, And the reason, just to let you know, at the time it was a mid-year change in Judge Thode's Court. But a couple things...one is your right he did have someone leave which left him an opportunity to downsize and from the County Council's perspective not all of that salary was redistributed, actually there was a savings to the county as well, so that is why it was entertained during the mid-year.

Judge Alexa, I think that also happened with the Clerk's Office as well.

Mr. Whitten, When they come to and say that they can save you all kinds of money we get excited.

Judge Alexa, Yeah, but do they tell you what it's going to do the service?

Mr. Whitten, Well, no...that's

Judge Alexa, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, And that is why the Clerk's last request was denied.

Judge Alexa, Good.

Mr. Whitten, So...alright.

Judge Alexa, Thank you so much.

Mr. Whitten, Alright have a good evening Judge.

Superior Courts #3: Judge Jent

General Fund Judge Jent – 1000-1038-38

Mr. Whitten, Let's go to Superior Court #3. Hello, Judge how are you?

Judge Jent, Good evening. I am doing well thank you.

Mr. Whitten, I'm going to guess that you want a salary increase for your staff?

Judge Jent, Actually, that is absolutely true and correct. You know that I have...our numbers are pretty much the same. I have three (3) problem solving Courts and I have no Commissioner so I do all of my own small claims cases in our Court and yeah they deserve it and I agree that we need to have everybody the same all across the board.

Mr. Whitten, And if I can...just so that I make sure that I understand, which I do. So Judge Alexa gave us sort of a preliminary cost of \$96,000 dollars for twenty-four (24) employees...

Judge Jent, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, The ones from your Court that's what you are asking for right? You are on the same sheet as he is?

Judge Jent, The \$4,000 dollar increase?

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Judge Jent, Yes, ok. And I only had one change I think in the Training and Education. I had requested...

Mr. Whitten, It went up \$1,000 dollars.

Judge Jent, Yes, \$1,000 dollars.

Mr. Poparad, I make the motion on \$238,461 dollars.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion and a second, discussion? So this is shaping up to be quite a salary discussion. We may end of doing...well we will see how tonight looks but we will let you know. Well let everybody know when we are going to get to the salaries. I think Judge Thode is coming in and asking for another \$4,000 for his employees and I hope that doesn't through things off.

(Laughter)

Judge Jent, We will be back.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Jent, Thank you.

Superior Courts #4: Judge Chidester

General Fund Judge Chidester – 1000-1037-37

Mr. Whitten, Superior Court #4. Hello Judge how are you?

Judge Chidester, Hello, how are you?

Mr. Whitten, I am not doing too bad really.

Judge Chidester, I can't tell you how happy I am to see Harold Harper sitting there. He is almost kin to me.

(Laughter)

Mr. Whitten, It's all separated.

Judge Chidester, He is shirttail kin and just to see him up here makes me so proud.

Mr. Poparad, You know he can't vote on this...

(Laughter)

Mr. Whitten, Ok, so Judge you have heard our comments on...we're going to take all this stuff and we will take up collectively for the Courts.

Judge Chidester, I know that you will do the right thing or the correct thing. You'll do the equitable thing...I can't tell you though how much employee's in a system notice and perceive inequalities. And the morale you know, can be affected, except that we are so busy that we don't even worry about morale we just keep going and chugging and chugging.

Mr. Whitten, I understand, I mean these guys still hate me because I get \$10 bucks extra a month more for being President.

Judge Chidester, Hey, a dollar more in a paycheck can be a perceived inequity by somebody I suppose. But, you will do the right thing on this and my budget is the same as last year I think.

Mr. Whitten, The number is \$161,621 what's your pleasure?

Mr. Poparad, I make the motion.

Mr. Whitten, Motion.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Whitten, And a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Chidester, Ok thank you, good seeing you all, good luck to everyone.

Mr. Whitten, Thank you very much.

Ms. Graham, Thank you.

Superior Courts #6: Judge Thode

General Fund Judge Thode – 1000-1039-39

Mr. Whitten, Superior Court #6.

Judge Thode, Can I just walk through and...

(Laughter)

Mr. Biggs, There is no chance that you would agree to lessen....

Ms. Conover, Oh...

Mr. Biggs, In the spirit of parody...

Ms. Conover, He is the same.

Mr. Whitten, His budget is the same \$130,369 dollars. What's your pleasure?

Ms. Conover, Move.

Mr. Poparad, Second.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a couple of seconds, discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Thode, Thank you.

Mr. Whitten, Have a good night.

Judge Thode, You too.

IV-D Court

General Fund IV-D Court – 1000-1040-40

Mr. Whitten, IV-D Court. How are you?

Court Commissioner Lisa Moser, Good how are you?

Mr. Whitten, I am doing swimmingly.

Court Commissioner Lisa Moser, Good.

Mr. Whitten, It is turning out to be a great evening.

Court Commissioner Lisa Moser, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, Looks like there is a little bit of a change in...

Mr. Poparad, Same thing...

Mr. Whitten, Salaries?

Court Commissioner Lisa Moser, Yes asking for the increase similar to the other Courts.

Mr. Whitten, Gotcha.

Court Commissioner Lisa Moser, I would like to say in support...I basically have one full time staff member who three days a week processes the work by file stamping and also is Court Reporter in Court. So she's basically a Bailiff, a Court Reporter and a Administrative Assistant. She processes all of the work that is done by the full-time IV-D prosecutor's staff who are employed full-time. And I think there are approximately 14 to 16 full staff members who are processing all the IV-D work.

Mr. Whitten, So we should probably take off for all the...

Court Commissioner Lisa Moser, We process all of that in three (3) days, because the other two (2) days. One day a week I am in Judge Thode's courts doing small claims.

Mr. Whitten, So the number is \$219,907 dollars, what's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Move.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Court Commissioner Lisa Moser, Thank you.

Mr. Whitten, Your welcome have a good evening.

Circuit Court: Judge Harper

General Fund Circuit Court – 1000-1081-81

Mr. Whitten, Good evening Judge.

Ms. Conover, Good evening.

Judge Harper, My budget is a little bit different, with regard to the Executive Assistant that shows on the current year as \$31,145 that's a salary we just worked on recently a couple of months ago we moved it to \$32,000. So I am not sure what you are going to do long term on salaries but it's \$32,000 now it's not \$31,145.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Judge Harper, The other thing that I did to try to facilitate your decision with regards to staff raises because I have the same \$4,000 dollar request that everyone else has, is that I eliminated a bunch of money out of my part time. I went from \$20,000 to \$5,000 dollars. Just to try to make some money available. I took a look a look at our Circuit Court Budget ten (10) years ago and our request is about \$80,000 dollars less. So over the years we have done everything we can...

Ms. Conover, Yes you have.

Judge Harper, to bring that costs down. Pointing out the staff issue maybe considered to be theoretical, but for me it's where the rubber meets the road. I've got two (2) executive assistant positions one at Juvenile and one at my front door where the public comes in that I've had to replace them three times in the last four (4) years. I can't keep low paid people in a hard, hard job. When somebody wants to foreclose on your mortgage...

Mr. Whitten, Come see me and we will file bankruptcy.

Judge Harper, Ok. Well, while that happens and by the way if my executive assistant who processes that paper doesn't understand his bankruptcy thing your house is going to get sold.

Mr. Whitten, That's ok then we sue the mortgage company and get all kinds of money.

Judge Harper, What I'm telling you is they are doing technical work.

