

District No. 1 - Ronald Williams
District No. 2 - Dewey Weaver
District No. 3 - Jody DuPree
District No. 4 - Stephen E. Bailey
District No. 5 - Scarlet P. Frisina



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS • COLUMBIA COUNTY

August 3, 2010

M E M O

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FR: Dale Williams, County Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dale", with a horizontal line underneath.

RE: FY 2010-2011 Budget
August 9, 2010 Budget Workshop

The proposed floor budget for FY 2010 -2011 is currently \$1,402,354 out of balance.
The proposed floor budget began \$2,129,789 out of balance.

In preparation for the Tuesday, August 17, 2010 budget workshop, direction from the Board of County Commissioners is needed in order that a balanced floor budget can be presented. For your use I have prepared a summary of the current status of the FY 2010-2011 budget and a list of possible reductions. The list of possible reductions is in no particular order and is not exhaustive. No "Quality of Life" services (fire, EMS, recreation) have been included; however, these services are not constitutionally or legislatively required.

From the list of possible reductions I am most interested in the Board determining which expenditures on the list are not to be utilized to balance the floor budget. This is the primary objective of the August 9, 2010 workshop. Please advise if you have questions prior to the workshop.

DW/cnb

XC: FY 2010-2011 Budget File

BOARD MEETS FIRST THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M.
AND THIRD THURSDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

**CURRENT STATUS
FY 2010 – 2011 BUDGET**

*Revenue Reduction (4.1%)	(1,015,590)
*Funding Increases –	
Employee Health Insurance	(330,000)
FRS Increase	(334,199)
Combined Fire/EMS Expense	(200,000)
24/7 Operations – Overtime	(250,000)
*Total Revenue Shortfall (to maintain current level of operations)	(\$2,129,789)

(NOTE – the total revenue shortfall above does not include constitutional officer requests in excess of the current floor budget)

**EXPENDITURE REDUCTIONS
CURRENT STATUS
FY 2010 – 2011 BUDGET**

*Eliminated (subject to BCC approval) employee health insurance increase by changing plan and benefit structure	330,000
*Reductions in appropriations by the County Manager (see expenditure worksheet for line item reductions)	<u>397,435</u>
*Total	<u>\$ 727,435</u>
Revenue/Expenditure Cuts Needed to Balance -	(\$1,402,354)

**POSSIBLE EXPENDITURE REDUCTIONS
FY 2010 - 2011 BUDGET**

(in no particular order of recommendation)

*postpone merger of fire/EMS \$200,000

(the merger of fire/EMS could have a positive impact on overtime; however, scenarios exist in which overtime would increase as a result)

*implement "furlough" days (per day) \$ 71,598

(the per day reduction is based upon the "furlough" days(s) falling on a customary paid holiday. County employees currently have 13 paid holidays annually. By utilizing the holiday as a "furlough" day additional reductions are realized in overtime expenditures.)

*overall reductions in the budget of Constitutional Officers:

1.) Sheriff (per 1%)	\$122,237
2.) Property Appraiser (per 1%)	\$ 13,000
3.) Supervisor of Elections (per 1%)	\$ 6,106
4.) Clerk of Court (per 1%)	\$ 3,206

(the Clerk of Court is a fee officer except for Clerk to the Board responsibilities. The Tax Collector is a fee office)

*Santa Fe Soil and Water Conservation \$ 3,000

(the only remaining third party recipient in General Fund - Physical Environment)

*Veteran Service \$ 87,453

(Columbia County is one of the few counties statewide that provides a full time Veterans Service office. Columbia County is however home to a VA Medical Facility that provides a large economic impact. A large number of veterans live in Columbia County. Services provided through the county Veteran Service office are also provided through the hospital)

*Change to Voice Over Internet (VOip) phones \$100,000

(this change will require the county to allocate \$460,000 in non reoccurring funds. If the lease/purchase option is chosen, annual savings are eliminated for approximately 5 years)

*Emergency Management \$ 80,676

(this is the amount of subsidy required by Columbia County in excess of state grants. A reduction would result in the loss of staff.)

*Addressing \$ 41,627

(eliminate one staff position. This would leave only 1 person in the department. Field inspections and "walk-ins would be problematic)

*Building and Zoning \$ 40,000

(elimination of one clerical position. Even with cuts taken in FY 2009 - 2010, this department only generates one half the revenue necessary to provide the service. This department has a minimum staffing level.)

*County Court Secretary \$ 36,388

(eliminate position. While not required under Article 5 funding responsibilities, the County Judges office is generally regarded as the busiest in the circuit. Elimination would be problematic.)

*Library Enhancement (Equalization) Funds \$300,000

(use current Equalization reserves to fund a greater portion of library expense. While it is not the policy of the county to use reserves to fund operating expenses, these reserves are restricted to library use only. At the current library funding level, the reserve will be exhausted in three years. Also, as the county will use less local funding, future equalization distributions to the county will be decreased.)

*Others