



After the first budget hearing at the October meeting, we discovered an inadvertent mistake:

I had put the incorrect rate for step G of the public service clerks scale. I had entered \$15.68 when it should have been \$14.95. That affected 4 positions. I was also off by a penny on step G of the reference scale: \$18.72 as presented should have been \$18.73, which affected one position. The end result was that correcting these mistakes added \$6227 back to the fund balance or, in other words, put us to \$6227 under budget. I apologize for these errors, they should have been caught before the budget hearing.

Happily, this being an error in our favor, the Finance Committee would like the Board to consider increasing the COLA from 2% in the 10/19/2020 Draft to 2.6%. This amount matches the COLA given recently to non-Union County employees. Doing so puts expenditures to about \$326 over revenues.

Another item to consider is that of BDL Board per diem. It has been set in the Board Bylaws since at \$25 per meeting since at least 1999. In October, the County Commissioners also increased per diems of the Commissioners and other county boards from \$30 to \$50 per meeting. If county boards are all changing their per diem, it might be a good idea to budget for this for us as well. Even with it in the budget, it would still require also amending the BDL Board Bylaws.

Doubling the BDL Board per diem would technically put us over budget by about \$4,000. But in actuality, it won't because 1) not all Trustees opt to take the compensation, and 2) we have basically a \$5,000 buffer in the budget in the form of the employee tuition reimbursement program. No one on staff has approached me with an interest in utilizing this program next year, so most likely it wouldn't get used.

The 11/13/2020 Draft of the Budget presented here in the November packet includes both of the above proposals. The message from the director on page 3, notes numbers 11 and 18 in the General Fund Narrative on page 14, and notes on page 16 have all been changed accordingly as well. The remainder of the document is as presented at the October meeting.

Submitted by John Rucker