

**JUNE 3, 2010**

**MINUTES OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**NORTH CAROLINA  
MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

The Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, met in a Special Budget Workshop Session in Conference Center Room 267 of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 3, 2010. Dinner was held at 4:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Chairman Jennifer Roberts and Commissioners  
Karen Bentley, Dumont Clarke, Harold Cogdell, Jr.  
Neil Cooksey, George Dunlap, Bill James  
Wilma Leake and Daniel Murrey  
County Manager Harry L. Jones, Sr.  
County Attorney Marvin A. Bethune  
Clerk to the Board Janice S. Paige

**Absent:** None

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*Chairman Roberts was absent when the meeting was called to order and until noted in the minutes.*

**FY 2010 - 2011 BUDGET DELIBERATION**

*The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Cogdell.*

*Vice-Chairman Cogdell said the purpose of the meeting was to begin the Board's deliberation on the County Manager's FY10-11 Recommended Budget.*

*Vice-Chairman Cogdell turned the meeting over to County Manager Jones, who then called on Budget and Management Director Hyong Yi.*

*Chairman Roberts entered the meeting during County Manager Jones' remarks.*

The first matters of business, however, were to receive presentations from Park and Recreation and the Public Library of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County.

**PARK AND RECREATION**

Director of Park and Recreation Jim Garges briefed the Board on the impact of proposed budget cuts to Park and Recreation.

*A copy of handouts provided by Park and Recreation is on file with the Clerk to the Board.*

**PUBLIC LIBRARY OF CHARLOTTE/MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

Director of the Public Library of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County Charles Brown, Library Board of Trustees' Chairman Robin Branstrom and Trustee Bob Sink briefed the Board on the impact of proposed budget cuts to the Library.

*A copy of handouts provided by the Library is on file with the Clerk to the Board.*

*The Board recessed for a break at 6:55 p.m. and reconvened at 7:21 p.m.*

Director Yi addressed various handouts and the process to be used for straw voting.

*It was noted that seconds were not necessary for a motion to be considered. Also, the Chairman was allowed to make motions.*

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## STRAW VOTES

### Sales Tax Revenue

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke and **carried 6-3** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, and James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Add \$9.5 million in sales tax revenue.**

*Note: Commissioner Clarke said the above motion was based on his expectation that the County's sales tax revenue for next fiscal year would be the same as the actual amount estimated for this fiscal year. Commissioner Clarke acknowledged the County Manager's previous words of caution to the Board to be ultra conservative. Commissioner Clarke said he felt his motion, however, was a reasonable expectation.*

### Law Enforcement Service District

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke and **carried 6-3** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, and James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **To eliminate the subsidy in the General Operating fund for the expenses of the Law Enforcement Service District and instead have the citizens receiving that service pay that cost. Thus, this would be a tax rate increase of 2.58 cents for those receiving that service.**

It was the consensus of the Board that the service issue needs to be addressed.

### Department of Social Services

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke and **carried 8-1** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioner Dunlap voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Reduce the appropriation to the Department of Social Services by \$1.5 million and that the County Manager have the discretion as to where the reductions should occur within the Department of Social Services.**

### County's Self-Insurance Pool

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: Reduce the County's Self-Insurance pool by \$575,000 and instruct staff to replace that amount upon the expected receipt of funds from settlement of a claim.

After further discussion Commissioner Clarke amended his motion as follows:

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke and **carried 8-1** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioner James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase revenue by \$575,000.**

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Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendments and contingencies:

Increase Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools funding by \$6 million  
Increase Library funding by \$3.5 million  
Increase Work Release funding by \$1.1 million  
Increase Park and Recreation funding by \$1 million  
Increase Central Piedmont Community College funding by \$900,000  
Increase Employee Benefits by \$1.25 million

### **Contingency for Library Funding**

1) Additional funding for the public library is contingent on the Library Board of Trustees agreeing to pursue with Mecklenburg County the consolidation of some library functions under the direction of the County Manager and the management of County departments. The areas to evaluate for possible consolidation include but may not be limited to the following functions:

- Financial Management (finance and budgeting)
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Capital Projects Management
- Public Information/Communications

It is recognized that even with the additional funding for FY2011, the public library needs to adapt to the new fiscal reality by establishing a new business and operations model. Therefore, it is important that the process for consolidating these functions be conducted and concluded as a priority. As a means of ensuring this priority, the additional funding will be placed in contingency to be allocated based on the following:

One half of the additional funds will be provided at the beginning of the fiscal year to maintain stability in current library operations. Subsequent allocation of funds, dispersed quarterly, will be made upon approval by the County Manager. The Manager's decision will be based on achievement of consolidation process milestones that will be established (i.e., meeting deadlines and providing deliverables in accordance with the project plan to be developed).

### **Consolidation Process Outline**

County staff and Library staff will be appointed by the County Manager and Library Director to serve on a Steering Committee that oversees the process and develops recommendations for consideration by the County Manager and Library Director.

This Steering Committee will assemble staff working teams for each of the functions considered for consolidation. Staff teams will provide respective recommendations to the Steering Committee.

Steering Committee recommendations endorsed by the County Manager and Library Director will be provided to a subcommittee comprised of three members of the Board of County Commissioners and three members of the Library Board of Trustees. The subcommittee will make final recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Trustees for final decisions.

### **Additional Consideration for Long-Term Business Model**

The Public Library has played an important role in the quality of life in Mecklenburg County. However, circumstances largely beyond our control have altered the County's ability to fund the Public Library system at the level previously provided. As a result, the Public Library must

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explore alternative business models or alternative sources of revenue. Greater consolidation of the Library and County offers opportunities for restructuring the service delivery model such that the same services could be provided through shared resources. The goal of such a change should be to retain and strengthen the core functions of the public library, while stimulating progress with new ideas, new structures, new models of operating and providing services. This is the same situation facing Mecklenburg County departments, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Central Piedmont Community College, and others impacted by the new reality in recovering from the recession.

Given the significant public interest in the public library, the Board of County Commissioners believes the process of reinventing the public library should include significant public involvement. One option that should be considered by the Library Board of Trustees is convening a citizen task force, perhaps jointly appointed by the Board of Trustees and the Board of County Commissioners, to consider options for long-term change of the library system.

2) Any appropriation given by the City of Charlotte of \$1 million or more would be credited to the County's Real Estate Ledger for future land transactions.

### **Employee Benefits Contingency**

With respect to the additional \$1.25 million for Employee Benefits, the County Manager has the discretion as to how those funds are to be used, but that it not be used to increase the County Commissioners' Travel Budget or other things that have been cut from the budget. It is to be used strictly for County employees.

Commissioner Bentley suggested a friendly amendment, which was not accepted, to do the following: Increase Park and Recreation's budget by \$3.5 million; Increase CMS by \$3.5 million; Increase Library funding by \$3.5 million; Increase Work Release funding by \$1.1 million; Increase CPCC funding by \$900,000; Employee Benefits \$1.25 million.

**It was the consensus of the Board to vote on each of Commissioner Cogdell's items separately.**

### **Employee Benefits**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 8-1** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioner Cooksey voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Employee Benefits by \$1.25 million and with the following contingency: that the County Manager has the discretion as to how those funds are to be used, but that it not be used to increase the County Commissioners' Travel Budget or other things that have been cut from the budget. It is to be used strictly for County employees.**

### **Work Release**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **unanimously carried** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Work Release funding by \$1.1 million.**

### **Central Piedmont Community College**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **unanimously carried** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Central Piedmont Community College funding by \$900,000.**

### **Library Funding**

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Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 8-1** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioner Cooksey voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Library funding by \$3.5 million with the following contingency:**

**1) Additional funding for the public library is contingent on the Library Board of Trustees agreeing to pursue with Mecklenburg County the consolidation of some library functions under the direction of the County Manager and the management of County departments. The areas to evaluate for possible consolidation include but may not be limited to the following functions:**

