

FISCAL 2006-2007 BUDGET HEARING MINUTES
Lancaster County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, August 15, 2006
Commissioners Hearing Room, Room 112
First Floor, County-City Building
7 p.m.

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

Others Present: Dave Kroeker, Budget & Fiscal Officer
Patricia Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk

The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners' public hearing regarding the Lancaster County Proposed Fiscal Year 2006-2007 budget was convened at 7 p.m.

Deb Schorr, Chair of the Board of Commissioners, opened the hearing and gave a brief statement regarding the overall proposed. The following areas were highlighted: a) Roads - Funding of 2.2 miles of new paving, b) increasing fuel costs, c) \$300,000 of Keno funds for preliminary engineering of the East Beltway, d) increases in the cost of law enforcement, prosecution and defense of individuals arrested, housing of inmates, e) overcrowding of correctional facility, f) increase in the number of elections and signature verification for successful petition drives, g) self-insuring for health and dental insurance and g) revenue.

Lincoln City Libraries

Carol Conner, Lincoln City Libraries Director, appeared and stated their funding request is \$649,940 (.1 percent increase) and will support library services to all Lancaster County residents including access to Bennet Martin Public Library, access to all branch libraries, home outreach by mail, summer reading programs, bi-weekly bookmobile services, downloadable audio books and remote access to the library catalog and database.

Dan Alberts, a member of the Lincoln Independent Business Association's (LIBA) Budget Monitoring Committee, appeared and stated LIBA appreciates the County's small increase in expenditures, however, he expressed concern regarding the property tax increase. Alberts encouraged the Board to continue their efforts in finding more efficient ways to provide other services.

Coby Mach, Executive Director of LIBA, appeared and stated LIBA is somewhat apprehensive in the increases in Corrections, courts and related costs. He stated LIBA appreciated the meetings the County Board had with them and the Board's commitment to LIBA that they would do what they could to lower the tax levy. Mach stated LIBA hopes to continue working closely with the Board during the coming year.

The Chair asked if anyone else wished to testify.

No one appeared and the hearing was closed.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded adjournment at 7:20 p.m..
Workman, Hudkins, Heier, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Patricia Owen
Chief Deputy County Clerk