

**PERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**MAY 28, 2013**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jimmy B. Clayton  
Kyle W. Puryear  
B. Ray Jeffers  
Frances P. Blalock  
David Newell, Sr.

Heidi York, County Manager  
Brenda B. Reaves, Clerk to the Board

The Board of Commissioners for the County of Person, North Carolina, met in recessed session on Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at 6:00 pm in the Commissioners' meeting room in the Person County Office Building for the purpose of a budget work session.

Chairman Clayton called the meeting to order. Commissioner Puryear was absent until 6:58 pm.

**DISCUSSION/ADJUSTMENT/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Jeffers, and **carried 4-0** to approve the agenda.

County Manager, Heidi York informed the Board that a folder was added to their Drop Box named Budget 2013-14 which contains a file with on-going follow-up questions from commissioners regarding the FY13-14 proposed budget.

Ms. York stated at each commissioner's seat are handouts with slides related to Tax Revenues that will be presented by Russell Jones, Employee Insurance Costs as will be presented by Amy Wehrenberg and New Position Requests outlining the positions recommended and not recommended in the Manager's proposed budget.

**TAX REVENUES:**

County Manager, Heidi York along with Tax Administrator, Russell Jones led the group in the discussion about the County's tax revenue noting impacts to the revenues included the recent revaluation and the proposed new DMV system projected to go live September 1, 2013 as well as the adjustments made by the Board of Equalization and Review.

Mr. Jones presented the following information:

## One Penny on the Tax Rate

2 calculations for FY 13-14:

Basis	Tax Base	One Penny =	Explanation
Consistent with prior years' calculations	\$4.055B	\$393,444	Amount of revenues received by tax office
To include tax levy and 16 months of vehicle taxes	\$4.307B	\$417,719	Includes tax office levy and all vehicle taxes (one-time bonus 4 months)

## Revenue Neutral Calculation #1

(does NOT include 4 months of additional DMV revenues)

### STEP 1

	FY13	FY14	Notes
Tax Base	\$ 4,075,873,574	\$ 4,194,114,951	FY13 was projected at \$3.99, closing year at \$4.075 due to state appraised coming in +\$35M
Tax Rate	.70	.6803	Not allowing for growth
Net Revenues	\$ 28,531,115	\$ 28,531,115	

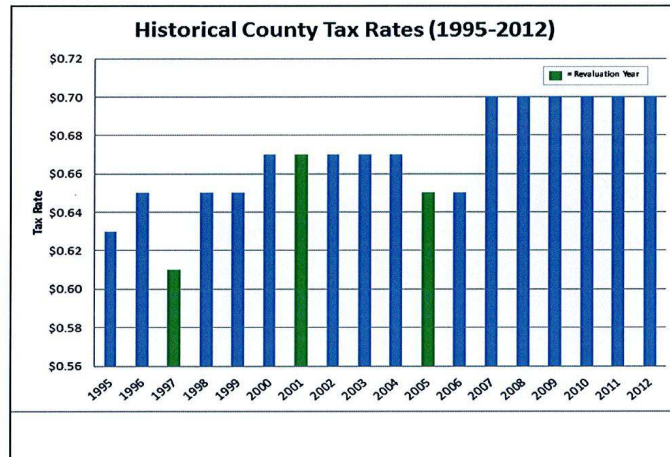
### STEP 2

Rate before growth adjustment	.6803		
Average growth		1.9365 %	Average growth since last revaluation (2005), 7yrs
Rate adjusted for growth		.6934	Revenue Neutral Rate

Revenue Neutral Calculation #2 (includes 4 months of additional DMV revenues)			
STEP 1			
	FY13	FY14	
Tax Base	\$ 4,075,873,574	\$ 4,307,000,000	FY13 was projected at \$3.99, closing year at \$4.075 due to state appraised coming in +\$35M
Tax Rate	.70	.6624	Not allowing for growth
Net Revenues	\$ 28,531,115	\$ 28,531,115	
STEP 2			
Rate before growth adjustment		.6624	
Average growth		1.9365 %	Average growth since last revaluation (2005), 7yrs
Rate adjusted for growth		.6753	Revenue Neutral Rate

