

**FLUVANNA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Morris Room**  
**February 12, 2020**  
**Budget Work Session 7:00pm**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John M. (Mike) Sheridan, Columbia District, Chair  
Tony O'Brien, Rivanna District, Vice Chair  
Mozell Booker, Fork Union District  
Donald W. Weaver, Cunningham District

**ABSENT:**

Patricia Eager, Palmyra District

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Eric M. Dahl, County Administrator  
Fred Payne, County Attorney  
Caitlin Solis, Clerk for the Board of Supervisors  
Linda Lenherr, Treasurer  
Andrew M. (Mel) Sheridan, Commissioner of the Revenue  
Eric Hess, Sheriff  
Jeff Haislip, Commonwealth's Attorney  
Tristana Pace Treadway, Clerk of the Circuit Court

**1 - CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, & MOMENT OF SILENCE**

At 7:01pm, Chair Sheridan called the Budget Work Session Meeting of February 12, 2020 to order. After the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed.

**BUDGET PRESENTATIONS**

*Treasurer* – Linda Lenherr, Treasurer provided brief remarks in support of the FY21 Budget Request.

*Commissioner of the Revenue* – Andrew (Mel) Sheridan, Commissioner of the Revenue spoke in support of the FY21 Budget Request.

Mr. Sheridan focused on the following:

- Great Office Staff
- All Deputies in Career Development Program
  - 3 are certified to date (1 unfunded by Compensation Board)
  - 1 will become certified in 2022
- Recognized by Compensation Board as fully accredited Commissioner of the Revenue Office
- Maintained full continuity for both office moves
- Transitioned office to electronic interaction with public
- Consistent funding

Operations Sub-Total:

**2020** -\$40,095      **2021**-\$42,310

Mr. Sheridan thanked the Board for:

- Both operational and personnel
- Excellent Support from all County staff
- Solid team environment
- New Remodeled Office

-Mrs. Booker asked if there were any projected numbers of Liberty Homes that are being built and what they cost with a focus on how it may affect affordable housing. Mr. Sheridan suggested asking the Planning Department for the house numbers. She asked for the Board to stay vigilant in providing affordable housing for the citizens of Fluvanna County

*Sheriff* – Sheriff Eric Hess provided comprehensive overview of Sheriff's Office activities in support of FY21 Budget Request.

FCSO Public Safety Mission:

- To provide effective and efficient law enforcement
- To serve and protect citizens and visitors of Fluvanna County
- To keep the community of Fluvanna County safe
- Examples of importance:
  - Fluvanna Tourism Brochure quotes; "We respect our rural heritage and maintain a pace of life that is comfortable. We value family and tradition, while welcoming newcomers into the mix.

- Fluvanna County is constantly referred to, as a great place to; “Live, Learn, Work, and Play.”

- We would like to add the word “Safe” too!

## FY-20 Expanded Community Initiatives:

- Child ID
- Safe Exchange Program
  - The “Safe Exchange Zone” is a designated area where those exchanges can be made knowing the safety of the Sheriff’s Office is just a few steps away, if needed. The “Safe Exchange Zone” is available 24 hours a day and is used on a first come, first served basis. Explorer Post
- YOVASO (Youth of Virginia Speak Out)

## Reserve Deputy Program:

-Augmented Operations via Volunteer Deputies

## Call Volume –Emergency Communications Center:

- Call increase for the last three years
- Increased Calls for Service; little increase in Emergency Calls

## Work Load:

- Arrest, Traffic Summons & Animal Calls
- work load increases in arrests and traffic summons
- decrease in animal calls and civil process

## Fluvanna Indictment Numbers:

-For 2019, 487 FCSO, 102 Other

## FCSO Indictments:

-170 total

## Court Services:

- Sheriffs provide security in all courts and serve more than 3 million civil processes per year
- State Compensation Board staffing standards for court services’ deputies are currently short by 115 positions
- Governor’s Budget provides 25% increase or 29 new court services deputy sheriffs' positions

## Judicial Case Load Increase:

- Due to the amount of local case load courts have added additional courts days in each court.
- Need one additional deputy to complete the two deputies requested from BOS to mitigate staffing gaps with the changes and increase to workload, as State Compensation Board assessed.

## Major Issue is Staff Compensation:

- Turnover is:
  - Corrections – 16.56%
  - LE – 13.28%
  - Court Services – 13.16%
  - Total – 15.60%
  - **The VSA policy is to provide parity among all groups of deputy sheriffs, including deputies that perform primary duties for law enforcement, corrections and court services.**
- Deputy Sheriff starting pay is \$33,475.00 (VA Compensation Board)
- State staffing standards for sheriffs' offices, as adopted by the Code of Virginia or Compensation Board (state responsibility):
  - Law Enforcement short by - **254**
  - Jails short by - **691**
  - Court Services short by - **115**
- **Total state responsible staffing shortage = 1,060**
- Public Safety Pay Plan – Working with Human Resources to make Fluvanna County’s pay structure and benefits more competitive in an attempt to attract qualified candidates.

*Commonwealth’s Attorney* – Jeff Haislip, Commonwealth’s Attorney gave brief synopsis of the work of the Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office.

Mr. Haislip reported on the following:

- The Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office budget remained the same for the most part.
- There was an increase in the budget from 3% salary increase of Patrick Wolf and Sara Brown due to workflow increase from body-cam viewing mandate.
- Bodycam analysis increased the workload of the Commonwealth’s Attorney and the allotted \$10,000 requested goes to fund a 3% increase in salary as opposed to adding another position to review the footage.

Highlights Include:

- By the Numbers:
  - Criminal Cases Commenced - 458
  - Civil Actions Commence - 402
  - Wills & Estate initiated - 198
  - Judgments/Financing Statements - 822
  - Deed Recorded - 4,007
  - Concealed Handgun Permits - 589
  - Assumed Names - 71
  - Marriage Licenses - 103
  - Notary Qualified - 70
  - Passports - 755
  - Restitution - 320

Circuit Court Judge/Drug Court – Tristana Pace Treadway, Clerk to the Circuit Court  
Judge’s budget asked for a Drug Treatment Court line item of \$50,000

- The Drug Treatment Court expense is expected to be a one-time cost that will be covered by grants offered that will be issued once the program is off the ground and deemed a success. Implementation grant \$150,000+ will be given to programs that are up and running.
- Drug Court will be an overall savings to the County by giving an alternative to \$100 a day jail holding for offenders waiting general court dates. The average total cost of drug treatment eligible Fluvanna inmates is \$439,942.43 of \$1,279, 173.83 from 2011-2018.
- Drug Court requirements of offenders are they have to get treatment, make a budget, pay court costs, get a driver’s license, get a job and start doing family activities.

-Mrs. Booker asked if there are statistics showing the success rate of Charlottesville’s Drug Court. Judge Moore reiterated that the overall costs for localities with Drug Court is much less than Jail. The cost is \$3,000-\$6,000 per person per year in Drug Court versus Jail being \$26-30,000 per year and probation is around \$10,000. Also, the local benefit is people get into treatment, and helps the community overall by helping offenders return to being contributing members of society.

-Mrs. Booker asked how the Blue Ridge Juvenile Center’s attendees are doing. Attendance numbers have decreased over the last few years.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

The Board decided to postpone discussion until all members are present.

14 - ADJOURN

MOTION:	Adjourn the Budget Work Session meeting of Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 8:16pm.				
MEMBER:	Mrs. Booker	Mrs. Eager	Mr. O’Brien	Mr. Sheridan	Mr. Weaver
ACTION:	Second		Motion		
VOTE:	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes
RESULT:	4-0				

ATTEST:

FLUVANNA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Caitlin Solis  
Clerk to the Board

John M. Sheridan  
Chair