Mr. Rivas, Would you let the Judge finish.

Mr. Whitten, I sorry, I get excited when she mentions bankruptcy.

Mr. Rivas, Please don't interrupt the Judge.

Judge Harper, Thank you, they do really difficult work, they're not pushing paperclips, they're not counting papers, they have pro se litigants coming to the front desk asking for help. And the work that we do really touches the community, if she misses somebody sitting in the jail that needs to come over for an initial hearing how long are they going sit there.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Judge Harper, It's here responsibility to get that done. If she misses a protective order and some victim doesn't get a protective order in their case what's going to happen. This is not paperclip work. It's really difficult stuff and I need to be able to keep some staff.

Mr. Whitten, Right, well for first of all I appreciate the fact that you were trying to find some money elsewhere in your budget to try and help offset the costs a little bit. But you always do, quite frankly you do that every time.

Judge Harper, It's the right thing to do.

Mr. Whitten, So, \$458,956 is the new number, what's your pleasure?

Mr. Jessen, Move.

Mr. Biggs, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Whitten, So we will be revisiting that raise.

Judge Harper, And that does have that \$1,000 dollars...

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Judge Harper, in it?

Mr. Whitten, That's fine.

Judge Harper, Very good.

Mr. Whitten, And then...

Judge Harper, A slice of heaven, thank you.

Circuit Court Grant ADR – 2200-2201-81

Mr. Whitten, Circuit Court Grant, what's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion.

Ms. Graham, Second

Mr. Whitten, And a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Circuit Court Grant DCS – 8141-0000-81

Mr. Whitten, Circuit Court Grant DCS

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Whitten, Motion.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Family Court – 9113-0000-81

Mr. Whitten, Family Court to donations.

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion.

Mr. Poparad, Second.

Mr. Whitten, And a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

PD Supplemental – 1200-0000-78

Mr. Whitten, PD Supplemental.

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion.

Mr. Poparad, Second.

Mr. Whitten, And a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Whitten, Juvenile Detention Center.

Mr. Poparad, Is that one going to be \$20,000 again?

Mr. Whitten, It looks like she...the supplemental fund is down to zero.

Mr. Poparad, Yeah.

Mr. Whitten, So they are not going to...

Mr. Poparad, Didn't we just vote on that?

Mr. Whiten, Yeah, we just did.

Mr. Poparad, At zero?

Judge Harper, That's not ours.

Director Alison Cox, That is not ours.

Judge Harper, That's Ken's.

Mr. Whitten, We took it to zero.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Judge Harper, Did he?

Mr. Whitten, He did.

Mr. Poparad, I got a blank screen in front of me.

Ms. Graham, Yep.

Mr. Whitten, He took it to zero.

Judge Harper, You might want to...

Mr. Whitten, We'll revisit it after.

Mr. Poparad, Yeah.

Mr. Whitten, Let's go to Juvenile Detention.

Judge Harper, You know what that is...Ken and I need to talk about the PD Supplemental.

Mr. Whitten, When you guys figure out what that is have him call me or you guys call me.

Judge Harper, Yeah.

Mr. Whitten, And we will adjust it if we need too.

Juvenile Detention Center

Juvenile Detention Center 1000-1080-80

Mr. Whitten, Juvenile Detention General Fund.

Director Alison Cox, Ok as you see the budget did increase as I wrote in my letter the first increase that you notice is attributed to the salaries of the Director and the Probation Supervisor these are mandatory salary increases. We can't get around that I apologize I know it's not optimal but I can't get around that.

The other salary increase is for my Standards and Training Coordinator at the beginning of the year we are going to under a ton of new mandatory standards through the Department of Corrections. They have revamped all the standards for the State of Indiana for all of the Detention Centers and it is going to be a huge undertaking for the Center. And part of that the Standards and Training Coordinator is going to be extremely busy in regards to that so I am asking for an increase in her salary.

The last thing that I am requesting under the budget is to add a new position. I am asking for a tutor. And the main reason I am asking for a full time tutor is again those new standards. And the new standards are going to be very specific in regards to education of the kids in of Detention Center. It is going to include...I already have a full-time teacher and a part-time teacher.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Director Alison Cox, So they are very busy with working with the kids. We are going to have to increase our Educational hours for the kids to six (6) hours a day. We are going have to do 440 standards for the kids for educations as well as be able to communicate with the resident's home school. Obtain a residents home class book and homework, obtain their IAP's for Special Education. We're going to have to provide for any type of remediation for literacy for those kids as well. That's an immense amount of work that we're going to have to do that our teachers are already going to have to be in the classroom with these kids for the six (6) hours so I need someone who is going to be able to go out and get the rest.

Mr. Whitten, Vicki take out the raise that is not mandatory.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, And give us the number.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok.

Mr. Biggs, These are all mandated changes?

Director Alison Cox, These are all mandated through the Department of Correction, yes.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, So the new number is what you see in the last column and that does include a tutor in it.

Mr. Whitten, Right, so what's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion and second for \$1,454,925, discussion?

Mr. Poparad, Is this without the raise for the Standards and Training Coordinator?

Mr. Whitten, That's right.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, It includes the mandatory raise...

Mr. Poparad, Right.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, But not the non-mandatory.

Mr. Whitten, That correct.

Mr. Poparad, Right.

Ms. Graham, Does this include the new person?

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Ms. Graham, Do you have an hourly rate for anybody?

Director Alison Cox, The part-time teacher.

Ms. Graham, Ok.

Mr. Biggs, What's your average daily count?

Director Alison Cox, We're about 14.

Mr. Biggs, What does that hold twenty-one (21)?

Director Alison Cox, Twenty-four (24).

Mr. Biggs, Thank you.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, All from this county or are you still taking other counties?

Director Alison Cox, We do still take other counties.

Mr. Poparad, Do we tutor the out of county kids?

Director Alison Cox, We have to, it's per standard.

Mr. Biggs, Are we still being reimbursed?

Director Alison Cox, Last year Jasper County paid us \$11,000 dollars.

Mr. Biggs, Wow.

Director Alison Cox, Which goes directly into the General Fund. This year because two detention centers closed amongst the State now we are taking new counties Starke County and Pulaski County. So you are going to be seeing a huge increase in regards to the bills for that. I think we just got a bill from Newton County the other day for like \$7,000 dollars.

Mr. Whitten, How much is your hourly do you use?

Director Alison Cox, All of it.

Mr. Whitten, Pull that up will you?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok.

Mr. Poparad, We get a bill from Newton County or do...

Judge Harper, No.

Mr. Poparad, we bill them?

Director Alison Cox, We bill them.

Mr. Poparad, I was going to say...

Director Alison Cox, No, we bill them.

Mr. Whitten, Yeah, let's make sure we get that right...

Director Alison Cox, Sorry, about that.

Mr. Poparad, What is the rate, I'm just curious?

Director Alison Cox, \$110 dollars a day.

Mr. Poparad, Is that fixed by statute or...

Director Alison Cox, That is actually what we charge families as well as anybody that gets detained.

Mr. Poparad, It seems awful low...

Mr. Whitten, Ok, the reason that I asked for that...

Ms. Conover, Is that to low?

Mr. Poparad, I think Newton County probably thinks that they are getting a deal.

Mr. Biggs, I believe that...look if the State is going to hand down additional mandates and they certainly appear to be doing that. We have no choice but to raise it.