Effect of Tax Rate Changes			
	Tax Rate	Revenue Projection	Revenue Change
Current Rate	.7000	\$ 29,244,530	
Revenue Neutral Rate w/DMV bonus	.6753	\$ 28,212,616	-\$ 1,031,914
One-Cent Rate Reduction	.6900	\$ 28,826,751	-\$ 417,719

Mr. Jones stated, in his opinion, the best revenue neutral rate would be the .6934 which allowed growth but did not include the four months of additional DMV revenues.



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Mr. Jones stated confidence that the DMV program would not be delayed again noting there are proponents still in active debate for such action. Mr. Jones noted the extra four months bonus DMV revenue equates to \$775,000 for the County; he further noted should the program be delayed the entire fiscal year, the County would be \$400,000 to the negative. Ms. York stated funds are set aside to account for a further delay by DMV as well as to counter any negative impact should the state appraised properties values come in lower than anticipated which will not be known until September 2013.

**May 28, 2013**

**EMPLOYEE INSURANCE COSTS:**

Finance Director, Amy Wehrenberg presented the following information related to group health insurance impact to the County Manager’s recommended budget:

Current Year’s Cost FY 13:	\$2,268,700
Manager’s Recommended FY 14:	\$2,380,803
WellPath Group Insurance FY 14:	\$2,412,624

**Changes in amounts & %’s:**

Manager’s Recommended over FY 2013:	\$112,103 or a 4.9% increase
Wellpath Grp Insur. over Manager’s Recom:	\$31,821 or a 1.3% increase
Wellpath Grp Insurance over FY 2013:	\$143,924

County Manager, Heidi York confirmed an additional \$31,821 in funding is required to balance the Manager’s recommended budget.

**POSITION REQUESTS:**

County Manager, Heidi York stated the handout presented related to recommended 9.2 new positions includes the additional costs of the new insurance benefit plan which totaled \$2,951.

Ms. York explained the Telecommunications new position recommended for a 911 Shift Supervisor has approximately \$27,500 funding available from the 911 surcharge/restricted fund to offset the County’s portion.

Ms. York noted the two new positions recommended for the Department of Social Services (DSS) are funded 50% by the State and 50% by the County.

Ms. York stated the new positions recommended for the Human Resources (HR) and the Info Technology (IT) to begin in January 2014 are tied to the new Munis (HR and Finance) software package which will be implemented over the summer and fall. Ms. York added the IT position(s) will also support the Laser fiche software program for all county departments.

<b>Positions Recommended</b>			
<b>FTE</b>	<b>DEPT</b>	<b>POSITION TITLE</b>	<b>COST*</b>
1	Info Technology**	IT System Administrator	\$29,443
1	Info Technology	IT User Support Specialist	\$53,467
1	Human Resources**	Human Resources Technician	\$20,694
1.6	Coop. Ext.***	Social Worker/Parent Educator	\$82,739
0.6	Coop. Ext.***	Sr. Admin Support Specialist	\$28,296
1	Telecommunications	911 Shift Supervisor	\$46,008
1	EMS	Compliance Officer	\$51,320
1	DSS	Processing Assistant IV-Service Intake	\$36,510
1	DSS	Income Maintenance Caseworker II - Adult Medicaid	\$42,292
<b>Offsetting revenues or reductions</b>			<b>\$185,988</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$204,781</b>
<b>Positions Not Recommended</b>			
<b>FTE</b>	<b>DEPT</b>	<b>POSITION TITLE</b>	<b>COST*</b>
8	Sheriff	Deputy Sheriff/SRO	\$351,412
1	Animal Control	Animal Services Compliance Officer	\$41,260
1	DSS	Caseworker II – Children’s Medicaid	\$42,292
1	DSS	Processing Assistant III - Clerical	\$34,154
.4	Coop. Ext.	Social Worker/Parent Educator	\$17,681
.4	Coop. Ext.	Sr. Admin Support Specialist	\$14,859
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$501,658</b>

\*Cost includes salary and benefits

\*\*Positions will begin in January 2014 with full year costs estimated at \$41,388 for the HR position and \$58,886 for the IT position.

