

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL REGULAR AND 2010 BUDGET HEARINGS AUGUST 24, 25, 26  
AND SEPTEMBER 8, 2010**

The Howard County Council met Tuesday, August 24, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Richard Miller, Vice President Paul Wyman, and members James Papacek, Stan Ortman, Leslie Ellison, Joseph Pencek and Jeff Stout. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Talbert and conducted by President Miller.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the July 27, 2010 minutes, having been previously submitted and reviewed, were approved on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Stout.

At this time Councilman Stout led the Council in a word of prayer.

**IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2010 – HCCO-23 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:**

Auditor Ann Wells read Ordinance No. 2010- HCCO-23 – Additional Appropriations in full one time and it was acted upon as follows:

		<b>AMOUNT REQUESTED:</b>	<b>APPROVED:</b>
<b><u>001</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County General Fund</u></b>		
<b><u>023</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Commissioners</u></b>		
03213.02	2010 Jail Bond Payment	\$ 500,000.00	Withdrawn
<b><u>212</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Rainy Day Fund</u></b>		
03213.02	2010 Jail Bond Payment	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
<b><u>500</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County CREDIT Fund</u></b>		
03213.02	2010 Jail Bond Payment	\$ 500,000.00	Withdrawn

Auditor Wells explained the requests for \$500,000.00 from the above named funds. There are three payments left on the Jail Bond, \$826,000 due December 25, 2010 and \$825,000 each due June 25 and December 25, 2011. If 100% of the levy is collected in the fall we will receive \$428,367. We never collect 100% of the taxes. If we anticipate collecting 80% of the taxes, that amount would be \$342,694. Also, the Excise Revenue has decreased. In the spring we only received \$29,790. Those figures, along with the cash on hand amount to \$573,657 leaving us a shortfall of \$255,343. The Jail Bonds have to be paid and this request is to cover the shortfall, because we can't be sure how much will be collected in the fall and how much Excise will be distributed to Howard County.

At the conclusion of ensuing discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the Additional Request of \$500,000 to fund 212 Howard County Rainy Day Fund, line item 03213.02, 2010 Jail Bond Payment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried. The Additional requests made for funds 001, County General, and 500, CREDIT, were withdrawn by Auditor Wells.

<b><u>515</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Sheriff – Misdemeanant Fund</u></b>		
04721.00	Equipment	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,200.00

Sheriff Talbert informed the Council of problems with the Fire Suppression System in the kitchen at the Criminal Justice Center. Elwood Fire Equipment responded immediately to the problem and indicated that the system needed to be repaired or replaced (this is the original equipment). The needed repairs were made and Sheriff Talbert now asks to appropriate the costs into the Equipment line item. The repair had to be done immediately and Sheriff Talbert commends Elwood Fire Equipment Co. and Superintendent Scott Reed and the maintenance workers at the Criminal Justice Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried to approve the request of \$3,200.00 into line item 04721.00, Equipment.

**IN THE MATTER OF ORDINANCE NO. 2010-HCCO-22 – ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:**

Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-22 – Additional Appropriations was read in full one time by Auditor Wells and acted upon as follows:

**Howard County Recycling District**

**2010 Budget**

1000.00	<u>Personal Services</u>		
	Director	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 48,000.00
	Education Coordinator	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
	Recycling Officer	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
	Yard Waste Staff	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
	Part Time Staff	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
	FICA – Medicare	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00
	PERF – Retirement	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
	Health Insurance	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00
2000.00	<u>Supplies</u>		
	Office Supplies	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
	Collection Supplies	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
	Maintenance Supplies	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
3000.00	<u>Other Services</u>		
	Recycling Services	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
	Yard Waste Center – Grinding	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
	HHW Programs	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
	District Plan Programs-Electronics, Tires, Etc.	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
	Home Composting Program	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
	Rain Barrels	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
	Enforcement & Clean Up	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00
	School Recycling Projects	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
	Municipal Recycling	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	Postage	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	Meetings & Travel	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
	Telephone Expenses	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Legal Advertising	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	Public Awareness & Promotions	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
	Education Supplies	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	Bonding-Liability& Facility	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
	Security	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	Electric	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00
	Gas	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00
	Water	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
	Sewage	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
	Trash	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	Pests	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
	Buildings & Grounds	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
	Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
	Uniforms	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	Legal Services	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Controller Services	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 13,200.00
	Recycling Bin Repair	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
	Memberships	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	Subscriptions	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	Professional Education	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	Payroll Services	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	Litigation Expenses	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00

4000.00	<u>Capital Outlay</u>		
	Computer & Software	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
	Office Equipment	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
	Recycling Equipment	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000.00
	<b>TOTAL RECYCLING DISTRICT ADDITIONALS</b>	<b>\$ 1,088,700.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,088,700.00</b>

Recycling District Director Mikki Jeffers informed the Council that there was a breakdown in communications between the State, the County and the Recycling District, concerning whose job it was to publicize the 2010 Budget. The Recycling District did advertise the budget, but it should have been the Auditor's office on behalf of the County Council. This is just a legality to follow the state's directives.

