

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 7, 2012

3:00 p.m.

County Government Center, Building A

1) Roll Call

Present

Mr. Rich Krapf
Ms. Robin Bledsoe
Mr. Tim O'Connor
Mr. Al Woods

Staff Present

Mr. Paul Holt
Mr. Jason Purse
Ms. Tammy Rosario
Mr. Luke Vinciguerra

Mr. John McDonald
Mr. Brian Elmore

Mr. Rich Krapf called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2) Old Business - FY14 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) requests

In response to a comment, Ms. Tammy Rosario stated she did not know if the County's CIP submittal process can really dictate how someone might present their data in a narrative without getting additional direction from John McDonald.

Mr. McDonald stated this process is evolving and if the group wants to see additional information presented in additional ways, that would be fine.

Mr. Krapf stated to use the 311 system as an example, when they were estimating operating budget costs per year of \$300,000, that's significant. He stated he sees the need to evaluate capital expenditure, but for him, it extends into the operating budget. He stated he ranked the 311 project lower after learning its operating budget impact. It would be better if applicants could also include expected operating costs.

Ms. Rosario stated staff can request more information, but that regarding using terms like 'return on investment,' it would require an educational component on how we expect people to use terms in narratives.

Mr. Paul Holt stated it is much more than a cost-benefit analysis in a government context. He stated if we are delivering public goods, which by definition do not have a return on investment, then we will not necessarily recapture costs.

Mr. Al Woods stated return on investment could be expressed as quality of life. He stated the Committee should be given some narrative.

Mr. McDonald stated the County is trying to get as much fiber in the ground as possible in response to requests from Schools for distance learning using audio and visual presentations. He stated that the County burying its own cable is more cost avoidance, but no one questions whether distance learning itself is effective or efficient.

Mr. Woods stated that there were no metrics provided to say that there is a benefit to a program. He stated he was at a loss to help prioritize when we do not even know the need we are addressing.

Ms. Bledsoe stated that was her frustration as well. She said in the non-profit world, we have to show need and how to sustain the money. She wants to know the money is necessary for a real problem, with supporting data.

Mr. Luke Vinciguerra stated in response to Mr. O'Connor's question about the County knowing citizen communications preferences, the short answer is no. He stated there has been 62% increase in video on demand over the past year. He stated in a Cox survey 62% respondents stated they have viewed county government channels at least once in the past month. Regarding the Police shed, the department did not have much data, but did say they have replaced some plastic vents on a couple of the trailers for \$100 each. They also think Police decals need more regular replacement outdoors.

Mr. Purse stated staff had all of the Committee members' current scores. He displayed the average scores of Committee members' rankings, as well as how the rankings would appear if they left the scores the same.

The Committee discussed its individual rankings and scores.

The Committees rankings were, from first to last: 1) Fiber Optic Ring Phase II, 2) Olde Towne Trail, 3) Building D Conference Room Video Package, 4) Food Court for Lafayette H.S., 5) Food Court for Jamestown H.S., 6) Covered Parking for Specialty Police Vehicles, 7) (tie)Field Lighting for Toano M.S., 7) (tie)Field Lighting for Stonehouse E.S., 9) Citizen Relationship Management/311 System, 10) (tie) Police Use of Force Simulator, and 10) (tie)Five School Buses.

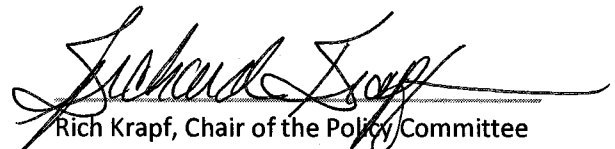
3) Other Business

Ms. Rosario asked the Committee to consider meeting dates in January to discuss pawn shops, the Planning Commission Annual Report, and the Goals, Strategies, and Actions progress report.

The Committee will meet on January 17th at 3 p.m.

4) Adjournment

Ms. Bledsoe moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.


Richard Krapf, Chair of the Policy Committee