



MIDDLE RIVER REGIONAL JAIL

Serving Staunton, Waynesboro, Harrisonburg and
the Counties of Augusta and Rockingham

February 25, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

Finance Committee Meeting
350 Technology Drive
Staunton, Virginia 24402

Finance Committee Members:

Jennifer Whetzel, Augusta Assistant County Administrator
Cameron McCormick, Waynesboro City Finance Director
Larry Propst, Harrisonburg City Finance Director
Patricia Davidson, Rockingham County Finance Director
Phillip Trayer, Staunton City Finance Director

Facility Staff:

Jeffery Newton, Superintendent, Middle River Regional Jail
Eric Young, Major of Operations, Middle River Regional Jail
Lori Nicholson, Director of Support Services, Middle River Regional Jail
Jeannie Colvin, Finance Director, Middle River Regional Jail
R. "Buzzy" Keyser, Compensation Board, Middle River Regional Jail
Tina Reed, Recorder, Middle River Regional Jail

Meeting called to order and Mr. Newton welcomed everyone.

Risk Management:

At the request of a Finance committee member, Mr. Newton presented a PowerPoint presentation Concerning MRRJ risk management. All budget recommendations/decisions made by the facility staff were made considering these underlying risk management concerns:

- The need to increase physician/dental provider hours.
- The need to improve the timeliness of medical clearance of new offenders at MRRJ.
- MRRJ should have two (2) Officers on every transport.
- Facility age; core functions are becoming an issue. Current staff are not able to respond.

Budget Options:

All budget items cap inmate housing at 895 inmates. FY 2021 budget increases were broken down as follows:

- Allocation of 5.8% will only maintain the status quo. Does not address any risk management concerns.
- Allocation of 6.7% only adds pay increase January 1, 2021. Does not address any risk management concerns.
- Allocation of 8.5% provides for four (4) additional nurses, one (1) additional officer for transporting offenders, and one (1) additional maintenance employee. This option addresses a number of the high priority risk management concerns.
- Allocation of 16.5% plans for the future. This option addresses a number of high priority risk management concerns. This option provides for needed increases in pharmacy, repair and maintenance, training, etc.

Virginia Legislature

Possible legislation advances that could have an impact on the budget are:

- Salary increase – unknown at this time.
- Providing an ID card to each inmate when discharged; unfunded mandate.
- Behavioral Health Standards (at present time the minimum jail standards do not provide any Medical or Mental Health standard other than the need for a physician.) While these proposed standards are not anticipated to impact the FY 2021 Budget, if approved they will substantively impact future budgets.

Committee Discussion:

The committee directed staff to prepare the 8.58% option as the most viable option for FY 2021.

- FY 2021 budget anticipates an increase of 10.8% for health insurance
- 4 nurses approved (2 for July 1, 2020 and 2 for January 1, 2021)
- 1 Maintenance employee – July 1, 2020
- 1 Transportation officer – July 1, 2020
- 2% raise for staff January 1, 2021
- Reduce Inmate Housing by \$75,000 and redistribute to other budget lines as determined by Superintendent

Ms. Colvin reminded Augusta county, Waynesboro and Staunton that if they keep the Work Force crew, a new van would be needed for each locality that has a crew.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2020 at 2:00 pm


Secretary