Mr. Whitten, To raise what?

Mr. Biggs, to raise the daily rate.

Mr. Poparad, Yeah.

Director Alison Cox, For the County?

Mr. Poparad, Yes, I mean...

Director Alison Cox, For the County?

Mr. Biggs, Yes.

Director Alison Cox, I mean, I am actually working on all the contracts for next year anyway. We have a set contract with Jasper County and so next year I am going to be asking for Starke and Newton. Pulaski is an anomaly, we usually don't get those kids it's just something that happens. We said that we would hold their child, but for those other two counties I am going to ask for contracts next year.

Judge Harper, The issue is for how much, right?

Mr. Rivas, Right, what are we basing it on. I mean, what's...

Director Alison Cox, We base this pretty much on what we charge families...Porter County Families and they get charged \$110 dollars a day when their child...

Judge Harper, The difference is the Counties pay and the families don't.

Director Alison Cox, Right.

Mr. Biggs, I mean it's clear with the State mandates that our taxpayers are taking on a additional burden...

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Mr. Biggs, for other counties and we simply can't afford to.

Judge Harper, What do we average in terms of other counties kids?

Director Alison Cox, Right now I have four out of counties in there right now. So usually...

Judge Harper, Yeah, I agree with you.

Mr. Poparad, From a thirty-thousand foot view I think that outside counties should have to pay more than local families should pay.

Director Alison Cox, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, So what would you be looking at when you're talking...I mean I don't want to nail you down in the numbers but do you have some idea of what you would be looking at increasing?

Judge Harper, We need to find out what the other centers are charging.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Judge Harper, Because it's sort of a competitive process.

Director Alison Cox, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, Can you get...

Director Alison Cox, I could find out.

Mr. Whitten, Yeah, and maybe let us know before...

Judge Harper, St. Joe take out of county kids.

Director Alison Cox, Yes.

Judge Harper, Find out what they are billing.

Director Alison Cox, Sure.

Mr. Biggs, Do you all know what is actually...I'm not asking for that figure, but do you know what it's costing us per day to house a child?

Director Alison Cox, I couldn't tell you off the top of my head, but I could get you that information.

Judge Harper, We do so much more with Detention than just housing.

Director Alison Cox, It's not just housing kids.

Mr. Biggs, Right and that's what I'm saying is...I think that where you need to find the figure you need to be at.

Director Alison Cox, We do all the alternative and the house arrest and all that.

Mr. Biggs, Assess all those costs with some type of formula.

Mr. Poparad, We just average your count per day divided by the cost of your budget, I mean we can get there real quick.

Judge Harper, We do a lot more than have the kids in there.

Director Alison Cox, It's more than that.

Mr. Poparad, No, no I'm just saying for a snapshot you just count the days that you had kids in there and divide.

Judge Harper, But we now run a reception center for all of the pre. So every kid that was detained comes through the reception center. And there not all...they are then put out on an alternative if we can put them on an alternative. So we don't necessarily keep them so we are running a lot of functions through the detention budget that aren't just housing prisoners.

Mr. Whitten, So why don't you try and quantify that as best you can.

Director Alison Cox, Ok, I can do that.

Mr. Whitten, And give us an idea.

Director Alison Cox, Sure.

Mr. Whitten, That would be great. So the new number...did we vote on this already?

Ms. Graham, No.

Mr. Poparad, So we're voting for the new employee?

Mr. Whitten, That's what is in there right now but...yeah, it sounds like she need it.

Judge Harper, And we will let you know what the other...

Director Alison Cox, Oh yeah, absolutely.

Judge Harper, others are charging and if we need to raise it we will raise it no problem. In fact it's a good idea.

Mr. Biggs, Yeah, staying up on this a little bit and knowing what some of the other counties are doing. I'm pretty proud of what we do here and we do it pretty darn well.

Director Alison Cox, Yes.

Mr. Biggs, And I think it's important to know what they are charging, but it's not everything.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Mr. Biggs, I think what we are doing here is kind of special so, keep that in mind when you set that rate.

Mr. Whitten, Well said Jim, well said.

Mr. Biggs, It's true.

Mr. Whitten, It is true, so...

Mr. Poparad, So \$1,454,925 is my motion... \$1,454,925.

Mr. Whitten, \$1,454,925.

Mr. Biggs, Second.

Mr. Whitten, and a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Juvenile Detention Center

Codes 4916-0000-80

Mr. Whitten, Juvenile Detention Center Codes.

Director Alison Cox, Again in my letter I had stated in regards to what some of the needs were. I am asking for an increase in regards to again my salary in there that's a mandatory I can't get around that. The reason why we have increased so much is that in our ADR fund (2200-2201-81) I was getting some of that as well for my supplemental, because I am also a mediator for the Court on top of that. So that's running out so I had to put the supplemental somewhere and I didn't want to burden the General Fund Budget so that why I put it in the Codes fund and as well as the Probation Supervisor that one didn't change.

But I do want to talk a little bit about my Detention Manger and especially my nurse. Again with the new standards there is going to be some huge overhauls that we're going to have to undertake at the Center in regards to all of our standards. I am going to have to rewrite the entire Policy and Procedures manual. We are going to have to revisit all of our Safety and Security Standards as well as all of our Medical and all of our Mental Health...as well as the Education that I already talked about.

Our nurse, I think is just grossly underpaid and so I am asking for a raise for her. She is doing so much more...she's our mom pretty much there, but in regards to the standards it's going to really increase her services that she is going to have to do. For example we are going to have to require TB testing on all residents, she is going to

have to do that. She is going to have to do Mental Health and Mental Health Assessments on these residents within three days of admission. And then if there is even further information that needs to be gathered, she is going to have to go get that. She is going to have to keep track of all the immunizations, she is going to have to do Wellness and Health Education of the residents. She is also going to have to work very closely with our Medical Director in regards to a more full-blown medical assessment within 14 days of the kid being in the Detention Center.

Mr. Biggs, How does her salary currently and you may not know...

Director Alison Cox, She is at \$38.....

Mr. Poparad, \$38,400.

Director Alison Cox, \$38,400 dollars.

Mr. Biggs, And what's the, Vicki can you tell us what the salary is for...is she an RN or LPN?

Director Alison Cox, She is a RN.

Mr. Biggs, A RN in the Health Department? We know we just gave them raises last year.

Mr. Whitten, Yeah.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, It would be easy for me to look it up.

Mr. Whitten, Yeah, they are way higher.

Mr. Rivas, \$44,000 - \$45,000

Director Alison Cox, And she is on call 24/7 for emergencies.

Mr. Whitten, Ok...

Mr. Biggs, If there is a difference she needs to be brought up to what we are currently paying the...

Director Alison Cox, I think that would be fantastic.

Mr. Biggs, And she is a one person show isn't she?

Director Alison Cox, Yes she is.

Mr. Biggs, There you go.

Mr. Poparad, What if there was some sort of cooperation...

Ms. Graham, Between the Jail?

Mr. Poparad, Isn't there some sort of contract?

Director Alison Cox, We did not have our nurse go under that contract. We took the Doctor that comes out to our facility.

Mr. Poparad, Ok, so you are on some level of cooperation.

Director Alison Cox, Yes.

Ms. Graham, You are on something?

Director Alison Cox, Yeah, we are part of that.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, Ok, so give us a number here then Vicki, what is it?

Mr. Poparad, Are we granting the raise, Mr. President?

Mr. Whitten, That's...