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-22 – Additional Appropriations, 2010 Budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE SECOND READING 2011 BUDGET FOR THE HOWARD COUNTY RECYCLING DISTRICT:**

Ms. Jeffers submitted the 2011 Budget Estimate for the Howard County Recycling District that has been approved by the Recycling Board. This proposed budget is \$21,700.00 less than the 2010 budget, and \$50,000 less than what was proposed to the State this year. This is the same budget that was submitted for the first reading; nothing has been changed. In response to questions concerning the salary increases included in the 2011 budget, Ms. Jeffers explained that the Secretary/Education Coordinator position is decreasing \$6,000.00 from the 2010 to 2011. The Recycling Officer salary remains the same as 2010. The Recycling Coordinator is a new position on this year's budget but was added in 2010. He was paid out of the part-time line item. The increase in the Director's salary is just putting it at the same level as the 2006 budgeted salary (the salary had increased to \$52,000 in the time Ms. Jeffers was hired). When Ms. Jeffers was hired to that position in 2009, she agreed to hold the salary at \$48,000, for two years and move to the \$50,000 in 2011. Ms. Jeffers answered other questions pertaining to the proposed budget. At the conclusion of discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the 2011 Budget Estimate for the Howard County Recycling District. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2010-HCCR-11 – TRANSFERS:**

Auditor Wells read Resolution No. 2010-HCCR-11 – Transfers in full one time and they were acted upon as follows:

<u>001</u>	<u>Transfer From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Allowed</u>
<u>030</u>	<u>Howard County General Fund</u>		<u>Requested</u>	
01113.00	Public Defender			
	Deputy Part Time	1113.30 Deputy Public Defender	\$ 16,240.77	\$ 43,154.01

Public Defender Steve Raquet submitted this request, clarifying that the transfer request was originally submitted for the July Council meeting, and the transfer request submitted at that time was incorrect. Mr. Raquet apologized and informed the Council that the actual amount needed for this transfer is \$43,154.01 from the same funds as submitted. He distributed copies of the amended transfer request to the Council members. One of the full-time Defenders has left this position and the practice of law. Mr. Raquet is not re-hiring that position, per se, but is decreasing three part-time positions and increasing two full-time positions. The last quarterly submission showed that nine deputies were over their allotted hours. Mr. Raquet presented his argument to the Public Defender Council and was able to receive the reimbursement. Part of his argument to the Defender Council on ways to alleviate that problem in the future included this action. Mr. Raquet continued to explain to the Council how this solution would save the County money.

At the conclusion of explanation, a motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Wyman and carried to approve the transfer of \$43,154.01 from line item 01113.00, Deputy Part Time to line item 01113.30, Deputy Public Defender.

<b><u>002</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Highway Fund</u></b>		
12110.00	Truck Driver	12180.00 Truck Driver / Sign Shop Director	\$ 11,961.04 \$ 11,961.04
12110.00	Truck Driver	12190.00 Truck Driver / Safety Director	\$ 11,961.04 \$ 11,961.04
11160.00	Technician	12180.00 Truck Driver / Sign Shop Dirctr	\$ 350.00 \$ 350.00

11160.00	Technician	12190.00	Truck Driver / Safety Director	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
<b>007</b>	<b><u>Howard County Local Road &amp; Street Fund</u></b>				
23754.00	Bituminous	33760.00	Goyer Rd to New US31 CR 100 South	\$ 212,000.00	\$ 212,000.00

Highway Engineer / Superintendent Ted Cain explained the Highway Fund transfers for the Council members. The Highway Department has lost three employees in the last year through death or retirement. Mr. Cain has not replaced those positions at this time, but is making preparations to make one replacement. Losing any further positions will affect services provided to the County, especially in the area of snow plowing. Two of the employees lost this year had responsibilities (1) directing the Sign Shop and (2) as Safety Director. In lieu of hiring additional personnel to take those responsibilities, Mr. Cain is adding those responsibilities to several of his drivers and increasing their pay. By doing that he is saving the County over \$52,000. The Goyer Road project for the new US 31, was let in August for an amount of \$1.85 million. Mr. Cain was hoping that the letting of the project would not be this early, as the road cannot be closed until May, 2011 and this will tie up our funds. He may be able to obtain permission from the contractor and the State to withhold payment until 2011, but in case that is not approved he is asking to transfer funds to cover the County's share of funds, up to \$212,000.00. There is a chance he will not need the whole amount, as the State does owe us money.

