



Board of Commissioners Work Session

April 17, 2024

MINUTES

The April 17, 2024 Board of Commissioners Work Session was called to order at 6:00 by Chair Jennifer Pierce. Commissioners in attendance were Vice Chair Victor Hunt, Commissioner Tare Davis, Commissioner Bertadean Baker, and Commissioner Walter Powell. Others in attendance include Interim County Manager Crystal Smith and Finance Director Nikki Dickerson.

1. ADOPT SUGGESTED AGENDA

On motion of Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Davis, and duly carried by unanimous vote, the April 17, 2024 Work Session Suggested Agenda was approved.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to Fund Housing Rehabilitation

Community & Economic Development Director Charla Duncan discussed Community Development Block Grant funds for housing repairs as a way to address the county's goals around housing support for residents. The county can apply for funds up to \$950,000. There is no match required for CDBG grants, and up to 10% of the grant can be used for administrative costs. By consensus, the Board of Commissioners agreed to have this item placed on the May 6, 2024 Regular Meeting Agenda.

B. Compensation Study Update

Human Resources Director Sierra Thomas discussed the findings of the recent Compensation Study.

She recommends as Phase I, bringing certain positions noted in the study up to the suggested minimum in an amount not to exceed \$150,519 effective May 1, 2024. On motion of Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Baker, and duly carried by unanimous vote, Phase I in an amount not to exceed \$150,519 effective May 1, 2024 was approved.

Phase II includes implementation of the compensation study to bring employees noted in the study to the longevity-based equity market salary effective July 1, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$278,854. By consensus of the Board, Phase II will be added to the May 6, 2024 Board of Commissioner Regular Meeting Agenda.

C. Fire Association Paid Firefighter Update

Finance Director Nikki Dickerson presented a Fire Tax Rate Proposal that would change the way in which Fire Departments are funded, moving away from funding from the General Fund, and establishing a tax that would be billed to all property owners within the county and then split between the 14 Volunteer Fire Departments. After much discussion, the Board of Commissioners asked that this item be brought back for more discussion at the May 6, 2024 Regular Meeting.

3. ADJOURN April 17, 2024 BOARD MEETING

Paula Pulley, Clerk to the Board