Mr. Biggs, We have got to determine.

Mr. Whitten, Yeah, let's see where we are at. Alright so as it stands right now if you took out the raises that she is asking for that are not mandated. What do we got? \$45,059 is that the right number?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, \$45,059.

Mr. Whitten, \$45,059 is the number, what's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Whitten, We have a motion.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, And a second. all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Whitten, I think Jim makes a good point, I would really like to see this nurse up there with the Health Department nurses.

Director Alison Cox, That would be fantastic if we could do that.

Juvenile Detention Center

JDAI Grant 9125-0000-80

Mr. Whitten, Ok, so JDAI Grant, what's your pleasure?

Ms. Graham, Moved.

Mr. Biggs, Second.

Mr. Whitten, \$97,738 motion and a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Director Alison Cox, Thank you.

Mr. Whitten, Have a good evening.

Juvenile Probation

General Fund Juvenile Probation 1000-1079-79

Mr. Whitten, Juvenile Probation general fund.

Chris Buyer, Good evening.

Mr. Whitten, How is it going?

Chris Buyer, Not too shabby.

Mr. Whitten, So, tell us about the Juvenile Probation?

Chris Buyer, Certainly I will just go down the line on the agenda starting with the General Fund for 2017 we are requesting an increase in the amount of \$71,918 dollars. That actually comes from two areas the first part the \$39,035 dollars is all representative of the mandated salary increase by the State and there are no other increases in there other than the mandated salaries.

Mr. Whitten, Alright.

Chris Buyer, The second part of that we are asking for a full-time case manager position in the amount of \$32,883 dollars that is actually for a project to tend truancy diversion program. We have seen an increase in truancy referrals from the school over the past couple of the year and we anticipate that, that is going to continue for 2017. We have found that with the truancy cases almost more than with the delinquency cases that we get. We see significant family dysfunction in a lot of these cases. Mental health issues really rear themselves, and as we know this is a major predictor of criminal behaviors is truancy and school issues. So we are really trying to head that off at the beginning and work with the kids in both elementary and middle school levels. We presently have three case managers (two full-time and one part-time). The two full-time shares a portion of the projects and the case loads and have some other duties that we assign them to. The part-time employee is strictly project attend. This is the employee that we would like to bring from part-time and actually work her up to full-time, we feel that it will benefit us. We also have some alterative programs that we are looking to put into place at the beginning of the year 2017. That we are going to need one of our full-time case managers currently to take over those, so we do need help in that area. So that is reflective of that general fund increases. Would you like me to go ahead and deal with administrative as well then? Move on into that then...

Mr. Whitten, Sure.

Chris Buyer, Ok, under the administrative fee fund (2050-2051-79) that we are requesting a decrease in that amount by \$3,961 dollars for the 2017 budget. And that's just reflected because we had a veteran officer that was at the top of the pay scale a portion of her salary was placed in there to reduce the fund in the general fund and so when she left we replaced that position. We still have four individuals coming out of there but it's just at a lower rate.

Mr. Whitten, And then with respect to the User Fees?

Chris Buyer, The only changes in there we are asking for consultants to go up \$3,000 dollars for licensing fees and some improvements we might need to do. Travel Fund from \$8,000 to \$10,000 dollars and then requesting an appropriation of \$1,000 dollars under Contractual Services. There was a zero in there we just want a \$1,000 placed in there for that.

Mr. Whitten, So let's start with Juvenile Probation General Fund, so let's take anything out of there that is not a mandated raise. Let's start with that.

Ms. Conover, There was just a new case manager position, I think.

Chris Buyer, That would correct.

Mr. Whitten, So our number is what?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, \$971,467 dollars.

Mr. Whitten, What's your pleasure?

Mr. Poparad, Is that with the new employee?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, Do you want me to take the new employee out?

Mr. Biggs, I support 110% percent what you do over there. You have a tough job, but we've been... I don't know if you have been sitting through these budget hearings, but nearly every department has come before us with raises...

Chris Buyer, Sure.

Mr. Biggs, But we are going to try to get to that point. We also are anticipating an increase in cost of the Health Insurance Program. I just don't feel comfortable personally, of adding new employees at this time.

Chris Buyer, Ok, I appreciate your consideration.

Judge Harper, It's to keep kids in school

Mr. Rivas, Well, this isn't the first new employee that was offered during this budget session, so if we do anything we better look back at every new employee that's been requested.

Ms. Graham, We may have to.

Mr. Rivas, Why are we now saying no until the end of second reading?

Judge Harper, We work with every School District in Porter County. We meet with the Superintendents, we are targeting Grade School kids and Middle School kids and it's an effective program. We know that truancy is a major predictor of adult criminal activity.

Mr. Whitten, So, ok what do you guys want to do?

Mr. Rivas, I think, and it goes with what I just said, that we need to approve it as it is with the new employee and raises we need to go back and look at that also.

Mr. Biggs, So what you're saying Jeremy is go ahead and approve it but there is no guarantee that at the end of the third reading they will still have that employee?

Mr. Rivas, Yeah, that's what I'm saying because we need to go back. Because I don't know how we can say no to this request right here when we have said yes to all the other new employees so far.

Mr. Whitten, Well, because every department is different. I'm not saying that this one isn't the most important....but they all stand alone.

Mr. Rivas, Right, exactly.

Ms. Graham, Right now they are covering it with hourly...is that what you are doing and you're wanting to move it up.

Chris Buyer, Yes, that individual is a combination of some hourly and a grant.

Mr. Whitten, Is that Grant running out?

Chris Buyer, I would have to ask Alison.

Director Alison Cox, Yes.

Chris Buyer, It is running out.

Mr. Poparad, Of course.

Mr. Biggs, Of course.

Ms. Graham, There you go.

Mr. Poparad, Should be look at this as preventative medicine?

Mr. Rivas, That's what the Judge just said...yes.

Ms. Graham, Yeah.

Mr. Jessen, I don't think that there has ever been a more difficult time to be a parent.

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Jessen, Or a more difficult time to be a child and in my estimation I don't think that there is anything more important than trying to help the kids that are struggling. And the more involvement we have at the earlier ages truly does help minimize problems in the future.

Mr. Whitten, I don't think there saying that and I'm for leaving it in. But I don't think that they're saying that we don't want to provide the service. The question is....

Ms. Graham, Exactly.

Mr. Whitten, and there is other funding...

Mr. Jessen, I guess I misunderstood that.

Mr. Whitten, I just want to clarify that, I think that what's she is saying is that you have been funding it another way and you want to make this person full-time now, is that necessary?

Mr. Biggs, I'll motion to approve your request, if we get to the third reading there is either going to be money there or there is not.

Mr. Whitten, Second, that's a good point.

Mr. Biggs, Fair enough.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Poparad, Who seconded that?

Mr. Whitten, I did.

Mr. Poparad, Ok.

Juvenile Probation

Administration Fees 2050-2051-79

Mr. Whitten, Juvenile Probation Administration Fees, what's your pleasure? I don't want to jump up and second something here.

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Whitten, I'll second that.

Mr. Biggs, I didn't bring my glasses I can barely see that.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Biggs, I'm just taking your word for it that it's lower.

Mr. Poparad, It's on the big screen and she can make it bigger for you.

Juvenile Probation

User Fees 2150-2151-79

Mr. Whitten, 2150 User Fees, what's your pleasure? Anyone?

Mr. Rivas, Motion to approve.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, So we have a motion and a second, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Chris Buyer, Thank you all very much.

Mr. Whitten, Have a good evening.

Adult Probation

General Fund Adult Probation 1000-1043-43

Mr. Whitten, Adult Probation, how are you?

Mr. Biggs, I hope you have better news Steve.

Mr. Whitten, Better news? Better for him.

Mr. Biggs, Yeah. That looks pretty good.

Mr. Whitten, He is staying in Budget, it's staying the same.

Mr. Biggs, I motion to approve.

Mr. Rivas, Second.

Mr. Biggs, One thousand...

Mr. Rivas, One thousand?

Mr. Whitten, What are you reading?

(Laughter)

Mr. Biggs, What's the number...\$1,036,081 dollars.

Mr. Whitten, Let's get this guy some glasses. \$1,036,081 dollars.

Ms. Graham, Move.

Ms. Conover, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a second on the floor, discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adult Probation

User Fees 2100-2101-43

Mr. Whitten, Let's go to user fees.

Mr. Rivas, Motion to approve.

Ms. Conover, Second.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adult Probation

Pre-Trial Services 2100-2103-43

Mr. Whitten, Adult Probation Pre-Trial.

Mr. Rivas, Motion to approve.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adult Probation

Administration Fees 2000-0000-43

Mr. Whitten, Adult Probation Administrative 2000-0000-43, you have some salaries in there right?

Mr. Biggs, Is that a mandate?

Steve Moyer, Yes and this was actually changed about ten years ago for this Admin fee to fund raises and set increases that's the only thing I use it for.

Judge Harper, It's a user fee and it will be interesting to see in the future what happens to cash bonds.

Ms. Conover, Yeah.

Judge Harper, And I put a lot of time into studying that and working on that. I don't think we stand to lose a couple of million dollars and we could lose some money and Steve gets...what do you get out of cash bonds a year, Two hundred thousand or something like that?

Steve Moyer, It averages about \$7,000 dollars a month.

Mr. Whitten, So all the raises in here are mandatory raises?

Ms. Graham, Mandatory?

Steve Moyer, Correct.

Mr. Whitten, What's your pleasure?

Mr. Poparad, I'll make the motion.

Mr. Rivas, Second.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed? The Aye's have it.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Harper, Is that it?

Mr. Poparad, You can stay.

Judge Harper, I thought I was growing into that chair.

Voter Registration

General Fund Voter Registration 1000-1022-22

Mr. Whitten, Voter Registration, just you?

Sundae Schoon, Just me.

Mr. Whitten, Ok, we've had discussions about this ad nauseam and quite frankly I am going to take this opportunity to sort of jump into a sort of global discussion about exempt employees and we are going to need a weigh in from the County Attorney and the Commissioners. So what we are looking at right now is, as we know from our prior discussions the Fair Labor Standards Act changed and as it reads now effective December 1st increase the minimum threshold for a exempt employee salary. Now I think it's important to note that there are now twenty-one (21) states that have filed suit to challenge the Fair Labor Standards Act and there is some discussion that perhaps it will be delayed to the implementation of that, but, I think we have to assume it won't be. So that number is \$47,476 dollars to keep somebody at that exempt threshold. What the means under the Fair Labor Standards Act is no comp time and no overtime. There just exempt. Our County policy says that non-exempt employees are able to accrue comp time 35 to 40 hours' straight time comp time and over 40 hours time and a half. So that is kind of the state of affairs as we look at it. So in talking to folks in various industries, non-government I must say, what they have been doing is candidly is going through all their employees, employee by employee by employee and looking at the history of those particular employees' hours worked overtime. Or the amount of hours they have been working overtime and they have done a cost benefit analysis. They have decided what fair, what's equitable and what's cheaper in some cases an employee that is exempt that typically works 39 to 40 hours a week, well they are not so inclined to bring them up to the threshold. Just keep them down below the threshold and pay them overtime. Other folks that are hitting it a little higher historically in industry they are looking to bring them up to the threshold because it's a whole lot cheaper than paying them overtime. And I think that albeit that not our particular mantle to wear that task, I think that it's been brought to our table and we need to have an understanding of the direction that the County is going to go with respect to the treatment of exempt employees. Because for some of them it is quite an increase and for some of them if we don't bring them up it could be quite a cost for the hours that they have been working. So I have been trying to find some compromising middle ground...some number that might and it's going to vary from exempt employee to exempt employee. Particularly those that are running Museums, Animal Shelters and Opera Houses, it's all different. But, I think that we need to kind of work through this we need to start thinking about these salaries and which direction we think this County wants to go. Now we know that the Voter Registration there are two exempt employees, at least by virtue of their job

descriptions and the apparent criteria of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Those are the two that we are talking about now...we've met (Karen, myself and Harold) with Sundae and Kathy to try to get a little bit of history to see if we can get to a number that works for everybody. So with that you have the floor.

Sundae Schoon, Ok, good. Do you want to go through all the rest of the budget first? And that way you can get that out of the way?

Mr. Whitten, Sure that way we can come back around.

Sundae Schoon, I think that's a good idea...alright where do you want to start? Nothing went up as far as any of the other bills. Under 3730 our lease purchase, IT worked with us to get us a cheaper lease agreement. We have a new machine with a new company that has an maintenance agreement on it and It's only costing us \$500 dollars a year instead of \$4,500 dollars that we used to use.

Mr. Jessen, What kind of machine was that Sunday?

Sundae Schoon, It's a Ricoh, it's a copy fax machine.

Ms. Conover, Ok.

Sundae Schoon, Other than that, nothing else it's the same.

Mr. Whitten, So this is one where I think the salary...and I told Sundae and Kathy that we are going to revisit the salaries at the end. But, I think that in any case we have to anticipate in this department some money. Either by way of Overtime by way of increased salary, we just do.

Sundae Schoon, But you guys know that I am not preaching to the choir, we have come to you a hundred times and say we are Voter Registration, we are Voter Registration, we are Voter Registration. However we have always taken on that responsibility of running the Election and for that responsibility you guys have always compensated us for it by giving us overtime during election season only. You know we don't get it in January, we don't get it in February, it's when the Election starts we start accruing the overtime hours. Sorry I lost my little notes, so now you've got this discussion with the overtime and the exempt versus non-exempt to come out. And all that we are asking is that as we continue to run the election process as we have and very diligently. And we always had minor...

Ms. Conover, You are doing a phenomenal job.

Sundae Schoon, minor complaints, not to toot our own horn. We do a very diligent job at it and we are very passionate about it. We make sure everything is on time and everything is running smoothly.

Mr. Whitten, Can I ask you a question Sundae? I see that you are proposing \$35,000 dollars in overtime in 2017 budget, now what will happen next year...

Ms. Graham, Right.

Sundae Schoon, You can get rid of that, yeah you can get rid of that.

Ms. Graham, Ok.

Sundae Schoon, That was because we just turned the same budget in with the exception of that one.

Mr. Whitten, Ok, gotcha.

Sundae Schoon, Oh no, we don't expect, but of course there could be referendums next year. But, we are hoping that they don't with the new law that they passed that if the School has a referendum now they have to pay for it.

Mr. Whitten, Alright.

Sundae Schoon, It's not out of the Counties budget so...

Mr. Whitten, Ok, so here's the thing I mean we are going to discuss that. We are going to have to look at your salaries. We are, because we are going to have to make some decisions here and try to find something that works for everybody. Does anybody have any thoughts on that?

