

**WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**COMMITTEE: BUDGET - WESTMOUNT HEALTH FACILITY**

**DATE: AUGUST 24, 2009**

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

SUPERVISORS GERAGHTY  
BELDEN  
O'CONNOR  
CHAMPAGNE  
KENNY  
SHEEHAN  
MERLINO  
TAYLOR

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

REPRESENTING WESTMOUNT HEALTH FACILITY:  
BARBARA TAGGART, ADMINISTRATOR  
BETSY HENKEL, COMPTROLLER  
ARTHUR (SKIP) BESSAW, SENIOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE  
MECHANIC  
FREDERICK MONROE, CHAIRMAN  
PAUL DUSEK, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
HAL PAYNE, COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FISCAL  
SERVICES  
JOANN MCKINSTRY, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATIVE  
& FISCAL SERVICES  
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD  
SUPERVISOR SOKOL  
SUPERVISOR STRAINER  
SUPERVISOR THOMAS  
CHARLENE DiRESTA, SR. LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

**COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:**

SUPERVISOR STEC

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Vice-Chairman Belden called the meeting of the Budget Committee to order at 2:20 p.m.

Copies of the Westmount 2010 Budget Request were distributed to the Committee members; a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Betsy Henkel, Comptroller for Westmount Health Facility, stated that the 2010 Budget request reflected a total appropriation of \$7,738,099.88 and a total revenue of \$7,421,589, which represented a shortfall of \$316,510.88. She added that the appropriations had increased by 6.47% and the revenues had increased by 4.56%. She said that the increase in revenues was mostly attributed to IGT (Intergovernmental Transfer) funds.

Ms. Henkel apprised that the 2010 Budget request for personnel reflected an increase of 2.6% compared to 2009. She advised that the 2010 Budget request for equipment was \$18,764, as compared to a 2009 actual amount of \$11,141, an increase of \$7,623. She explained that the amount listed for depreciation had increased; however, she added, this was merely an accounting adjustment and did not require any additional funds. She stated that contractual allowances had increased by 14.7%, the principal and interest amounts had remained approximately the same and there was a 5.99% increase in employee benefits.

Mr. Kenny stated that next year when the Committee reviewed the budgets, it would be appreciated if Westmount Health Facility could follow the same format as the other County Departments. He said that the Schedule 'A' which had been presented was difficult to follow, and Ms. Henkel acknowledged the request.

Ms. Henkel said that there had been an increase in the amount requested for supplies due to

a recommendation from the New York State Department of Health that Westmount Health Facility stock up on supplies in preparation for a pandemic. She stated that the 2010 Budget request reflected \$551,375 for maintenance, as compared to a 2009 actual amount of \$334,766, an increase of \$216,609 which she attributed to the Co-Gen. She explained that when the Department of Social Services Building closed, Westmount Health Facility would lose the reimbursement for the cogeneration.

Discussion ensued pertaining to the cogeneration.

Chairman Monroe and Mr. Sokol entered the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

Mr. Taylor asked what amount would remain in the Unrestricted Fund Balance if Westmount Health Facility used \$316,510.88 to balance the 2010 Budget. Ms. Henkel responded that the aforementioned fund balance had a sufficient amount of funds remaining; however, she added, they had just transferred \$1.5 million from the Unrestricted Fund Balance into the General Fund, at the request of the County Treasurer. Mr. Belden asked what the total percentage of increase was and Ms. Henkel replied that the total appropriation had increased 6.47% and the revenues had increased 4.56%, making the total increase 1.91%. Mr. Belden advised that the Board had requested the Departments to present 2010 Budget requests that reflected a 0% increase. He suggested that Ms. Henkel continue working on decreasing the budget request by 2% and return to the Committee for approval.

Ms. Henkel noted that the first requested personnel change for 2010 was to reclassify a Nursing Supervisor position, base salary of \$52,407 to an In-Service/Staffing Coordinator position, base salary of \$52,407. She added this was merely a change in title with no change in salary. She advised that the remainder of the requested personnel changes were salary overtime increases and unbudgeted part-time per diem nursing positions. Mr. Champagne asked where the funds had been allocated from in the past if the amounts had not been budgeted. Ms. Henkel responded that for 2009 the funds had been allocated from the appropriated fund balance and for 2008 they had been allocated from HCRA (Health Care Reform Act) Grant funds.

Discussion ensued.

It was the recommendation of the Committee that Westmount Health Facility resubmit their 2010 Budget request at a future meeting with a decrease of \$200,000 and that any additional increase be allocated from the Unrestricted Fund Balance.

There being no further business to come before the Budget Committee, on motion by Mr. Kenny and seconded by Mr. Champagne, Mr. Belden adjourned the meeting at 2:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlene DiResta, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist