

## **Auditor / Treasurer Update**

**June 16, 2021**

**10:34 a.m.**

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Grace Jimenez, Rodney Reynolds, Arny Davis, Michelle Sabin, Michelle Sauter, Alison Puckett, Taylor Arrington, Tom Stanton, Daleyn Coleman, Larry Grove, Becky Butler, County Manager Erik Martin (10:46 a.m.)

Guests: Linda Williams, Susan DeLaire, Edna J. Fund

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Arny Davis noted that the Treasurer's Office is a little over-budget for professional services.

Rodney Reynolds said the local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) rate is at .0767 percent, the lowest LGIP rate he has seen.

Rodney said the breakdown for the county's liquid deposits are as follows:

- 70 percent LGIP.
- 30 percent Columbia Bank.

Rodney said the county's General Fund has a strong cash and investment balance, noting that the county currently has \$10 million in cash and is considering investing a portion of that.

Rodney said the county has \$10 million in its Capital Facilities Plan fund and \$4.28 million in its Land Acquisition fund. Becky Butler noted that the bulk of the land acquisition fund reflects donations made for a new animal shelter.

County Manager Erik Martin joined at 10:46 a.m.

Rodney said the county has collected \$167,400 in lodging taxes year to date through May. Becky Butler noted that lodging tax collection has increased exponentially and that the commissioners may consider earmarking an increased funding amount for lodging tax grants.

Rodney said the General Fund has collected \$15 million in revenue year to date. He said the county's other funds have collected \$43.57 million in revenue year to date, which reflects 41.2 percent of its anticipated annual total.

Becky noted that sales tax collection also has increased dramatically, thanks in part to countywide construction as well as the creation of the Lowe's development.

Grace Jimenez said the county's General Fund is at roughly 41 percent of expenditures. She said there are no spikes causing alarms.

Grace discussed efforts to retain staffing as well as attract new employees. Grace said the Auditor has two payroll positions that the salary survey suggested creating an employment ladder to allow for growth and development.

Grace said she is proposing two Personnel Authorization Forms to reflect the changes outlined in the Salary Survey, creating Benefits and Payroll Specialist 1 and Benefits and Payroll Specialist 2 position as well as bump the grade for the Financial Analyst I position from a 122 to a 123.

Erik Martin noted that the changes Grace is suggesting will be budget neutral for 2021.

All three commissioners approved Grace's request.

Grace and Larry said the State Auditor's Office has presented a data-sharing agreement related to the 2020 audit. Larry aired concerns about security breaches.

Becky left at 11:21 a.m.

Grace said Munis upgrades will go live in a few weeks.

Larry discussed efforts to prepare absentee ballots. He also discussed requirements to create the local guide for local races.

Larry discussed a new bill that adds 50 cents per transaction to car tabs and titles in licensing. He said the state has shifted all compliance responsibilities to the county, noting that it used to fall to the state. Larry said the changes will prompt him to have to ask for an additional position.

Commissioner Swope left at 11:37 a.m.

Larry explained the efforts his office makes to when ballots come back undeliverable.

Meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m.