Mr. Jessen, The question that I have...

Sundae Schoon, Yes.

Mr. Jessen, Just for my understanding, if you could explain how you calculated your overtime during the election times. I mean obviously as an exempt employee there is no overtime until the election time.

Sundae Schoon, Yes.

Mr. Jessen, How do you track it or do you manually keep track of the hours or are you...

Sundae Schoon, We have a timecard machine.

Mr. Jessen, Do you use it throughout the entire year?

Sundae Schoon, Yeah, we've always used it. We've always clocked in and clocked out. It's one that we actually purchased for our office.

Mr. Jessen, Other than election time it's 35 hours per week.

Sundae Schoon, Yes.

Mr. Jessen, But as a exempt salary employee you actually punch in and punch out.

Sundae Schoon, Yes, because we didn't know that we were exempt employees so we have just always operated on a thirty-five (35) hour work week. If we only worked thirty (30) then we had to give them five (5) hours of our comp time. Or if we were off a day then we had to use one of our sick days. We've always operated by that...

Mr. Jessen, When you worked over thirty-five (35) hours did you make any accommodations for extra pay?

Sundae Schoon, During the election time?

Mr. Jessen, Off election.

Sundae Schoon, Off election time, it was very rare if we did, but then we would get comp time.

Mr. Biggs, Are those time cards turned into the Auditor's office?

Sundae Schoon, Our time sheets, yeah. Our time cards are turned into the Auditor's office. Oh we put it in the computer now ourselves.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes, well you do.

Sundae Schoon, Yeah.

Mr. Biggs, So you are not receiving the time cards? Your office is not receiving those time cards?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, At the end of the year we receive what we would call the service records of what the employees would fill in for their hours, yes.

Mr. Biggs, But that's not the time cards?

Mr. Whitten, Who signs off on their pay?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, You approve the longevity reports. Oh, I'm sorry the forecasts.

Mr. Whitten, The forecasts

Sundae Schoon, Yeah.

Ms. Graham, So what's the bottom line or what are we talking...

Mr. Rivas, Oh, they are just having general questions right now.

Ms. Graham, Ok.

Mr. Whitten, So you know that depending on their overtime and I have talked to them, it might be cheaper for the County to get them over that threshold and then some a little bit to keep them at the exempt no overtime status.

Sundae Schoon, That's all we're asking is that you guys...it's not that we have a problem with being exempt if you're going to bring us over that \$47,476 to keep us exempt. We are just asking that you guys bring us over to a fair amount for everybody. You know that we are not trying to get rich over the County here, we are just trying to get paid for the job that we are doing.

Mr. Rivas, I understand that and I have to...I guess I have to look at what everybody else is. From my position look to where everybody else is being paid in the County and I understand your responsibilities, I think they're huge. Elections: Federal Elections, State Elections and Local Elections...elections are huge. So your responsibility is very large and you should be compensated for that and there is no doubt about it. So for myself I have to kind of see where that is at and where I believe you should be at. But you should definitely be compensated for it.

Mr. Whitten, Well, if we don't have any particular questions for here maybe we can revisit this when we do our salaries.

Ms. Conover, I just wanted to know...I mean is this a status and your partner Kathy want to keep, this exemption status?

Sundae Schoon, They exemption is one that we both want to keep if you guys can bring us up to what is a fair number for everyone.

Ms. Conover, Ok. When you say for everyone what do you mean?

Sundae Schoon, What?

Mr. Biggs, What would you think is fair?

Sundae Schoon, Well, what we discussed, \$70,000 dollars...no I'm just kidding.

(Laughter)

Ms. Graham, You're good.

Sundae Schoon, No, but we kind of took what the overtime that we made in the past four years and then of course 2008 which hopefully will never happen again because that election was ridiculous. I think the number we came up this is like \$50,326 would be like under \$3,000 over what the \$47,000 dollar threshold is.

Mr. Jessen, Would you say that would be a fair amount in a election year and a fair amount in a non-election year, the same amount?

Sundae Schoon, What I did is I took all of the numbers and then divided it by the four year and what I would or what we would gain on a non-election year, but what we would lose in overtime for the election years. So it would be an even keel across. We are not trying to make more money off of it. And you guys said was that with the HR was that you were going to get a HR person in here and we talked to you guys about raises and this is not been a issue that has not been discussed to death. That when you got the HR that we would be brought up to an even keel so this is, I guess, the time to do it with this FLSA standard coming up.

Mr. Biggs, Speaking for myself, the request caught me off guard, because we had given you roughly a little more or right at \$4,000 dollar raise last year. And my decision actually was based on...I think you had two full-time positions at that time that you had not filled.

Sundae Schoon, Yes.

Mr. Biggs, You said look instead of filling those, you recommended to distribute some of those salaries to you and Kathy and...

Sundae Schoon, Our deputies.

Mr. Biggs, Yeah.

Sundae Schoon, Our deputies got the majority of it.

Mr. Biggs, Which we have done and so I look at this budget...and by the way that was less than a year ago. I look at this budget and you are saying look we need this overtime. I am just wondering if...I don't know I think adjusting this is going to be more complex than what we think. Because, we are looking at two exempt positions that if we do adjust that it's the second year in a row that you will have...and what are you at right now?

Sundae Schoon, I think it's \$44,326.

Mr. Biggs, So you are talking a \$6,000 dollar raise to get you to \$50,000 which would mean a \$10,000 dollar raise in the last twenty-four (24) months.

Mr. Whitten, You understand that they're going to get \$3,000 dollars.

Mr. Biggs, Correct.

Sundae Schoon, Right.

Mr. Whitten, Just off of the...

Mr. Biggs, I know, I know. I'm just saying we have to consider what the whole picture here.

Mr. Whitten, Right.

Mr. Biggs, I mean the other exempt positions in County Government they are going to be in front of us.

Sundae Schoon, Right and I'm not saying that and I just want you guys kind of...you know not try to bundle us all up into one. Every department is different, every...

Ms. Conover, We know that.

Sundae Schoon, Yeah, you guys know that. Like I said I am not preaching to the choir. We have had this Voter's Registration not Election but we do it. We have had this discussion and we beat it to death. I don't know if there is any more to say about that. Yes, do we love running elections? Yes, but you guys have always compensated us for that responsibility that we have taken on.

Mr. Biggs, And I am not stating one way or the other whether or not you deserve it or don't deserve it. But one thing that I have pointed out to a couple of members of the Board, that your department is the only department in County Government where there is two managers.

Sundae Schoon, Right.

Mr. Biggs, In the same department and if you take those two salaries and put them together, now you are going to make over a \$100,000 dollars a year. The average salary of a department head in County Government, elected official or not is nowhere near that....Nowhere near that. So that's something that we have to consider....

Sundae Schoon, Right.

Mr. Biggs, I mean...

Sundae Schoon, And I understand that there is two...

Mr. Biggs, And I agree with Jeremy, elections are a big deal.

Sundae Schoon, Yes, it's a lot.

Mr. Biggs, It's a big deal and has to be done right.

Sundae Schoon, We have processed over twelve hundred (1,200) absentee application out on Friday.

Mr. Biggs, Sundae, I agree that instead of this across the board stuff that we need to take advantage of our HR department and they need to evaluate these positions and come back to this Board with you and make that recommendation. Because I want to be able to give you that if you clearly shows you deserve that.

Mr. Whitten, I want to make...are you suggesting that she needs to have the Human Resources lady recommend her salary increase?

Mr. Biggs, No, I'm recommending that they come in front of us with the Human Resources and they spell out exactly all of their responsibilities and daily activities.

Mr. Rivas, Well, then we have got to do that for the whole county then.

Mr. Biggs, Amen, I thought that why we brought in a HR department.

Mr. Whitten, Well, I sure didn't vote for a HR director to tell us everybody in the county needs raises we know that.

Mr. Biggs, No, I didn't say necessarily to give raises.

Mr. Whitten, We know that part already. Can you speak to your part...well no go ahead? Anything else?

Ms. Conover, I just want to reaffirm that you do a phenomenal job with elections. We didn't know until a month ago that you were exempt employees.

Sundae Schoon, Right, yeah neither did we.

(Laughter)

Ms. Graham, That is the truth...that is the truth.

Sundae Schoon, I know.

Ms. Conover, And there is the disconnect.

Sundae Schoon, Yes.

Ms. Conover, For no other reason than that.

Sundae Schoon, I know I am not taking this as a personal agenda from anyone of you guys. It was brought to your attention and now it's something that has to be address of course in September almost October right before the Elections...Yea.

Mr. Rivas, Vicki, with no raises it's \$163,588?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, Exactly where it is at with the overtime out?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, Motion to approve that.

Mr. Whitten, Second. all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Election Board

General Fund Election Board 1000-1021-21

Mr. Whitten, Election Board, same number what is your pleasure?

Ms. Conover, Move.

Mr. Whitten, Second. All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Rivas, And obviously you know that we are going to address...

Ms. Conover, This is...

Sundae Schoon, Oh yes.

Mr. Rivas, The increase at the end with the other ones.

Sundae Schoon, Oh yes.

Ms. Conover, This is not a done deal.

Sundae Schoon, No, I know.

Mr. Whitten, No, it can't be, we'll get another meeting out of this.

Sundae Schoon, Well I didn't cry so that was good.

(Laughter)

Clerk

General Fund Clerk 1000-1001-01

Mr. Whitten, Clerk General Fund.

Mr. Biggs, You get the patience award.

Mr. Whitten, Clerk is not joining us?

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, No, she had a prior engagement this evening.

Mr. Whitten, Alright, so what are we doing here?

Mr. Poparad, Equipment.

Mr. Whitten, Equipment?

Mr. Poparad, (Inaudible)

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, We did not send him away.

Mr. Rivas, What's that?

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, We did not chase him out.

Ms. Conover, No, you didn't.

Mr. Whitten, So it looks like you have some adjustments here. Are you taking some salaries out? Are you giving anybody increases or are you just...

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, No.

Mr. Whitten, Alright, so the number proposed is \$1,325,074?

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, What's your pleasure?

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Mr. Jessen, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a second on the floor, discussion? All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Whitten, If we had known you were going to do reductions we would have brought you up first.

Mr. Biggs, Thank you.

Clerk

IV-D 8899-0000-01

Mr. Whitten, IV-D, \$83,202.

Ms. Conover, Move

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Whitten, Motion and a second on the floor, why are the salaries going down? We are not moving someone into the General Fund or are we?

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, No, she eliminated one.

Mr. Whitten, Ok.

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, There is just going to be one full-time employee now for IV-D.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Whitten, So here is my question, when there was a restructuring suggested before, the Judges expressed a little bit of concern about it adversely affecting their Courts. Can you tell me with absolute certainty that none of these reductions will have that result? Because the Judges are the ones that are concerned.

Mr. Biggs, Dan, do you think that's a fair question to ask?

Mr. Whitten, I think it's an absolute fair question, if the Clerk were here I would ask her myself.

Mr. Biggs, Well, I know that's my point, she's not here.

Mr. Whitten, Ok, then we won't hear the Budget.

Mr. Rivas, Yeah.

Mr. Whitten, We won't hear the budget then. Do you guys know the Budget?

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, Yeah.

Mr. Whitten, Ok thank you now answer my question if you would. Do you think that it will have an adverse effect on the Courts? Are any of your reductions and what I mean by that is...if I don't get interrupted this time? That the Judges expressed some concerns and questions and I know that they address the Clerk's office. So my question for you guys is, where those concerns addressed? We are not going to have the same concerns with this correct?

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, The Clerk would not have submitted the budget as it is, if she had concerns about that. And I do know that she addressed it with the Courts.

Mr. Whitten, Ok, that's my answer. All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Rivas, Opposed?

Mr. Whitten, You are opposing?

Mr. Rivas, No.

Clerk

Perpetuation 1119-0000-01

Mr. Whitten, Perpetuation \$58,793, what's your pleasure?

Ms. Conover, Moved.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Biggs, Motion to approve.

Ms. Graham, We did it.

Ms. Conover, We did that.

Mr. Whitten, All in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed?

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Biggs, That's in case you didn't hear it.

Mr. Whitten, I think we are done.

Clerk Chief Deputy Kathy Hartwig, Thank you.

Mr. Biggs, Thank you.

Mr. Poparad, Mr. President can we ask our Auditor for a little recap to see where we are at?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes, please.

Mr. Poparad, Dan, do we have time to see where we are standing in terms of budget with our friendly Auditor?

Mr. Whitten, Yes.

Mr. Poparad, Thirty seconds.

Mr. Rivas, Motion to adjourn.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Rivas, I'm just kidding.

Mr. Poparad, Go ahead Vicki.

Mr. Rivas, Vicki, I'm just kidding.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, As we have discussed at the beginning of all this our target is from \$38 Million to \$38.2 Million. You so far have cut \$531,240 dollars and you so far have approved 8 new positions in the County General Fund. Now I did a real rough calculation and the only two General Fund Budgets that you have left to go are the Commissioners General Fund and the Commissioners 1203 which is the Jail General Fund Budget. If you approve those Budgets as submitted without the special raises that they are asking for and the Commissioners includes two new positions as well. So if you approve the Commissioners Budget as is but without the special raises a real roughly estimate we are at \$38.2 million. So you are at the top end of the target.

Mr. Rivas, Without the raises?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, That means no raises.

Mr. Poparad, Is the sheriff's pension in that number?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, The sheriff's pension is in that number. If you remove the sheriff's pension...

Mr. Rivas, We have a million.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, You have a million to work with and that includes the new positions, if you do remove sheriff's pension of course once again that means you have not budgeted for sheriff's pension and we would still have our same problem...

Mr. Rivas, What would be our total cut?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I'm sorry?

Mr. Rivas, What would be our total cut then if we don't approve the special raises we will have cut what out?

Ms. Graham, \$531,000 thousand.

Mr. Biggs, \$531,240.

Mr. Rivas, \$500,000?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Oh you mean where you are at right here? About \$500,000.

Mr. Rivas, And if we go through second reading....

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, \$531,240 dollars.

Mr. Rivas, and don't approve those raises, will have cut roughly \$600,000 and then if we pull the sheriff's out...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, \$550,000 their special raises only total \$11,000 dollars for two people.

Mr. Poparad, Can you give us a recap on when you said six (6) new General Fund positions?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes so far you accrued 8 new positions in the General Fund, but in all fairness, the first four aren't new people they are in other funds that you moved, they weren't...

Mr. Poparad, They got moved over.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Two were in Prosecutor, two were in Recorder, two were at Animal Shelter. Tonight was Juvenile Probation case manager and a JDC tutor. The Commissioners have two positions that have been described as 911 dispatchers.