- Financial Management (finance and budgeting)
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Capital Projects Management
- Public Information/Communications

It is recognized that even with the additional funding for FY2011, the public library needs to adapt to the new fiscal reality by establishing a new business and operations model. Therefore, it is important that the process for consolidating these functions be conducted and concluded as a priority. As a means of ensuring this priority, the additional funding will be placed in contingency to be allocated based on the following:

One half of the additional funds will be provided at the beginning of the fiscal year to maintain stability in current library operations. Subsequent allocation of funds, dispersed quarterly, will be made upon approval by the County Manager. The Manager's decision will be based on achievement of consolidation process milestones that will be established (i.e., meeting deadlines and providing deliverables in accordance with the project plan to be developed).

#### **Consolidation Process Outline**

County staff and Library staff will be appointed by the County Manager and Library Director to serve on a Steering Committee that oversees the process and develops recommendations for consideration by the County Manager and Library Director.

This Steering Committee will assemble staff working teams for each of the functions considered for consolidation. Staff teams will provide respective recommendations to the Steering Committee.

Steering Committee recommendations endorsed by the County Manager and Library Director will be provided to a subcommittee comprised of three members of the Board of County Commissioners and three members of the Library Board of Trustees. The subcommittee will make final recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Trustees for final decisions.

#### **Additional Consideration for Long-Term Business Model**

The Public Library has played an important role in the quality of life in Mecklenburg County. However, circumstances largely beyond our control have altered the County's ability to fund the Public Library system at the level previously provided. As a result, the Public Library must explore alternative business models or alternative sources of revenue. Greater consolidation of the Library and County offers opportunities for restructuring the service delivery model such that the same services could be provided through shared resources. The goal of such a change should be to retain and strengthen the core functions of the public library, while stimulating progress with new ideas, new structures, new models of operating and providing services. This is the same situation facing Mecklenburg County departments, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Central Piedmont Community College, and others impacted by the new reality in recovering from the recession.

Given the significant public interest in the public library, the Board of County Commissioners believes the process of reinventing the public library should include significant public involvement. One option that should be considered by the Library Board of Trustees is convening a citizen task force, perhaps jointly appointed by the Board of Trustees and the Board of County Commissioners, to consider options for long-term change of the library system.

**2) Any appropriation given by the City of Charlotte of \$1 million or more would be credited to the County's Real Estate Ledger for future land transactions.**

**Park and Recreation**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 7-2** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Bentley and Cooksey voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Park and Recreation's budget by \$1 million.**

**Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 7-2** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Bentley and James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools funding by \$6 million.**

**Child Support Enforcement**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Cooksey and failed 6-3** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting no and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, and James voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment with respect to the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) budget: **To instruct staff to issue an Request for Proposal to have this function outsourced. Secondly, that \$500,000 saved from outsourcing CSE be allocated to Park and Recreation.**

**Veteran Services**

**Motion was made by Commissioner James and failed 6-3** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting no and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, and James voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Veteran Services funding by \$400,000.**

**Displaced Homemakers**

Motion was made by Commissioner Dunlap to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: Increase funding for the Employment Services Resources Center-Displaced Homemakers Program by \$112,000.

Commissioner Cogdell suggested a friendly amendment which was accepted by Commissioner Dunlap was as follows:

- Increase Arts & Science Council funding by \$150,000
- Increase Council on Aging funding by \$120,000
- Increase Veteran Services funding by \$50,000
- Increase Employment Services Resources Center-Displaced Homemakers Program by \$112,000
- Increase the Sheriff's Office Domestic Violence Program by \$65,000
- Increase WTVI funding by \$95,000
- Increase Community Health funding by \$80,000
- Increase the Health Department's Jail HIV Testing program by \$100,000

**It was the consensus of the Board to vote on each of Commissioners Cogdell's amendments separately.**

**Jail HIV Testing Program**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 8-1** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioner James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase the Health Department's Jail HIV Testing program by**

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**\$93,000.** *Note: Originally Commissioner Cogdell said \$100,000 but he later changed the amount to \$93,000.*

### **Community Health**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and unanimously **carried** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Community Health funding by \$95,000 with the following contingency:** With the stipulation to continue the Health Department's efforts to address community health disparities and continue managing the N.C. Office of Minority Health Closing the Gap Grant, and recommend that a health coordinator position be established for this purpose to be funded initially by County dollars. However, if other funding sources can be identified that funding would be reverted to fund balance. The position would be filled according the approved reduction in force policy. *Note: Originally Commissioner Cogdell said \$80,000 but he later changed the amount to \$95,000.*

### **WTVI**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 8-1** with Commissioners Bentley, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioner Clarke voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase WTVI funding by \$95,000.**

### **Sheriff's Office Domestic Violence Program**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **unanimously carried** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase the Sheriff's Office Domestic Violence Program by \$65,000.**

### **Employment Services Resources Center-Displaced Homemakers Program**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 7-2** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Cooksey and James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Employment Services Resources Center-Displaced Homemakers Program by \$112,000.** *Note: This was Commissioner Dunlap's original motion.*

### **Veteran Services**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **unanimously carried** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Veteran Services funding by \$50,000.**

### **Council on Aging**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 7-2** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Cooksey and James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Increase Council on Aging funding by \$120,000.**

### **Arts & Science Council**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 7-2** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Cooksey and James voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the

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following amendment: **Increase Arts & Science Council funding by \$150,000.**

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Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendments: Decrease funding for the following Outside Agencies as follows and add \$381,975 to Park and Recreation:

Latin American Coalition by \$95,000  
YMCA Starfish Academy by \$70,000  
Center for Community Transition by \$50,000  
NCCJ by \$68,600  
Community Building Initiative by \$20,000  
YMCA Strengthening Families Program by \$78,375

Commissioner Dunlap asked staff was it possible to reduce every line in the County Manager's Recommended budget by a certain amount to get to \$381,975 that could then be added to Park and Recreation's budget. No action was taken with respect to Commissioner Dunlap's question.

**It was the consensus of the Board to vote of each of these line items separately.**

#### **NCCJ**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley and carried 7-2** with Commissioners Bentley, Cogdell, Cooksey, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Clarke and Dunlap voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Decrease funding for NCCJ by \$68,600 and add \$68,600 to Park and Recreation's budget.**

#### **Latin American Coalition**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley and carried 5-4** with Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, James, Leake, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, and Murrey voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Decrease funding for the Latin American Coalition by \$95,000 and add \$95,000 to Park and Recreation's budget.**

#### **YMCA Starfish Academy**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley and failed 5-4** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, and Murrey voting no and Commissioners Bentley, James, Leake, and Roberts voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Decrease funding for the YMCA Starfish Academy by \$70,000 and add \$70,000 to Park and Recreation's budget.**

#### **Center for Community Transition**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley and failed 6-3** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting no and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, and James voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Decrease funding for the Center for Community Transition by \$50,000 and add \$50,000 to Park and Recreation's budget.**

#### **Community Building Initiative**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley and carried 6-3** with Commissioners Bentley, Cogdell, Cooksey, James, Leake, and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Clarke, Dunlap, and Murrey voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the



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following amendment: **Decrease funding for Community Building Initiative by \$20,000 and add \$20,000 to Park and Recreation's budget.**

**YMCA Strengthening Families Program**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Bentley and failed 5-4** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, and Murrey voting no and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, James, and Roberts voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **Decrease funding for YMCA Strengthening Families Program by \$78,375 and add \$78,375 to Park and Recreation's budget.**

**Council On Aging & Latin American Coalition**

Chairman Roberts said she would like to allocate \$50,000 for the Latin American Coalition if funding could be found.

Motion was made by Commissioner James to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: Reduce Council on Aging funding by \$50,000 and allocate \$50,000 to the Latin American Coalition.

Commissioner Clarke offered a friendly amendment, which Commissioner James accepted, to instead reduce Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools funding by \$50,000 and allocate \$50,000 to the Latin American Coalition.

The vote was then taken on the motion as amended and noted below

**Latin American Coalition**

Motion was made by Commissioner James and **carried 6-3** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, James, Leake, Murrey and Roberts voting yes and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, and Dunlap voting no, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **to reduce Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools funding by \$50,000 and allocate \$50,000 to the Latin American Coalition.**

**Veteran Services**

Motion was made by Commissioner James and **failed 5-4** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Murrey and Roberts voting no and Commissioners Bentley, Cooksey, James, and Leake voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **to reduce Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools funding by \$200,000 and add \$200,000 to Veteran Services budget.**

**Library Funding**

Motion was made by Commissioner James and **failed 7-2** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey and Roberts voting no and Commissioners Cooksey and James voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **to reduce Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools funding by \$1.5 million and add \$1.5 million to Library's budget.**

**Veteran Services**

Motion was made by Commissioner James and **failed 8-1** with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, Leake, Murrey and Roberts voting no and Commissioner James voting yes, to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendment: **to cut CIAA funding in the amount of \$200,000 and Nascar funding by \$60,000 and add \$260,000 to Veteran Services budget.**

**Other**

Commissioner James referenced a 2003 report by Deloitte, which he said analyzed what the County was legally required to pay to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS). Commissioner James said he would share the information he had regarding this with Board members.

Commissioner James said the issue was whether or not the Board wanted to take the pro rata difference between what the County was giving CMS, the operating budget, minus what the County was legally required to give them using the format referenced in the information he had and putting the difference in restricted contingency with a proviso that CMS can't fire teachers or teacher assistants without cause. Commissioner James said this would basically put \$200 million in restricted contingency for CMS.

Commissioner Leake addressed funds that she said the County use to set aside for teacher supplements, which she'd like to see the County do again. Commissioner Leake said the purpose of those funds was to retain and support teachers.

Commissioner Cooksey suggested CMS funding be a topic of discussion at the Board's fall strategic planning conference.

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**Veteran Services Office**

Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell to appropriate \$50,000 from the current fiscal year's unrestricted contingency to the Veteran Services Office and carry it forward for more positions in FY10-11.

County Attorney Bethune said based on the wording of the Special Meeting Notice, Commissioner Cogdell's motion would not be in order.

Director Yi said it could be placed on the Board's next Regular meeting agenda, June 15.

Commissioner Cogdell withdrew his motion.

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Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke and **failed 7-2** with Commissioners Bentley, Cogdell, Cooksey, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting no and Commissioners Clarke and Dunlap voting yes, **to approve the County Manager's Recommended FY10-11 Budget with the following amendments:**

**Increase CMS by \$5,250,000**

**Increase Park and Recreation budget by \$1,650,000**

**Increase Library's budget by \$3,750,000**

**Increase Veteran Services by \$400,000**

**All to be funded by increasing the tax rate to 85 cents, a 1.13 cent increase.**

**Budget Ordinance**

Motion was made by Commissioner Clarke, seconded by Commissioner Cogdell and **carried 5-4** with Commissioners Clarke, Cogdell, Dunlap, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes, Bentley, Cooksey, James, Leake voting no, **to direct staff to take the results of tonight's straw votes and prepare a budget ordinance accordingly for consideration by the Board on June 15, 2010.**

*Note: The above is not inclusive of every comment but reflects key points and actions taken by the Board.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

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Motion was made by Commissioner Cogdell, seconded by Commissioner Leake and unanimously carried with Commissioners Bentley, Clarke, Cogdell, Cooksey, Dunlap, James, Leake, Murrey, and Roberts voting yes, that there being no further business to come before the Board that the meeting be adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

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Janice S. Paige, Clerk

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Jennifer Roberts, Chairman