

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
TIPPECANOE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL
JUNE 13, 2000**

The Tippecanoe County Commissioners and Tippecanoe County Council met in a special joint meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2000 at 12:30 P.M. in the Tippecanoe Room in the County Office Building. Commissioners present were: President Ruth E. Shedd, Vice President John L. Knochel, and Member Kathleen Hudson. Council members present were: President Jeffrey Kessler, Vice President David S. Byers, Connie Basham, Margaret K. Bell, Ronald L. Fruitt, and David S. Koltick; Auditor Robert A. Plantenga, Attorney David W. Luhman, Commissioners' Assistant Jennifer Weston, and Secretary Pauline E. Rohr. (Councilmember Jeffrey A. Kemper was absent.)

President Shedd called the special meeting of the County Commissioners to order.

President Kessler called the special meeting of the County Council to order.

This meeting was held to hear presentations by various agencies seeking County funding for 2001.

AGENCY REQUESTS

LEGAL AID CORP.: \$5,500.00: Rod Ray, Pres.

Legal Aid is requesting \$5,500.00, the same amount they were granted for 2000. This amount will be 3.7% of their planned operating expenditures of \$150,688.00. They ask for private donations from attorneys and receive approximately \$50,000.00 from United Way. Legal Aid represents Tippecanoe County clients who pay an office fee of \$25.00 per file and are responsible for court costs as well as publication costs.

LAFAYETTE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING CENTER, INC. (LTHC): \$15,000.00: Susan Kemp, Exec. Dir.

The request for \$15,000 for 2001 to assist in services they provide to homeless families with children and single individuals. LTHC operates Transitional Housing, a structured program leading to self sufficiency and permanent housing, and Lincoln Center. They recently purchased the former Comfort Nursing Home. Singles are allowed to stay 12 months which can be extended for an additional 6 months if they are enrolled in Ivy Tech. Families are allowed an 18 months stay but have a total lifetime maximum of 24 months. Fees to defray costs are based on family size and income.

SENIOR CENTER: \$7,800.00: Helen Dillon, Dir.

The Senior Center's 2001 request is broken into three categories.

Senior Center's request for \$4,000.00 supports one (1) professional staff position that coordinates the program and services with volunteers and agency partnerships. They expect to serve 8,800 residents in 2001

Care-A-Van needs \$1,800.00 of the amount to provide approximately 12,000 one-way trips for adults over 60 years old or persons with disabilities. Expected number of residents to be served in 2001 is 475.

Senior Housing Assistance Repair Program (SHARP) needs \$2,000.00 for the homeowner repair program for the elderly and disabled. They expect to serve 62 people in 2001. This request was increased \$1000.00 due to the increase in demand and cost of repairs.

4-H EXHIBIT ASSOCIATION: \$15,000.00: Dave Swank, 1st V.P.

With over 1,820 youth enrolled in the county 4-H program, the request for \$15,000 will amount to \$7.98 per youth. If granted, the request will be used for judges, ribbons and premiums, trips and awards, and related expenses directly involved with the 4-H Fair. Within the past 12 months, the 4-H Exhibit Association spent \$40,000 to purchase bleachers for the horse arena and tractor pull area and to secure an engineering plan for drainage and paving. In addition to seeking donations, which is their main source of funding, they work for grants for the 4-H

program. Three grants totaling \$3,250.00 will be used for a 4-H project and a \$1,000.00 grant from Land O Lakes Cooperative will be used to purchase tables and chairs for the Fairgrounds.

Questions:

Has the United Way been asked for support: Mr. Swank was not sure if United Way has been approached for a contribution.

Have foundation efforts been considered for fund raising: Most funding raising is through donations and proceeds from the County 4-H Fair.

FOOD FINDERS FOOD BANK, INC.: \$4,700.00: Barbara Ahler, Exec. Dir.