Ms. Conover, They are not real sure on that, but they put them in there.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, And I don't know if they need to put it back for 911...

Mr. Whitten, But we know this going in every time.

Mr. Poparad, Yeah.

Mr. Whitten, We go through it and then we have to go back. If we want to give raises we have to find money.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, So for right now and of course that we would have to make adjustments for FICA and PERF because of the new employees, but we will work on those numbers. So right now it looks like you are at around \$38.2 Million.

Mr. Poparad, So back to the new employees we have only added really one new employee there must have been transfer out of grant funds...two.

Mr. Whitten, Two.

Ms. Graham, Two.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, No, two for Animal Shelter and one for Juvenile Probation...

Mr. Poparad, Well, I mean one for tonight I mean...

Ms. Graham, Tonight...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, and one for the tutor for the JDC...

Mr. Rivas, So four.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, So that a total of four new bodies.

Mr. Poparad, Brand new bodies.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, But in the General Fund a total of eight new...

Mr. Poparad, Right but they have already existing employees paid with grants and whatever...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Exactly, just moved from other funds into the General Fund.

Mr. Biggs, Have we...or can you try to get a better hold on our figure for what we should expect the cost associated to the Health Insurance program for next year. Whether it's going to go up, only going to go up a little bit or is it's going to go up a lot.

Mr. Whitten, All she can do is get the number from them, it's all projections, its all guesswork.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Exactly, what we are getting from the Commissioner's is that they are proposing no change in that per contribution from the Non-General fund 17380.

Mr. Whitten, We might have a great year where it's much lower and we have extra money.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes. That the problem, we don't know.

Auditor Chief Deputy Toni Downing, We started last year with two million dollars and now we should be ending with five million dollars.

Mr. Rivas, What is the total requested out of the Hospital Interest for insurance? What are we going to be requesting?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, What is going?

Mr. Rivas, Out of interest to...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, It looks to be about the same as last year...health insurance \$1.3 million and that the only other things that were in the Budget were the Social Services.

Mr. Rivas, So \$2.5 million?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I'm sorry?

Mr. Rivas, So \$2.4?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Rivas, And if we were to pull out the pension money?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok, if you were to pull out the pension money from the General Fund...

Mr. Whitten, The pension is not in the interest right now.

Mr. Rivas, Right.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, You're at roughly \$37.2 million.

Mr. Rivas, But then the only place in my thinking right now is to pay as interest so that as using \$3.5 million dollars of interest money to govern off of next year.

Mr. Whitten, That's what you are saying.

Ms. Conover, What do we have in interest right now?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, About \$4.7 million.

Mr. Rivas, We are not truly governing though because we are adding Social Services into that so...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, You mean Hospital Interest?

Ms. Conover, Yeah, what do we have in there now that's not committed?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok \$3.7 million.

Mr. Whitten, Yeah, but that is going to be much higher.

Mr. Rivas, Right.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Right and we also still have to take a Health Insurance draw out off of that.

Ms. Conover, Ok.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, We are taking them quarterly.

Mr. Rivas, Can we go back?

Mr. Biggs, So what does that historical been quarterly...the amounts?

Mr. Rivas, To the interest money?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Just for the Hospital Interest draw?

Mr. Biggs, You say for Health Insurance?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Biggs, How much?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, \$331,750 just out of Hospital Interest, so three million at the end of the year maybe...\$3.2 million at the end of the year.

Mr. Rivas, So yes, if you take out Social Services and not include that and you add the Pension into the...so really we are using \$1.3 million for life and if you were to put the Pension in there it would be \$2.3 or \$2.5 million to really govern off of. The other one is we are supplementing Social Services that were cut from Federal and State Government. So you know its...

Ms. Conover, Yes.

Mr. Biggs, Well you heard Adult and Juvenile Probation, were getting mandated.

Mr. Poparad, Dan, I had a conversation with some attorneys about rule 26 and obviously there is more to this. But this cash flow that we get from the bonds is going to slap us in the face. Because that pays for Probation, PACT....

Mr. Whitten, There is a tremendous, a tremendous movement to change that.

Mr. Poparad, I know but...

Mr. Whitten, I don't want to react to that now.

Mr. Poparad, No, no, no I'm just saying it's on the horizon and that is going to...

Mr. Whitten, If they didn't change that we would start feeling that in 2018.

Mr. Poparad, Yes.

Mr. Whitten, There is to many...there are counties that would be hit much more than us and they are just climbing all over this.

Mr. Poparad, All of them fee's going to Probation and Pact...they all are and if the fees dry up.

Mr. Whitten, I mean we may be faced with you know...listen we may get to the final reading or salary increase day and looking at a room full of employees and informing them either we are going to give them a raise. Understanding that's going to use our interest money for the Sheriff's Pension because that is the only way we can do that. Or reducing the Health Insurance cost and hoping for a good year. Or, telling these employees that you don't get a raise again. And pay no attention to the nine million dollars that we are getting on interest next year. I doubt that they will be excited about that.

Mr. Poparad, There is just no Christmas card this year.

Mr. Whitten, So, I think we just have to get through these last few budget we have and have a real candid look at our Health Insurance. I have reached out to Anton to see if that a...look at our historical hit and we have had some pretty extraordinary hits this year but we still had a pretty good year. And see what a reasonable budget against that is.

Mr. Jessen, It would be helpful to Vicki if you could kind of send us a summary of where we are at currently...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Ok.

Mr. Jessen, And some of the key issues that we need to consider.

Mr. Poparad, And knowing that last year we kind of short sheeted the Health Insurance a little bit to get raises. And then in June of the following year we have done additional to shore up the healthcare. Because, we don't know.

Mr. Whitten, We could have a bad year.

Mr. Poparad, Right we don't know how it's going to go...it's either good or bad.

Ms. Conover, We didn't do that for this year.

Mr. Poparad, No, no we have done that in the past...we cut...

Ms. Conover, Yeah.

Mr. Poparad, You roll the dice...

Mr. Biggs, Well, if we could afford to do this we will do it. If we can't we are not. We are not doing any of the employees any favors by giving them a raise that we can't afford to give them.

Mr. Whitten, Jim Biggs says no raises.

Mr. Rivas, For the Sheriff's departments.

(Laughter)

Mr. Biggs, I say no raises if we can't afford it.

Mr. Poparad, We can afford it, it's just the same pair of pants with different pockets.

Mr. Rivas, The implementation of the storm water fee...

Mr. Biggs, Well, will see we very well may be able to afford it.

Mr. Whitten, Same pair of pants different pockets.

Ms. Conover, That was good.

Mr. Biggs, So what are we sitting here talking...

Mr. Poparad, Well, we are adjourned...

Mr. Biggs, Yeah, we are adjourned.

Mr. Rivas, Biggs, can I just...well we implemented a Storm Water fee in anticipation of...

Ms. Graham, That's correct.

Mr. Rivas, Cleaning up money in CEDIT...

Ms. Conover, That's right, General Fund.

Mr. Whitten, When we get to CEDIT that should be less money.

Mr. Rivas, I will be interested to see is there a million dollars somewhere that should have been saved.

Mr. Poparad, Should be.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

**PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA**

Jim Biggs

Karen Conover

Sylvia Graham

Mike Jessen

Bob Poparad

Jeremy Rivas

Dan Whitten

Attest: _____
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor