



GOODHUE COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Administration Conference Room
February 28, 2006
9:00 a.m.

Present: Ted Seifert, Richard Samuelson, David Hamilton, Brad Johnson, Amy Hove,
Jayne Hager Dee, and Stacy Thuman.

C/Seifert called the meeting to order.

Extension Designations. As of December 31, 2005, two Extension Reserves were still carried in the County's General Fund:

Extension Ag Programs	\$12,159.42
<u>Extension Farm Beginnings</u>	<u>\$16,136.51</u>
**Total	\$28,295.93

Ms. Hager Dee outlined the history of the Extension Ag dollars and the proposed solution.

At the September Extension Committee, a discussion took place regarding the disposition of these monies. Documentation from Mr. Schwartau was reviewed by the County Attorney and the Auditor, and an opinion given that only \$5,000 could be viewed as still having a claim by Extension. The concept of using the \$5,000 for building repair on 4-H facilities at the fairgrounds was discussed.

Ms. Hager Dee distributed information on the Project in the Park Program and the request for \$5,000 of the money to be designated for that project, what the money would do is allow Extension the flexibility to hire a summer staff person (and pay mileage) to be trained to deliver summer programming and to train teen volunteers to work in 10 communities in a collaborative summer program with Community Education departments throughout the county. This money will also cover program materials. This day camp was held in Cannon Falls last year and was very successful with 85 participants. The plan for 2006 is to hold the day camp through out Goodhue County in 10 different communities. The requested \$5,000 would be the seed for the program for the first year and then with money earned by charging each participant \$10-\$15, it should cover the cost of the program onto the next year. C/Seifert questioned the number of anticipated participants for 2006; Ms. Hager Dee indicated that they expect approximately 600 participants, better turn out in some communities over others. C/Seifert stated that if you charge \$15 a person that would be \$9,000 and that would keep the program going for the next year, etc, also questioned Ms. Hager Dee what if the cost exceeded \$5,000 would they be looking for more money, Ms. Hager Dee indicated that \$5,000 will be the budget and the project will fall into that dollar amount.

Ms. Hove questioned who would be hiring the summer staff person? Ms. Hager Dee indicated that person would be a temporary employee of the University of Minnesota, just like any other summer student hired. Discussion how the money would be distributed, conclusion being that the County would set up a designated Goodhue County account as start up funds for the expanded Project in the Park Program. Fees that will be generated from the program will be placed into this account as income and will be used to provide funding for the program to continue in 2007 and beyond. C/Seifert questioned if Community Ed will be asking for any part of the fee charged, Ms. Hager Dee indicated that last year Cannon Falls did not, and did not anticipate that anyone would this year as well.

Ms. Hager Dee also proposed that \$4,966.54 be returned to the Goodhue County general fund for reimbursement for Mr. Schwartau's expenses taken out of levy sources, prior to 2004.

Ms. Hager Dee proposed that the remaining \$18,329.39 be used for the improvements to the 4-H Building at the Goodhue County Fair. The Goodhue County Agriculture Society (Fair Board) is beginning to make some needed improvements in the 4-H building in the west end – the area where the restrooms and kitchen are. Extension anticipates entering into a partnership with them to begin to improve the display areas of the building – to benefit 4-Hers and those who attend the fair. This \$18,000+ will be added to some Fair funds to build display shelves/cabinets, sheetrock the walls/ceiling, improve the lighting, move the 4-H fair office – much needed renovation work and a facelift to the current facility. C/Samuelsen questioned what will happen if that is not enough money to finish the remodel job, Ms. Hager Dee indicated that the Ag Society (Fair Board) will be paying for it as well, not all Extension dollars are going into the remodel job.

The committee agreed to:

Undesignated \$4,966.54 back into the general fund

Designate \$5,000 for the Project in the Park Leadership Program

Overall consensus of the \$18,329.39 is that once there is a dollar amount for the work needing to be completed at the 4-H building a report will come back to the Budget Committee and then County Board for final approval. Ms. Hager Dee indicated that the 4-H building facelift recommendations will be going to the March 10th Extension Committee for approval, and then brought back to the budget committee as early as next month.

2005 4th Quarter Report.

Mr. Hamilton reviewed the 4th quarter report for 2005. Commented that this is the tightest budget that there has been in the past 5 years.

C/Seifert questioned the difference in the capital plan when looking at the revenues and expenditures. Mr. Johnson stated that the difference is the items that were cut out of the budget in 2005, we received all of the revenue, but we had unfunded projects. C/Seifert questioned if that included the money for the Public Health Building renovation? Mr. Johnson stated that it did, approximately \$812,000 was budgeted capital for that project.

C/Seifert questioned the debt service amounts, how did we get ½ million dollars under budget? Mr. Johnson stated that the County did two re-funding in 2005 and when we budgeted for 2005 in September 2004 they were not anticipated.

C/Samuelsen questioned if the County has paid the EDA for the Jail bonds, Mr. Johnson indicated that they are no longer EDA bonds, Ms. Hove stated that that the EDA has never made the debt payment, the County has always made the debt payment.

C/Samuelsen stated that it is a very tight budget, how did we do it? Mr. Johnson indicated that it was good management and the budgeting process is much better than in the past. Mr. Hamilton indicated that staff did not spend down capital money until we had the cash in hand, also indicated that a lot of it is the weekly meetings with Auditor Treasurer staff, setting the budget properly in the first place, and part of it is luck.

C/Seifert congratulated the management team and staff involved on a great job done.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that Ms. Hove changed the report format for the reserves and designations, this new format should be easier to read, when they are broken out separately.

C/Samuelsen commented that one thing that he does not like is that Land Use continues to raise their fees; it is over \$300 for a variance. Mr. Johnson indicated that a website was utilized that showed various Counties fees and Goodhue County worked off of that when the fee schedule was created.

Ms. Hove stated that she and Ms. Benck are working on consistency with the budget and quarterly reports, the new graphs follow the same line items and categories as the budget books. Mr. Hamilton stated that it should be an easy reference back to the budget book.

Next meeting: March 28 at 9:00 a.m.