The request for \$4,700.00 will be used to provide Unsupported Services in Tippecanoe County that do not produce operating revenues. Food Finders dispenses approximately 2 million pounds of food annually. During 1999, 69% or 335,304 pounds of products distributed to Tippecanoe County agencies was donated. Each Friday, leftover bread and fresh fruits or vegetables are delivered to two churches for distribution. Food Finders allows other County agencies to use their vehicles at no charge when the need arises. Food Finders also provides the use of their freezer, cooler, or warehouse space for short-term storage before special events. Food Finders makes referrals to help individuals find a food pantry or other assistance. They also provide an opportunity for individuals to gain skills and work experience to compete successfully in the local job market.

YWCA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION and PREVENTION PROGRAM: \$13,546.00: Cindy Swagger, YWCA Exec. Dir., & Janet Wang, Domestic Violence Dir.

The YWCA is the only provider of a domestic violence shelter in a 7 county area. They employ 11 full time and 5 part-time employees and use many volunteers. All services and supplies are free to the victims. The request of \$13,546.00 will be used to pay 25% of the full time case manager's salary and 15% of the full time night house manager's salary. The Shelter receives funding from the United Way and County Commissioners in 3 counties, state and federal grants, Community Development Block Grants, and donations. They are facing cuts of \$16,696.00 in some of their grants but new grants are being written all the time. They expect an increase in clients due to changes in the DFC policy to screen for domestic violence. Clients from Tippecanoe County comprise 60% of their caseload. Their services are unlimited as long as there is adequate staff. Some clients outside the shelter are also served.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION: \$25,000: Jim Turley, Interim Exec. Dir.

In 1990, the Tippecanoe County Historical Association (TCHA) assumed responsibility for the Battlefield Museum at Battle Ground. If their request is granted, \$5,000.00 will be used to preserve Battlefield artifacts, documents and books to make a small library at the Battlefield and the remaining \$20,000.00 will be spent to collect and archive Tippecanoe County records. TCHA suffered a serious financial loss last fall due to inclement weather during the Feast of the Hunter's Moon, their biggest money-maker. Support of TCHA is a statement by the County that history matters.

Councilmember Koltick reminded the Council that when the Historical Association's funding was cut previously, it was said it would be made up if they had a bad year.

CRISIS CENTER: \$6,000.00: Cheryl Ubelhor, Exec. Dir.

The Crisis Center has provided round-the-clock crisis intervention, suicide prevention, and information and referral to Tippecanoe County residents for almost 30 years. Free support groups are available. Students comprise 90% of the Teen Line contacts. The City of West Lafayette supports the Crisis Center because of the student population at Purdue. Purdue helps with outreach programs. The United Way is the source for 60% of their funding and, if their request is granted, the County will be the source of 4.5% of their funding. Fund raising efforts include an annual Spring concert, a Lemon Shake-up stand at various events, a raffle, and a soup & bread concert and silent auction.

GROUP HOMES: \$30,000.00: Jane Dobbins, Dir.

Scholer Home provides emergency shelter for girls (6-18) and boys (6-9) placed by the court, DFC, or Probation for up to 30 days. Other homes provide long-term residential care for children 12-18. They work primarily with local children. The per diem is 100% reimbursable to

the County from the Federal IV-E reimbursement program. Since they operate at a deficit most years, the County's contribution is important.

TIPPECANOE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT: \$10,000.00: Arvil Duley, Chairman of the Board

Mr. Duley requested \$10,000.00 for operating expenses. Salaries and benefits for the Administrative Assistant, Environmental Coordinator, and Erosion Control Specialist plus part-time are included in the Commissioners' Budget. They are still working to receive funding from the City of Lafayette and a grant to fund the Erosion Control Specialist position.

MID-LAND MEALS, INC.: \$20,000.00: Elaine Brovont, Exec. Dir.