At the conclusion of ensuing discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried to approve the transfers as submitted.

**IN THE MATTER OF SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 2010-HCCO-24 – AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE FOR 2010:**

Auditor Ann Wells read Salary Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-24 – Amending Salary Ordinance For 2010 in full one time and it was acted upon as follows:

<b><u>001</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County General Fund</u></b>	<b>REQUESTED:</b>	<b>APPROVED:</b>
<b><u>030</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Public Defender</u></b>		
01113.00	Deputy Public Defender (8) \$444,070	\$ 322,960.00	\$ 322,960.00
	<i>Decreasing 11 to 8 @\$40,370 each</i>		
01113.30	Full Time Public Defender (7) \$257,500	\$ 360,500.00	\$ 360,500.00
	<i>Increasing 5 to 7 @\$51,500 each</i>		
<b><u>002</u></b>	<b><u>Howard County Highway</u></b>		
12110.00	Truck Drivers (5) \$240,141	\$ 170,872.00	\$ 170,872.00
	<i>Decreasing 7 to 5</i>		
11160.00	Technician (0) \$37,363	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
	<i>Eliminating Position</i>		
12180.00	Truck Driver / Sign Shop Director	\$ 35,173.00	\$ 35,173.00
12190.00	Truck Driver / Safety Director	\$ 35,173.00	\$ 35,173.00

***Changing Two Truck Drivers To New Title With Added Responsibilities***

Salary Ordinance No. 2010-HCCO-24 – Amending Salary Ordinance For 2010 was approved as submitted on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Stout.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE DECLARATION OF COUNTY TAX RATES:**

Auditor Wells submitted the Declaration of County Tax Rates for Fiscal Year October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011, to be reviewed and approved by the County Council. This Declaration sets the proposed rates the same as the 2010 rates as follows:

CAGIT (County Adjusted Gross Income Tax)	N/A
COIT (County Option Income Tax)	.07 – COIT
	.05 – Property Tax Relief
	.02 – Special Jail & Juvenile
CEDIT (County Economic Development Income Tax)	.02

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the Declaration of County Tax Rates for Fiscal Year October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011. The motion was seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF A LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT:**

Mr. Miller submitted a request to fill the vacant Howard County / Kokomo Library Board seat left by Mr. William Sahn who passed away in June, 2010. Mr. Miller has received the name of Ms. Mary Baker, 5959 West County Road 00North South, who is interested in being appointed to the Board. She is a graduate of Western High School and Indiana University, with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism and Political Science. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the appointment of Ms. Mary Baker to the Howard County Library Board to finish the term vacated by Mr. Sahn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF NON-BINDING BUDGET REVIEWS:**

The Proposed 2011 budgets of several taxing entities were submitted and acted upon as follows:

Copies of the Ervin and Center Township 2011 Proposed Budgets were distributed to the Councilmen. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wyman to give a favorable non-binding review to both Ervin and Center Township budgets. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman.

Copies of the Greentown Public Library and the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library proposed 2011 Budgets were distributed to the Council members for their review. At the conclusion of ensuing discussion a motion was made by Mr. Papacek to give favorable non-binding reviews to both Greentown and Kokomo-Howard County Public Libraries. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout and carried.

*At this time President Miller opened the floor for Public Comment concerning the 2011 Budget Process. There being no comment concerning the 2011 budget process, Mr. Miller moved forward to New Business.*

