

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010
COMMISSIONERS HEARING ROOM, ROOM 112
FIRST FLOOR, COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Ray Stevens, Vice Chair
Deb Schorr
Larry Hudkins
Bob Workman

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier, Chair

Others Present: Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer
Dan Nolte, County Clerk
Angela Zocholl, County Clerk's Office

The location announcement of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was given and the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Stevens gave a statement regarding the budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11.

- The total proposed budget of expenditures is \$166,814,031, which is a decrease of 7.39%.
- The County's valuation reflects a 0.85% increase.
- Adoption of this budget maintains the same property tax rate of \$0.2683 as last year.
- The general fund budget has decreased by 0.88%.
 - Public safety functions account for 59% of the general fund budget.
 - The election commissioner's budget is increasing because of the election year cycle.
 - The general government budget has decreased due to the Board of Equalization moving to a separate business unit.
 - Corrections will hire an additional eight employees, which has been offset by decreased boarding contracts.
 - Community Corrections will not move into a new facility and will increase fees to generate additional revenue.
 - The Joint Budget Committee (JBC) contracts will be reduced by approximately \$225,000.
- Bridge and special road fund expenditures have increased by approximately \$5,000,000 due to the S. 68th Street viaduct project.
- Grant funds will decrease by approximately \$4,300,000 because the County no longer receives an intergovernmental transfer from the Federal government for Health and Human Services.
- The property tax for the mental health fund will decrease by \$77,500 because the Mental Health Center cut expenditures by \$367,511.

1) **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

A. **Keno Fund Projects**

The Vice Chair opened the public hearing.

1) **PUBLIC HEARINGS CONTINUED:**

Dennis Meyer, Budget and Fiscal Officer, was administered the oath. Meyer reviewed the Keno Fund Budget, explaining the money is primarily set up for road projects: East Beltway, Motocross, Arbor Road, and Alvo Road. Meyer explained \$280,000 will be put in a bridge fund transfer, which is money not allocated to anything else. Instead of levying additional property tax, the money is transferred from the keno fund to assist with the budget.

The Vice Chair closed the public hearing.

B. Lancaster County's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011

The Vice Chair opened the public hearing.

Ron Ecklund and Tim Cox, Lincoln Independent Business Association (LIBA), were administered the oath. Ecklund expressed his appreciation to the Board for their work on balancing the budget.

Ecklund discussed and submitted documentation on LIBA's recommendations (Exhibit A).

- Seek payment for parking from employees.
- Adopt a benefits policy that requires 30 hours per week for employees to be eligible.
- Introduce legislature to reduce the retirement match to 1:1.
- Discontinue funding mid-year budget requests unless deemed an emergency.

Cox discussed privatization, citing examples of outsourcing services such as cleaning, maintenance and parking meter collection.

Schorr noted the retirement contribution issue is on the County's list to present to the Legislature.

Kyle Fischer, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, was administered the oath. Fischer thanked the Board for allowing him to tour the new County jail. He commended the Board for their work on balancing the budget and holding the tax rate.

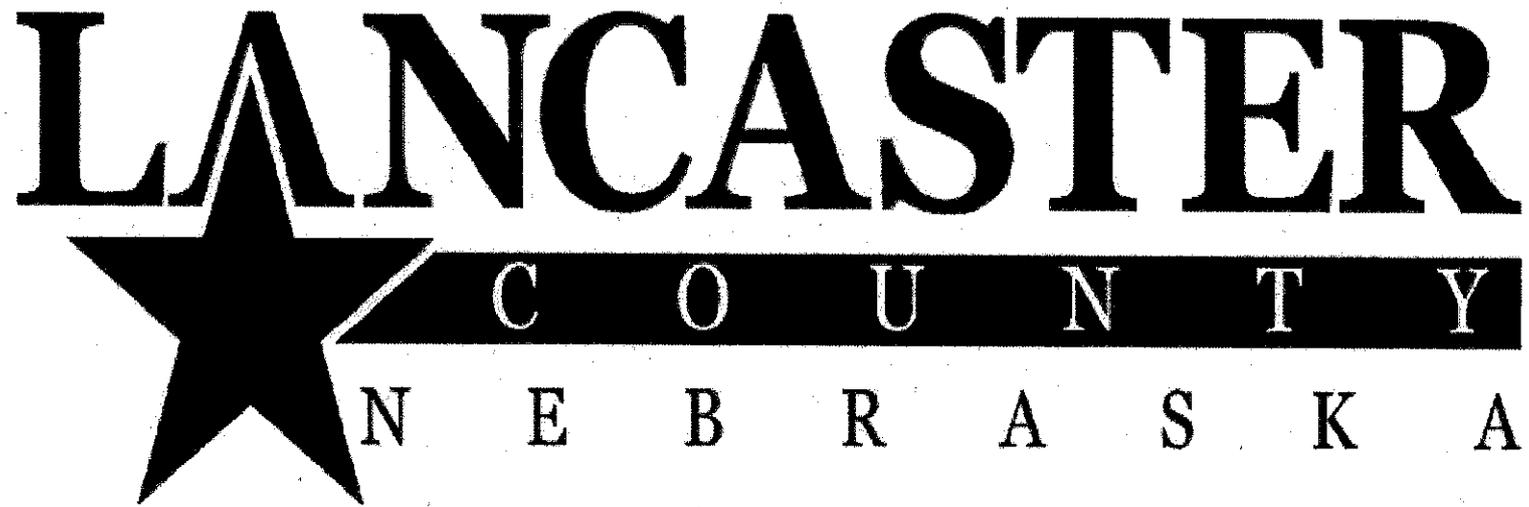
The Vice Chair closed the public hearing.

2) **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Schorr moved and Hudkins seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. Schorr, Hudkins, Workman and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried 4-0.

/s/Dan Nolte

Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk



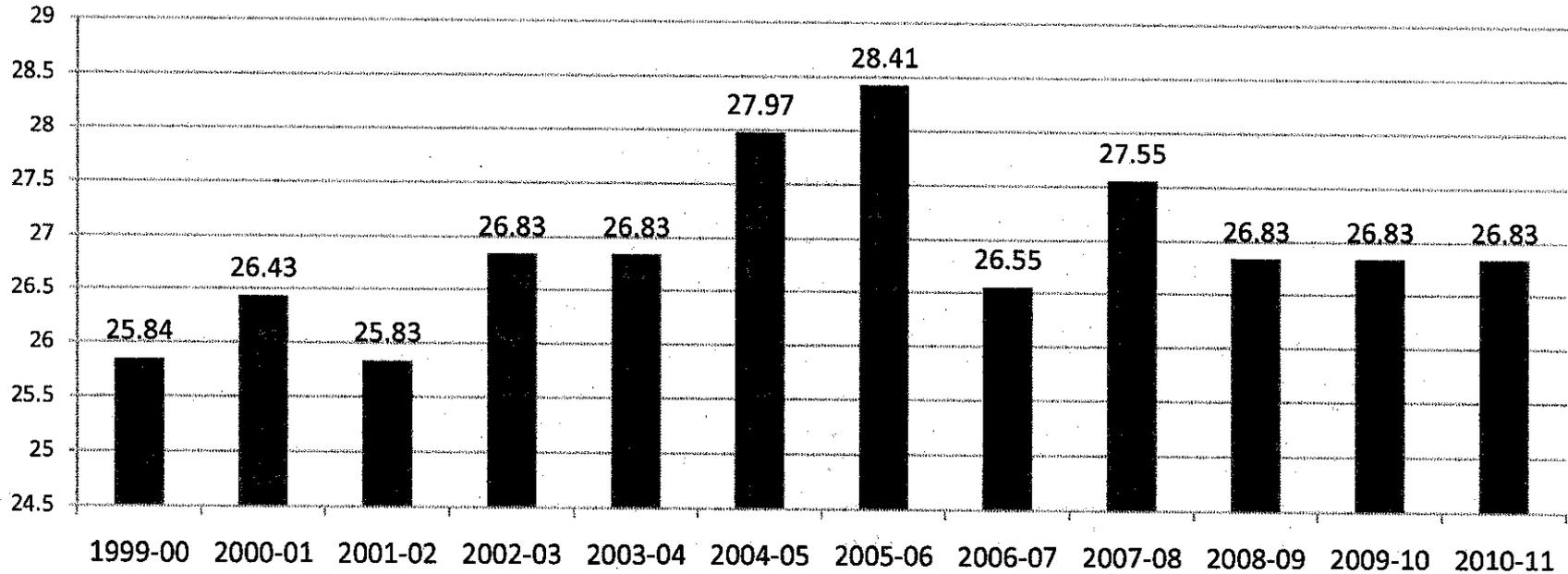
PROPOSED BUDGET INFORMATION

FY2010-11

General Fund Budget – The total budget of expenditures decreased by \$758,978 in comparison to the 2009-10 adopted budget which results in a .88% decrease. Property tax will increase by \$502,304 to help offset the decrease in fund balance and the decrease in budgeted revenues. The budget of interest income decreased by \$500,000.

- **Election Commissioner:** The increase in this budget is attributable to the election cycle. Fiscal year 2009-10 had one election while fiscal year 2010-11 will have three elections plus a special Malcolm School Bond election. Revenue will also increase for the Election Commissioner to cover the projected increase in expenditures. The cost of the two City of Lincoln elections and the Malcolm election will be paid by the political subdivisions.
- **General Government:** The decrease in this budget is due to the Board of Equalization moving to a separate business unit and there is no transfer budgeted to Lancaster Manor. The prior year budget had a transfer of \$1,402,123.
- **Corrections:** The Department will hire an additional eight employees throughout the fiscal year to manage overcrowding and to facilitate transition into the new facility. Boarding contracts have decreased by \$235,000 to help offset the cost.
- **Community Corrections:** The Department will not move in the 9th and J Street building because of costs and will increase fees to generate an additional \$100,000 in revenues.
- **Health & Human Services Miscellaneous:** JBC contracts will be reduced by approximately \$225,000 and the match to Region V will be reduced by \$50,000.

LANCASTER COUNTY
Tax Levies
Cents per \$100 of Valuation

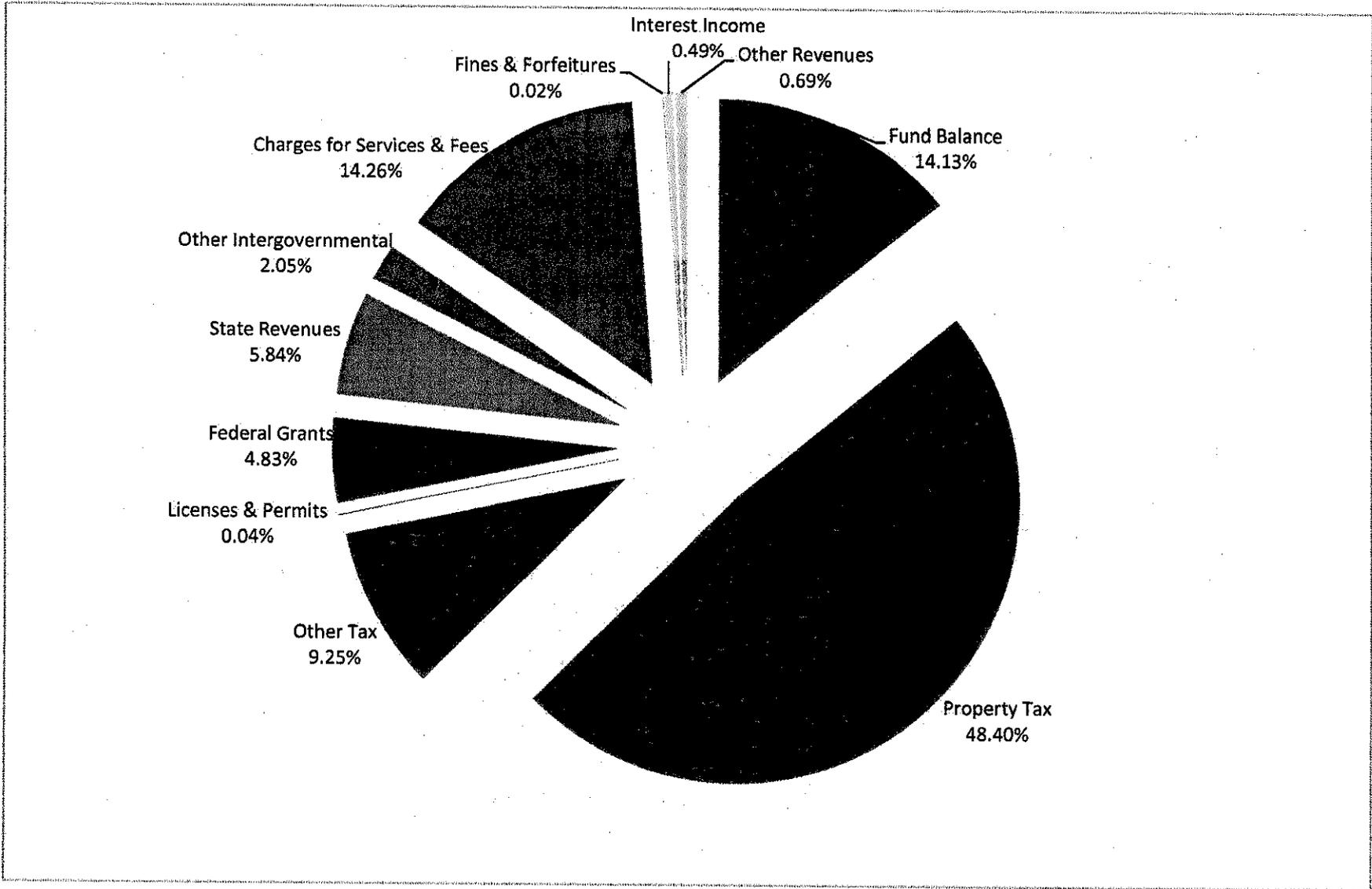


ADOPTED BUDGET FY1999-00 THROUGH FY 2009-10
PROPOSED BUDGET FY2010-11

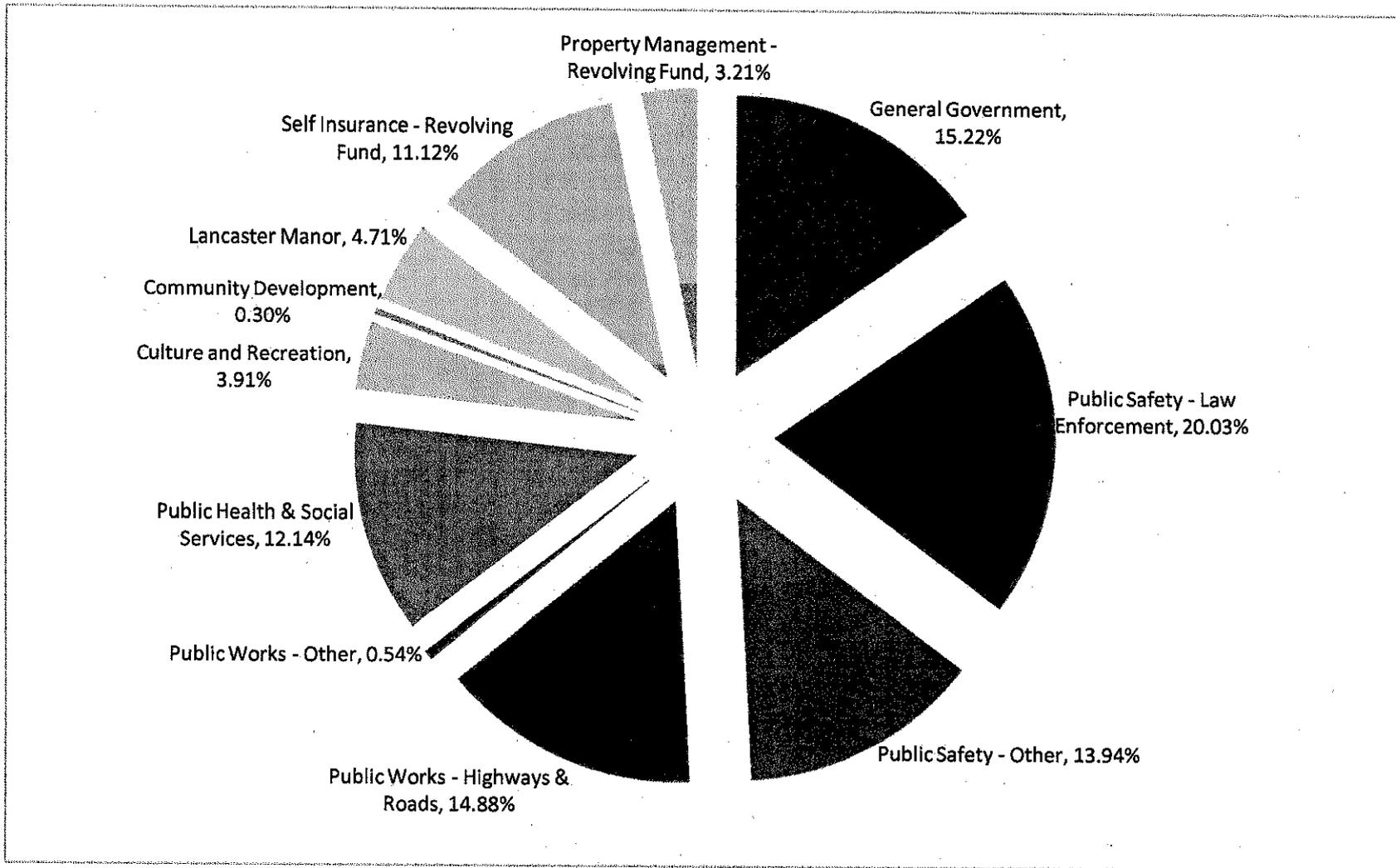
**LANCASTER COUNTY
CHANGE IN VALUATION
LAST TEN YEARS**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>VALUATION</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	
		<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
2001-02	12,621,053,086		
2002-03	13,081,633,040	460,579,954	3.65%
2003-04	14,958,476,056	1,876,843,016	14.35%
2004-05	15,375,859,915	417,383,859	2.79%
2005-06	15,932,331,879	556,471,964	3.62%
2006-07	18,045,787,841	2,113,455,962	13.27%
2007-08	18,343,871,223	298,083,382	1.65%
2008-09	18,786,286,695	442,415,472	2.41%
2009-10	18,641,136,908	(145,149,787)	-0.77%
2010-11	18,799,468,423	158,331,515	0.85%

