

## BAC MEETING 9/15, 2009

The first meeting of the 2010 Budget Advisory Committee met for the first time, Wednesday, September 16, 2009 in the Peter J. Feeney Conference Room

***Present:***

**BAC Members:** Hough, Boudreau, Waig, Villa, Witonis, Coward, Anton,

**Commissioners:** Shaughnessy, Feeney, Cloutier

**Staff:** Crichton, Whitten, Labrecque, Petterson, Joy, Tarbox, Getchell

Meeting called to order by *Chair Boudreau* at 4:35PM. *Commissioner Shaughnessy* welcomed the BAC members. Introduction of all present. New officer's election-nomination of *Mark Hough* as chair, by *Chair Boudreau*, second *Villa*, voted unanimously, nomination for vice chair: *Chair Hough* nominated *Waig* as Vice Chair, second *Boudreau*- unanimously approved.

Gavel turned over to *Chair Hough*.

*Hough* turned over to *Manager Crichton* for his budget power point presentation. *Waig* requested a copy of the power point presentation, which will be sent to all board members. The budget booklet and info on human services was provided to members. *Crichton* reviewed cutbacks made this year to balance the 2009 budget.

*Hough* asked for questions, comments from members:

*Waig* asked what the civic center contribution will be for 2010- \$206,000, which is included in the county budget.

*Coward* asked if the revenue projections are realistic. *Crichton* said we are projecting as best we can, based on current figures, and is reasonable, but unpredictable, as we all know. He also asked if the new deeds on line rates are reflected in the projections. They have been included. *Hough* asked about staffing in deeds, the number of positions has decreased by four, due in part to economy and partly on-line process, and would need to be evaluated should deeds activity increase substantially. *Cloutier* emphasized that the number of people is related to deeds recording, not number of copies. He also mentioned the pending litigation regarding deeds copies.

*Boudreau* asked for clarification of decrease from year to year.

*Robinson* suggested inmates be charged for services, *Waig* concurred, but it does not go into our current county budget. *Waig* also asked why some human services agency requests were smaller than what they asked. *Crichton* said they were allocated prior to the requests.

*Hough* asked if there are changes in the budget and budget process by the Charter Commission and that has not been determined. There will be a great deal of taxpayer education regarding the charter. A website regarding this is available through a link with Cumberlandcounty.org.

*Waig* asked for any presentation be provided prior to meetings, will be done.

*Robinson* asked about excise tax bill, and possible implications.

*Shaughnessy* reminded the board that the county can actually save municipalities money through regionalization at a more efficient cost than each on their own.

*Cloutier* said that he understands the implications for towns, but that the county budget is a very small impact on the total budget.

*Hough* then set up a plan for future meetings, regarding meeting with department heads. It was agreed to meet with department heads. It was agreed to have *Crichton* and *Hough* set up meetings.

*Shaughnessy* said that the statutes state that department heads are supposed to go to commissioners. *Waig* said she wants it to continue as in the past years. It was agreed to Wednesday at 4:30, with a maximum of four meetings, beginning September 23.

Moved by Boudreau, second Coward to adjourn at 6:03 PM.

Meeting adjourned