**IN THE MATTER OF THE PRESS RELEASE CONCERNING THE DECREASE IN ASSESSED VALUES:**

County Assessor Jamie Shepherd took this opportunity to address the Council as a body concerning the press release that appeared in the paper regarding the decrease in assessed values in Howard County, and what that means as the Council enters into the 2011 budget process. The Auditor's office reported a decrease in net assessed Personal Property values in the amount of \$737 million, from 2010 to 2011. Personal Property is all tangible assets, machinery and equipment. There are several factors that contributed to the decrease, including the decrease of gross assessed values and the increase in deductions. However, the greatest contributing factor is the loss in value, in the amount of \$698 million, due to the filings of Chrysler and General Motors on the personal property tax returns. Real property values are assigned by the Assessors' Offices from guidelines set by the State. A property owner can appeal the assessed value with the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals, if they feel they are in error. Personal Property is a self reported assessment, and it is up to the Assessors' offices to audit the returns and set the value, or make an appeal, if it is felt that the assessments are in error. General Motors filed a 97% decrease in value from their 2009 to 2010 return (\$210 Million). Chrysler filed an 89% decrease in value from their 2009 to 2010 return (\$712 Million). Those decreased figures are devastating to the taxing units, especially the City of Kokomo, Howard County, Center Township (Kokomo/Center Schools) and Howard Township (Northwestern Schools). Ms. Shepherd continued to clarify the effects to these taxing units and the taxpayers in these units. She also spoke to the tax caps that will be effective 2011, and the millions of dollars lost or shifted. For taxing purposes, the Assessors' office had to certify the lower assessed figure; that is what the Council will be working with during the budget sessions. However, a committee of County representatives is currently in negotiations with Chrysler and General Motors to try to resolve the situation in the best way possible for the County and all the tax payers.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE WILDCAT CREEK GUARDIANS:**

Mr. Charlie Scoog submitted and distributed copies of a DVD titled Wildcat Creek, Community Treasure. This DVD was professionally produced. The funding for this production was made possible by a Community Initiative Grant received from Delphi and Toyota Corporation. The Guardians are also working with Martin Marietta to put in a public access site on Wildcat Creek from the west side of Kokomo at County Road 440 West. The Wildcat Creek Guardians understand that the Creek is a great natural resource for Howard County. Wildcat Creek is a focal point of every study done involving community improvement. The video is currently in rotation on the K-GOV television channel and is being distributed

without cost to the schools in the watershed area, and to elected officials. The Guardians will continue to work with the City and the County to protect the Wildcat Creek.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS EMPLOYMENT REQUEST:**

Community Corrections Director Steve Maus informed the Council that one of his two caseworkers has left employment and Mr. Maus is asking permission to replace the position. The position is funded 50% by fund monies and 50% by user fee monies. County General money is not used to fund the position. The new hire will be employed at the usual 90% rate and move to 95% after thirty days and 100% after one year. At the conclusion of ensuing discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the replacement of the caseworker. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout. There were five aye votes and one nay. The motion carried.

Mr. Wyman spoke of a former policy that asked any position re-hire requests be made in writing and submitted to the Council Members five days in advance of the meeting. Mr. Maus understands the reason for the request and apologized for not submitting the request before the meeting.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ISSUES:**

Sheriff Marshall Talbert submitted the following issues for the Council's information and approval:

1. **Jail Inspection:** The State Jail Inspection will take place in September. Some of the deficiencies noted in last year's inspection report were addressed this year and Sheriff Talbert believes we are ready.
2. **Department of Corrections Holds:** DOC hold checks will no longer be submitted at the Council Meetings. The State is now issuing those funds through electronic funds transfers to the Auditor's Office.
3. **Loss Of Part Time Nursing Position:** The Part Time nurse at the Sheriff's Department has left employment to finish her education. Sheriff Talbert is in the process of hiring an additional Licensed Practical Nurse.

Sheriff Talbert will be sponsoring lunch for the Councilmen for tomorrow's Budget Session.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF COMMENT BY COMMISSIONER TRINE:**

Commissioner Trine, speaking on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, offered several recommendations in lieu of laying off County employees as follows:

Early retirement for employees that are eligible  
Revoking insurance benefits for eligible Part Time/Full Time employees  
Consider revoking the \$300 office stipend to the County's attorneys  
Commissioner Trine distributed Pink Slips to the Councilmen, reminding them that if everything is on the table, they would be included.

Personnel Director Wanda McKillip submitted several personnel statistics concerning the six hundred county employees (not including elected officials) that serve as **Option 1:**

Six (6) individuals are sixty-five years and older and would be eligible for 100% of their pension and eligible for Medicare Health Care. With the over 70 years of age category, it will be an anticipated savings of \$370,599.17.

Two (2) employees over the age of seventy are eligible for the Milly Law, being, over fifty-years old and have worked for Howard County for twenty years. They would be eligible to retire with a full pension and Social Security.

Thirteen (13) employees are sixty years of age and older, eligible for full benefits, excluding Health Care. The Personnel Department is looking at options for health care. There is an anticipated savings of \$717,758.29.

Six (6) employees are eligible for the 85 rule (age plus years of service) at an anticipated savings of \$283,717.75.

Ms. McKillip does not know if those that are eligible to retire can afford to retire, but she will be notifying them to determine their status at this time. These statistics are eligible as of January 1, 2011 with a total savings of \$1.3 million dollars.

**Option 2** is as follows:

Early Retirement Payout Bonus offering \$100 per year of PERF service. The total dollar amount would be \$60,500.00. The Personnel Office would help employees with retirement information and benefits.

Mr. Trine assured the Council that these options are a way to give employees options during difficult times. He again thanked the committee currently working on Chrysler and GM matters.

Councilman Papacek thanked all the Office Holders and Department Heads for the budgets submitted for 2011. But, he has also never experienced a budget session that will be as difficult as this will one will be. He appreciates their efforts to work with the Council on trimming the budget as much as possible.

*President Miller offered comments going into the Budget Hearings and at its conclusion,  
the meeting was recessed until 8:30 August 25, 2010,  
on a motion made by Mr. Papacek and seconded by Mr. Ortman.*

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting was reconvened at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 25, 2010, by President Richard Miller.

The following Office Holders and Department Heads appeared at the times scheduled to present detailed justification of their budget requests for 2011.

8:30 a.m.	001-030	Public Defender	Steve Raquet
8:45 a.m.	001-014	Superior Court I	Judge William Menges
	001-045	Unified Court	Judge William Menges
	050-000	Jury Pay	Judge William Menges
	120-000	Drug Free Community Based Fund	Kathy Horton
9:00 a.m.	001-004	Recorder	Linda Koontz
9:15 a.m.	002-000	Highway Department	Ted Cain
	006-000	Cumulative Bridge	Ted Cain
	007-000	Local Road & Street	Ted Cain
9:30 a.m.	001-005	Sheriff	Sheriff Talbert
	252-025	Jail/Juvenile COIT	Sheriff Talbert
	115-000	Sheriff Inmate Work Program	Sheriff Talbert
	256-000	Howard County Court House Security	Sheriff Talbert
9:45 a.m.	010-000	Health Department	Kent Weaver
	137-000	Indiana Aids Fund	Kent Weaver
	215-000	Master Tobacco Grant	Kent Weaver
	269-000	QA Project Health Dept	Kent Weaver
	514-000	Local Health Maintenance	Kent Weaver
	932-000	Bio Pub Health Coordinator Grant	Kent Weaver
10:00 a.m.			
10:15 a.m.	001-012	Prosecuting Attorney	James Fleming
	001-036	Prosecutor IV-D	James Fleming
	186-000	Pre-trial Diversion	James Fleming
	198-000	Law Enforcement Fund	James Fleming
	247-000	Prosecutor / Bad Check & Copy Fund	James Fleming
	508-000	Stop Domestic Violence Grant	James Fleming
	512-000	Drug Task Force Grant	James Fleming
10:30 a.m.	001-003	Treasurer	Martha Lake

10:45 a.m.	001-001	Clerk	Mona Myers
	001-016	Election Board	Mona Myers
	700-000	Clerk Document Storage Fee	Mona Myers
11:00 a.m.	001-002	Auditor	Ann Wells
	046-000	Electronic Data Fund	Ann Wells
	108-000	Plat Book Funds	Ann Wells
	050-000	Jury Pay Fund (Zero out)	Ann Wells

*The Council recessed the meeting for a lunch sponsored by Sheriff Talbert.  
The Council reconvened the Hearings and observed the schedule as follows.*

1:00 p.m.	001-011	Center Township Assessor	Sheila Pullen
1:15 p.m.	001-010	County Assessor	Jamie Shepherd
	011-000	Reassessment	Jamie Shepherd
	069-000	Sales Disclosure Fees	Jamie Shepherd
1:30 p.m.	001-007	County Extension	Susan Neher
1:45 p.m.	001-028	Weights & Measures	Charlie Hackett
2:00 p.m.	001-022	County Museum	Kelly Karikoff
	500-3226	County Museum EDIT	Kelly Karikoff
2:15 p.m.	015-000	Stormwater District	Greg Lake
2:30 p.m.	001-032	Soil & Water Conservation	Rene Weaver
2:45 p.m.	001-015	Veteran Services	Bob Ladd
3:00 p.m.	001-027	Visitor Bureau	Peggy Hobson
3:15 p.m.	001-022	Howard Haven	Jennifer Vary
3:30 p.m.	001-008	Superior Court II	Judge Steve Jessup

*This afternoon session of the Budget Hearings was recessed at 3:40 p.m.  
on a motion made by Mr. Ortman and seconded by Mr. Papacek.*

*The Budget Hearings reconvened at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, August 26, 2010*

The Budget Hearings continued according to the following schedule.

8:30 a.m.	001-033	Superior Court III	Judge Doug Tate
8:45 a.m.	001-013	Circuit Court	Judge Lynn Murray
9:00 a.m.	252-035	Kinsey Youth Center	Brent Kelley
	252-037	Kinsey Youth Center Residential	Brent Kelley
	252-038	Kinsey Youth Center Secure Detention	Brent Kelley
9:30 a.m.	104-000	Juvenile Probation	Don Travis
	177-000	Juvenile Probation Admin Fee	Don Travis
	190-000	Juvenile – Informal Probation Fees	Don Travis
	001-034	Adult Probation	Don Travis
	105-000	Adult Probation User Fees	Don Travis
	176-000	Adult Probation Administration Fee	Don Travis
	185-000	User Fees / Alcohol & Drug	Don Travis
9:45 a.m.	138-000	CASA	Katina Silver
10:00 a.m.	001-021	Plan Commission	Glen Boise
10:15 a.m.	001-029	Emergency Management Agency	Larry Smith
	042-000	SARA Title	Larry Smith
10:30 a.m.	001-031	Information Systems	Terry Tribby
	500-001	EDIT Information Systems	Terry Tribby
10:45 a.m.	001-009	Coroner	Deputy Coroner Jeff Stout

*The Council recessed the Hearings for a luncheon  
at Kinsey Youth Center, and reconvened.  
to finish the hearings per the following schedule.*



1:15 p.m.	001-017	Voter Registration	Carol Shallenberger and Shirley McCoy
1:30 p.m.	001-006	Surveyor	Dan Minor
	132-000	Surveyor Perpetuation	Dan Minor
1:45 p.m.	001-023	Humane Society	Jean McGroarty
2:15 p.m.	001-018	Building Superintendent	Scott Reed
2:30 p.m.	001-023	Board of Commissioners	Dave Trine, Bill Thompson, &
	150-000	Cumulative Capital Fund	Tyler Moore
	500-000	EDIT Fund	"
	043-000	Jail Lease	"

*As these Budget Hearings are finished for the day, a motion was made by  
Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Pencek and carried  
to continue the Budget Session to Wednesday, September 8, 2010*

\* \* \* \* \*

As the final day in the 2011 budget process, the meeting was reconvened on Wednesday, September 8, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.

Those present included President Richard Miller, Vice President Paul Wyman, and Council Members Stan Ortman, James Papacek, Leslie Ellison, Joe Pencek and Jeff Stout.

Mr. Miller informed the Council and those in attendance that the proceedings were being streamed live over the internet, available though the County's Website. There is a link for the employees and a link to the general public. These proceedings are also being recorded.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2010-HCCR-12 – TRANSFERS:**

Auditor Ann Wells read Resolution No. 2010-HCCR-12 – Transfers through one time and it was acted upon as follows:

	<b>Transfer From:</b>	<b>To:</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Allowed:</b>
<b>115</b>	<b><u>Howard County Inmate Work Fund</u></b>		<b><u>Requested:</u></b>	
02253.00	Supplies	03252.00 Repair & Maint.	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
02253.00	Supplies	04721.00 Equipment	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

In the absence of Sheriff Talbert, Head Matron Loretta Moon explained the request as funds needed to cover the costs of equipment repair and replacement needed during heavy usage of equipment during the summer months.

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the transfers as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF COUNCIL COMMENT:**

At this time Council President Miller opened the floor for Council member comment as follows:

Member James Papacek: Mr. Papacek submitted and distributed copies of a report he prepared showing the Budget Request Changes to the General Fund from 2010 to 2011. The amount of requested increase from the 2010 budget for 2011 is \$215,101.00. The amount of requested decrease from the 2010 Budget going into the 2011 Budget is \$1,756,086.00. Some of the decreases are actually transfers of funds from County General to COIT. A similar report was prepared for Personal Services Changes (payroll). It showed requested increases in the amount of \$811,325.00 and requested decreases in the amount \$830,206.00.

Member Stan Ortman: Appreciates the report and would like to address the Personal Service changes first, in lieu of beginning a line by line process.

Member Paul Wyman: He, too, would like to bypass the line by line system, and address the greater line item changes.

Member Leslie Ellison: Mr. Ellison had a “wish list” and the first was an increase for the County Employees, who haven’t had an increase in several years. He understands the financial future has been pretty bleak, but with the recent change in assessed value agreements, he would like to see the employees have a 3% raise, if possible. He does not now know where it will come from, but would like to see it happen if the Council can find a way, through today’s proceedings. Also of concern is the request on the table for an increase in the County Assessor salary. He wondered if the request could in the form of a bonus in lieu of a salary increase.

Mr. Miller is concerned about the conflict that is created from the fact that Courthouse Security is NOT under the Sheriff’s Department. He would like the Council to tackle the issue during this budget session.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF THE COUNTY ASSESSOR SALARY INCREASE REQUEST:**

The PAC Committee passed a recommendation to the County Council to approve the request to raise the County Assessor’s Salary by \$6,043.00. This recommendation was approved by the Board of Commissioners and forwarded to the Council. A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to approve the request to raise the Salary of the County Assessor. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and approved.

#### **IN THE MATTER OF REMAINING PAC RECOMMENDATIONS:**

President Miller addressed the remaining PAC Recommendations as follows:

**Veterans Service Office:** Request a new part-time position, \$14,000. The employee would work 35 hours a week at \$8.00 per hour. The PAC Committee recommended modifying the total to \$3,500 at \$8.00 per hour. A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the new part time position at \$14,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout. Mr. Wyman asked to hear the PAC Committee’s justification for their recommendation to modify the amount to \$3,500. Personnel Director Wanda McKillip reminded the Council that the Veterans Service Office received an additional full time employee, earlier this year. The Veteran’s office is seeing increased traffic of veterans from other Counties, not being attended to by their own counties. The PAC Committee recommends putting \$3,500.00 into the part time line item and see how far it will go, then come back to the Council if needed. Discussion continued around the fact the Howard County is doing the job so well that surrounding Counties are decreasing their services. Howard County cannot continue to fund service to veterans from across the State. Mr. Ladd responded that currently he has three VA Students (interns) at no cost to us. He also has two volunteers who just want to help veterans. Neither the volunteers nor the VA Students work with the claims or payroll. At the conclusion of ensuing discussion a motion was made by Mr. Wyman to amend the original motion to reduce the amount from \$14,000 to \$3,500 and encourage Mr. Ladd to return to the Council if needed. The amended motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried. So as not to disparage other Veterans Offices in the State, Mr. Murrell commented that with respect to other County Veterans Service Offices, there are many who are doing the best they can with the limited resources they have.

**Coroner Office:** Request increasing Coroner Salary by \$20,026. The PAC Committee recommended modifying the request to \$15,026.00, deleting three part-time positions, and decreasing the part-time account to \$500.00. Ms. McKillip reminded the Council that Mr. Price submitted a revised budget with a salary of \$36,046.00 (Mr. Price as the Coroner does 98% of the work) and putting the Deputy Coroners on an hourly as needed basis in lieu of a weekly salary. Total budget numbers are the same, but are distributed differently. A motion was made by Mr. Ortman, seconded by Mr. Wyman and carried to approve the revised 2011 Budget Request for the Coroner’s Office that includes the salary increase for the Coroner position. Councilman Stout abstained from the vote. Compliments were issued to Coroner Jay Price for the care and concern with which he does his job, and how he cares for the residents of Howard County.

**Prosecutor:** Requesting a supplemental salary of \$13,050 for the Prosecutor, due to changing from full-time status to part-time. Beginning next year the Chief Deputy Prosecutor will be a State employee. There will not be an increase in the budget. The \$13,050 was the current salary the Chief Deputy Prosecutor was being paid. The PAC’s Recommendation modifies the request to a supplemental salary of \$7,000. The Prosecutor who will be sworn in for 2011 is going back to being a part-time prosecutor who will appoint a full-time Deputy Prosecutor. The Prosecutor is requesting the part-time stipend be given to him and he will continue his private practice. The \$7,000 stipend is in addition to the part-time prosecutor salary that is established by the State using a formula from the Judge’s salaries. The Prosecutor position is a State funded position with benefits coming from the State. A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to approve the PAC Committee’s recommendation \$7,000.00 for the supplemental salary of the Prosecutor. The motion was seconded by Mr. Papacek and approved.

At this time the Council reviewed the requested 2011 Budget, line by line and made recommendations concerning the line item amounts. Several issues pertaining to the budget and its operation were discussed, and recommendations were made. Some of the recommendations concerning procedure are as follows:

**Sheriff Department:** The Council recommends, by consensus, that the Sheriff's Department assume the funding and management of all security at the Courthouse, including the security in the individual courtrooms.

**Concerning Salary Increase Requests the Council acted as follows:**

Increase for Surveyor Senior Secretary and Secretary: Denied by consensus

County Extension increase to Clerical Coordinator and Computer Administrator: Denied by Consensus

Voter Registration: Increase both Major Department Heads: Denied by Consensus

Soil & Water increases for Secretary / Officer Manager, Resource Conservationist and Part Time Technical: Denied by Consensus.

Probation Officers: Mandated increases

*The meeting recessed at 11:25 a.m. for lunch and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.*

The Council continued to review and address the proposed 2011 budgets beginning with the funds for the Highway Department. Any changes to procedure, or motions made during this portion of the hearings, are listed below:

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to give all full-time employees a \$500.00 bonus for the 2011 year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman. As a point of order, President Miller asked how the bonus would be funded. In response, Mr. Papacek responded that half of the bonus would come from County General and half from the Insurance Fund. Mr. Ortman, who seconded the motion, agrees with Mr. Papacek, as a part of the motion on the table. At this time, Councilman Wyman asked for further discussion. At the conclusion of the discussion, a vote was taken. There were four aye votes and two nay votes. The motion carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF THE 2011 HOWARD COUNTY BUDGET:**

A motion was made by Mr. Papacek to approve the proposed 2011 Howard County Budget, with the amendments recommended by the Council, in the amount of \$37,777,668.00 for all funds. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ortman. The motion was carried by a vote of five ayes and one nay.

**IN THE MATTER OF NON-BINDING RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Mr. Miller submitted and distributed the 2011 proposed budgets for the taxing units of Greentown Civil Town and Kokomo Civil Town. At the conclusion of review, a motion was made by Mr. Papacek, seconded by Mr. Ortman and carried to give a favorable non-binding recommendation to the 2011 proposed Budget of the Greentown Civil Town.

A motion was made by Mr. Ortman to give an unfavorable non-binding recommendation to the 2011 proposed Budget of Kokomo Civil City. The motion was seconded by Mr. Papacek and carried.

**IN THE MATTER OF A REQUEST FOR RECORDING:**

At this time, Sheriff Talbert came before the Board to request a copy of the recorded conversation that took place in the Hearing Room during the lunchtime recessed portion of today's meeting, that was also streamed over the County's internet. Under the Freedom of Information Act, Sheriff Talbert has contacted the Sheriff's Association and spoken with their attorney Mr. Howard Williams. Attorney Larry Murrell commented on the conversation saying that definition of "public record" is very broad. The conversations were held during the recessed portion of the meeting and there was an expectation of privacy. Mr. Murrell would like review the moral and legal implications, overnight, before authorizing the Board to release the recording. Sheriff Talbert agreed to give Mr. Murrell the chance to ponder the conversation, and will have his attorney, Mr. Williams, call Mr. Murrell.

**IN THE MATTER OF DISPATCH CONSOLIDATION:**

Commissioner Bill Thompson reported a decision made at Tuesday evening's Commissioner Meeting regarding consolidation of the City's and County's Dispatch operations. The Board voted to approve an Interlocal Agreement establishing a Consolidated Communications Center "C-COM" for Kokomo and Howard County along with Exhibit A – a budget of \$1,394,000.00 and send it to the mayor, City Council and County Council for discussion and approval. This budget would call for the elimination of ten positions. Mr. Thompson thanked all those on the committee and those who spoke, concerning the input and decisions made. Mr. Thompson hopes that as the Council discusses this agreement and makes their decision, that they would seek counsel from the "experts". Sheriff Talbert and current Coordinator Nick Capozzoli, as well as current dispatchers, made excellent comments.

**IN THE MATTER OF A REQUEST MADE BY MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT:**

Buildings & Grounds Superintendent Scott Reed requested an increase in salary for several of his departmental workers. In the past several years, he feels his department has been "singled out" for the hiring freeze, losing several positions and forcing the department to make several structural changes, increasing the work load for the employees. He realizes that the Council does not want to single one department out for increases, but he feels he cannot in good conscience go back to his employees without defending the request for increases. Other departments have received increases for extra responsibilities assumed. Commissioner Thompson spoke in defense of Mr. Reed's request. He doesn't agree when one office that picks up extra duties is allowed an increase, and another office that has to pick up extra duties is denied. This request was not acted upon by the Council.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Wyman to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellison and carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
RICHARD A. MILLER, PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
PAUL G. WYMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES PAPACEK, COUNCILMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
STAN ORTMAN, COUNCILMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
LESLIE ELLISON, COUNCILMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
JEFF STOUT, COUNCILMAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
JOE PENCEK, COUNCILMAN

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Council Meeting and Budget Sessions August 24, 25, 26, and September 8, 2011