**2010-11 PROJECTED REVENUES FOR LANCASTER COUNTY
(PROPERTY TAX FUNDS ONLY)**



LANCASTER COUNTY BUDGETED DISBURSEMENTS BY FUNCTION



GENERAL FUND EXPENSE BUDGET SUMMARY

AGENCY	ACTUAL	FY10 BUDGET		ACTUAL	FY11 BUDGET	
	EXPENSE FY09	ADOPTED	MODIFIED	EXPENSE FY10	PROPOSED	ADOPTED
601 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS	256,401	259,580	264,580	263,873	267,480	
602 COUNTY CLERK	883,212	882,528	908,893	892,648	896,259	
603 COUNTY TREASURER	3,111,632	3,217,690	3,217,690	3,169,523	3,329,651	
605 ASSESSOR/REGISTER OF DEEDS	3,711,104	3,859,898	3,859,898	3,840,061	3,859,987	
607 ELECTION COMMISSIONER	1,261,390	960,681	960,681	930,811	1,245,659	
610 INFORMATION SERVICES	789,982	778,337	778,337	613,478	732,913	
611 BUDGET & FISCAL	169,450	187,501	193,501	191,320	197,381	
612 GENERAL GOVERNMENT	10,293,156	11,596,127	10,882,540	8,574,106	9,530,568	
613 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	314,955	359,752	359,752	351,045	376,994	
615 GEOGRAPHIC INFO SYSTEM	434,172	528,329	528,329	474,364	534,279	
618 BOARD OF EQUALIZATION	-	-	-	-	300,000	
621 CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT	1,545,536	1,626,691	1,626,691	1,596,774	1,689,032	
622 COUNTY COURT	794,538	884,424	942,424	891,133	859,130	
623 JUVENILE COURT	1,242,284	1,861,817	1,959,435	1,873,838	1,862,164	
624 DISTRICT COURT	2,066,078	2,183,613	2,266,059	2,199,149	2,264,119	
625 PUBLIC DEFENDER	3,172,603	3,275,732	3,275,732	3,270,796	3,297,679	
627 JURY COMMISSIONER	106,515	135,144	135,144	132,950	132,677	
628 JUSTICE SYSTEM MISCELLANEOUS	2,229,672	2,345,635	2,345,635	2,029,733	1,946,108	
645 EXTENSION SERVICE	987,315	1,073,132	1,073,132	1,011,881	1,073,132	
648 RECORDS & INFORMATION MGMT	518,499	529,263	538,861	526,705	525,981	
651 COUNTY SHERIFF	8,885,149	9,033,601	9,397,825	9,260,840	9,463,653	
652 COUNTY ATTORNEY	6,568,761	6,636,113	6,636,113	6,553,195	6,634,552	
671 CORRECTIONS	12,986,579	14,031,632	14,031,632	13,708,146	14,517,465	
673 JUVENILE PROBATION	276,082	303,662	303,662	231,028	340,789	
674 ADULT PROBATION	407,083	423,344	423,344	408,987	423,403	
676 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS	1,377,439	1,428,711	1,428,711	1,406,664	1,473,921	
678 YOUTH SERVICES CENTER	5,508,626	5,862,850	5,862,850	5,701,581	5,862,849	
693 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	379,276	455,614	455,614	449,996	395,427	
703 COUNTY ENGINEER	3,018,054	3,152,721	3,157,800	3,129,494	3,222,967	
751 MENTAL HEALTH BOARD	126,973	133,548	159,548	145,013	158,792	
801 GENERAL ASSISTANCE	2,399,808	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,391,079	2,400,000	
803 VETERANS & GA ADMINISTRATION	707,428	736,608	759,608	755,477	747,272	
805 HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	4,553,310	4,545,796	4,545,796	4,420,048	4,351,130	
837 HUMAN SERVICES	247,036	254,697	264,954	258,150	272,380	
	<u>81,330,099</u>	<u>85,944,771</u>	<u>85,944,771</u>	<u>81,653,887</u>	<u>85,185,793</u>	

COMPUTATION OF TREASURER'S NET FUND BALANCE

FUND		TREASURER'S	RECEIVABLES	VOUCHER'S	PAYROLL	ENCUMBRANCES	NET FUND
		BALANCE		PAYABLE	ACCRUALS		BALANCE
		7/1/2010					7/1/2010
11	GENERAL	12,566,944	315,315	528,908	717,634	268,020	11,367,697
12	WORKERS COMPENSATION LOSS	1,268,363		11,786	1,884		1,254,693
13	OTHER SELF INSURANCE LOSS	243,855					243,855
14	GROUP SELF INSURANCE	4,749,832					4,749,832
18	VISITORS IMPROVEMENT	2,365,888	134,000				2,499,888
19	VISITORS PROMOTION	346,663	134,000				480,663
20	COUNTY RURAL LIBRARY	25,459	1,987				27,446
21	BRIDGE & SPECIAL ROAD	4,601,227		719,796	35,292	1,762,712	2,083,427
22	HIGHWAY	530,898	556,821	139,220	35,795	220,334	692,370
26	VETERANS AID	15,325					15,325
27	GRANTS	838,201		142,321	24,385		671,495
28	KENO	2,126,630		19,401			2,107,229
30	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	466,873					466,873
41	DEBT SERVICE	2,702,695	2,290				2,704,985
51	BUILDING	128,951	863	398			129,416
52	JAIL SAVINGS	1,977,832					1,977,832
61	LANCASTER MANOR	769,216		67,161			702,055
63	MENTAL HEALTH	67,376	385,615	22,042	118,391		312,558
64	WEED CONTROL	75,381		1,988	4,547		68,846
65	COUNTY/CITY PROPERTY MGMT	141,206	75,728	125,000	46,893		45,041
66	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	99,448		12,929	7,378		79,141
67	CITY BUILDING MAINTENANCE	372,518		1,449			371,069
		<u>36,480,781</u>	<u>1,606,619</u>	<u>1,792,399</u>	<u>992,199</u>	<u>2,251,066</u>	<u>33,051,736</u>

LANCASTER COUNTY

ANTICIPATED CHANGES IN REVENUES FROM REQUESTED 2010-11 BUDGETS

GENERAL FUND:

Administrative Services - City Portion	(19,495)
Public Defender - City Portion	(15,000)
Community Corrections - Increase in fees	100,000
Youth Services Center - state monies	430,508
Emergency Services - City Portion	(35,000)
General Assistance	70,000
Human Services	(575)
Transfer from Manor Fund	<u>500,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,030,438</u>

MENTAL HEALTH FUND:

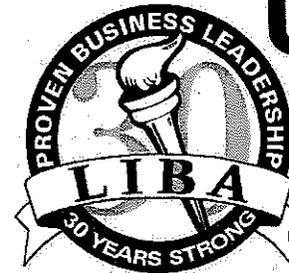
Increase rent costs	2,160
RAISE Grant	12,000
Outpatient Services	<u>20,000</u>
TOTAL	<u>34,160</u>

LANCASTER COUNTY

FY2010-11 KENO FUND BUDGET

	FY2010-11 BUDGET
ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:	
East Beltway	622,177
Motocross Project at Abbott Sports Complex	37,415
Arbor Road	402,331
Alvo Road (\$150,000 for 3 years)	<u>450,000</u>
	1,511,923
PREVENTION GRANTS (5% OF RECEIPTS)	40,000
TRANSFER TO BRIDGE FUND (OPERATIONS)	274,314
TOTAL PROJECTS	<u><u>1,826,237</u></u>
FUNDED WITH:	
FUND BALANCE 6-30-10	2,107,229
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	<u>600,000</u>
	<u><u>2,707,229</u></u>

To: Lancaster County Board of Commissioners
From: LIBA Board of Directors
Date: August 31, 2010
RE: Lancaster County 2010-2011 Budget



The LIBA Board of Directors (LIBA) would like to thank the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners (Board) for its efforts taken to balance the County Budget. You have undergone severe criticism for making some tough decisions this past year. LIBA appreciates the County Board's leadership to stand firm in the midst of controversy.

LIBA understands that both the County and City share responsibility for funding public parking facilities through payments to the Public Building Commission. LIBA also understands that the County provides the benefit of parking to the Commissioners and a number of County employees at the cost of approximately \$70,000.¹ LIBA encourages the Board to seek payments from Commissioners and employees to pay for their parking. It won't solve the budget problem, but it would remind Lancaster County residents that the Board is mindful of the tight economy.

County employees working more than 20 hours per week are eligible to receive health, dental, and life insurance. LIBA encourages the County, in this particular case, to adopt a policy similar to the City of Lincoln's, which provides that employees must be working at least 30 hours per week to be eligible for health, dental, and life insurance coverage.²

The County currently provides the opportunity for all eligible employees to enroll in the retirement plan. The County's retirement plan matches an employee's contribution on a 1.5 to 1 match.³ We know that the match is mandated by state statute. LIBA encourages the Board to proactively address this situation by drafting and introducing legislation through its Lincoln delegation. We believe a 100% retirement match is very generous and encourage you to move in that direction.

LIBA also recommends discontinuing the practice of funding mid-year budget requests. Unless the situation is deemed an emergency, County departments should be required to adhere to their budgets as approved rather than seek additional funding from the contingency fund or KENO fund.

LIBA would like to discuss privatization. We commend the County Commissioners for taking bold steps to privatize the Lancaster Manor. A few weeks ago, members of the City Council heard privatization success stories from several city department heads.

¹ LIBA received this figure from the County Budget Office in an e-mail dated 18 August 2009.

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