\*\*\* 100% grant funded position

It was the consensus of the Board to approve the 2.2 new positions recommended for the Cooperative Extension department for the Social Worker/Parent Educator and the Sr. Admin Support Specialist, both of which are 100% grant funded. Ms. York noted the grant is for a three-year period and the County will not have any obligations currently or in the future.

Commissioner Blalock requested the Board of Commissioners to hear from the department directors for the justification as to why the new positions are being requested.

The following department directors appeared before the Board to describe the roles projected for the new positions requested:

IT Director, Gary Latta, HR Director, Angie Warren, Emergency Management Director, Wes Lail along with Telecommunications Director, Tommy Cole and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Operations Manager Greg White, and Interim DSS Director, Carlton Paylor.

Vice Chairman Jeffers requested the County Manager to review the feasibility to transfer current Person Industries' employee to HR due to HR taking over the PI related duties.

Vice Chairman Jeffers asked for additional information related to the EMS debt set off amount and the ability to garnish wages with the assistance of the Tax Office. Commissioners Blalock and Newell were interested in more information related to the outstanding EMS debt, annual billing/collection totals and the period of time debt is carried on the books before being written off.

Commissioner Newell requested a copy of the EMS contract with the third party bill collector, NRG as well as more information about transport fees.

Vice Chairman Jeffers told the group the DSS position not recommended related to the Children's Medicaid will be affected with a 30% increase of applicants just as the recommended position for Adult Medicaid as both are impacted by the Affordable Care Act.

Commissioner Newell had questions related to the fee schedule, one of which related to the Kirby rental. County Manager, Heidi York noted she would ask the Recreation, Arts and Parks Director, John Hill to come to the next scheduled budget work session prepared to speak to the rental fees of the Kirby as well as to provide a contract for such services for the Board to review and with an overview of the operating costs and revenues for the Kirby.

Vice Chairman Jeffers requested options related to 911 dispatchers being put on the same schedule to accommodate the Munis software program.

Vice Chairman Jeffers advocated for the volunteer fire departments to be funded at the pre-recession levels before adding the additional funding based on call volume.

Commissioner Puryear asked if there was potential to earn more revenues on the fees related to the Jail concessions and phone cards. Sheriff Dewey Jones commented the County received 13% of concession sales and 25% of phone cards purchased by inmates which are comparable to other jurisdictions based on a review of such last year. Commissioner Puryear asked how much revenue had been taken in for concealed weapon fees. Ms. York stated \$47,805 to date has been collected by the Sheriff's Office for concealed weapon fees noting over one-half of the fee in revenue will be submitted to the State noting the fees for such are regulated by the State.

Ms. York asked Commissioner Puryear if he wanted the Tax Administrator to review the Tax Revenue discussion which took place in his absence. Commissioner Puryear stated he would follow up with the County Manager on the discussion he missed.

Ms. York reminded the Board the Budget Public Hearing is scheduled to be held at the Board's next regular scheduled meeting on June 3, 2013 at 7:00 pm in the County Auditorium. Ms. York noted the next scheduled budget work session is scheduled for June 10, 2013 at 6:00 pm in the Commissioners' meeting room and asked that the Board members would direct any agenda items to her attention for the June 10<sup>th</sup> work session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A **motion** was made by Vice Chairman Jeffers, **carried 5-0** to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 pm.

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Brenda B. Reaves  
Clerk to the Board

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Jimmy B. Clayton  
Chairman