Mid-Land Meals will use \$5,000.00 to partially fund one vehicle and one driver for two routes per day to deliver approximately 30 meals. The remaining \$15,000.00 will be spent on completing the construction of their new central kitchen and warehouse facility where they will be able to prepare 2,000 meals per day. Mid-Land serves hot meals at 20 nutritional sites over an 8 county area and delivers meals to homebound persons who are unable to travel. Last year, of the 250,000 plus meals served to persons 60 years and older, 26% were served in Tippecanoe County. Over 550 Tippecanoe residents were served 34,708 meals as home bound clients. Most clients receive only 1 meal per day, but evening meals are available if there is a need. There is no fee structure but donations are accepted.

WILDCAT CREEK SOLID WASTE DISTRICT: \$175,000.00: Dawn Boston, Dist. Dir.

The District is called most often by small businesses for hazardous waste disposal. After the budget cut for 2000, they will have a \$100,000.00 balance to carry them into 2001. They are aware that they can apply for their own tax levy, but this idea was not supported by the Board. They don't want to be identified as the party responsible for raising taxes.

GREATER LAFAYETTE PROGRESS: \$30,000.00: Mike Brooks, Pres.

Since Tippecanoe County is a significant beneficiary of GLPI's economic development services, they are requesting an increase from \$20,000 to \$30,000 for 2001. Of that amount, Greater Lafayette Progress will receive \$23,000, Small Business Development will receive \$2,500, Manufacturing Assistance will receive \$1,500, and School-to-Career will receive \$3,000. The \$50,000 grant request to the Visitors Bureau was for a high technology program.

VISION 2000: \$15,000: Mike Brooks, Task Force Member

Vision 2000 will be a community wide effort to establish where the community will go and how it will get there. An outside source will determine how we compare with other communities to understand our strengths and weaknesses. Mr. Brooks thinks the emphasis will be on high technology development but he doesn't know what the goals will be.

LATINO COALITION: \$45,000.00, Diana Pietro, Member of Board of Dir.

Their mission is to promote and support a wide range of education and services for the Latino population as they arrive in Tippecanoe County. They provide assistance to help Latinos become independent and productive members of the community. The present staff consists of volunteers but, seeing the need to hire a staff to provide services on a larger scale to the estimated 1,400 served, they are requesting \$45,000 to pay personnel and operating costs. The United Way provides office space in the Lincoln Center. Support was denied by the City of Lafayette before the Latino Coalition received their 401c3.

WABASH RIVER PARKWAY COMMISSION: \$10,000.00: Lucky Neiberger

The Commission was established by the County Commissioners in the early 1980s. Since 1991, approximately \$1 million has come back to Tippecanoe County because of the County's support. They are requesting \$10,000 to purchase a projection system and brochures and to hold canoe races. Their purpose is to get people to use the river.

LONG CENTER: \$2,500.00: Dick Jaeger, Co-Chairman of Restoration Committee

The Restoration Committee is working this summer to made the back stage area handicapped accessible. Their request of \$2,500 for 2001 is to fully equip the stage area. Their fundraising effort that officially ends on June 30th is \$79,000 short of the \$2 million goal.


President Shedd asked the Council to submit their ideas and recommendations regarding the Agencies' requests for 2001 to the Commissioners.

ADJOURNMENT


- Commissioner Knochel moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Hudson; motion carried.
- Councilmember Fruitt moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Koltick; motion carried.

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor


TIPPECANOE COUNTY COUNCIL



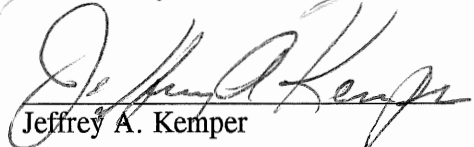
Jeffrey Kessler, President




David S. Byers




Connie Basham



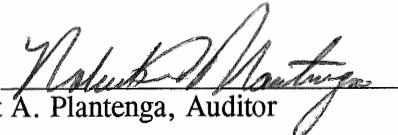
Jeffrey A. Kemper



Margaret K. Bell



David S. Koltick

Attest: 

Robert A. Plantenga, Auditor



Ronald L. Fruitt