

Chairman Jonke stated the Committee will now review the personnel sections of individual departments.

Department of Social Services, Mental Health, and Youth Bureau (page 53)

Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, Mental Health, and Youth Bureau Sara Servadio stated she was very strategic with her budget requests and had multiple discussions with County Executive Byrne, the Personnel Department, and with Commissioner Carlin. She stated all requests were granted either in full or in part.

Chairman Jonke questioned which positions the partially granted requests pertained to.

Disabilities Coordinator – Position 198910102

Fiscal Manager for the Department of Social Services, Mental Health, and Youth Bureau Kristen Wunner stated the Disabilities Coordinator is split 40/60 between the Office for Disabilities and the Mental Health LGU (Local Governmental Unit).

Commissioner Servadio stated salary increases were requested for four (4) team members on the Mental Health Team. She stated there is no overtime in Mental Health; they have singular staff working entire departments.

Chairman Jonke stated the breakdown shows the salary for the Disabilities Coordinator as tentatively \$92,432 and proposed \$95,000. He questioned if this was the request submitted.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated the request put in for that position was for a \$15,000 increase, bringing the salary to \$104,740 total.

Commissioner Servadio stated the requests were made to recognize the work these employees are doing and how their jobs continue to grow. She stated she understands that this is part of the budget process and she is comfortable with the budgeted salaries.

Chairman Jonke stated there is no representative from the County Executive's office, but he would like to ask what the rationale is for partially granting the request. He stated the salary survey was done which was used to base many of the increases on.

Commissioner Carlin stated all salaries were done in conjunction with the Catapult survey. He stated he would like to speak to the process; they met with all departments and had extensive meetings with the Catapult consultant. He stated he and Personnel Officer Eldridge were in every meeting. He stated this was a great process and there was great communication with all departments. He stated all of those things were taken into consideration to come up with the recommendation in the budget. He stated many requests were granted and some were modified. He stated he would defer to Personnel Officer Paul Eldridge for the details of those modifications.

Chairman Jonke questioned where this position falls in the salary study.

Commissioner Carlin stated not every position was part of the study.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated they relied on benchmark positions that are standard across the State in other counties and then compared the non-benchmark positions against those standards. He stated many of the employees are relatively new to their positions. He stated they looked at each request comprehensively, taking into consideration qualifications, job specs, length of service, and the potential impact the request may have on other employees. He stated that one position cannot be evaluated in isolation. He stated that the proposed \$15,000 increase was viewed as more than appropriate at first, but was later reconsidered after evaluating other relevant factors.

Legislator Birmingham stated he does not see the \$15,000 request.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated it is a split position.

Legislator Birmingham requested clarification from Commissioner Servadio.

Commissioner Servadio stated their initial request for \$15,000 was included originally and what is shown in the tentative budget is what was discussed with the County Executive and what they felt comfortable including.

Legislator Birmingham questioned if the \$15,000 increase was part of the submission pursuant to the Decentralized Budget Process.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated there is a 3% COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) included in the position. She stated the requests shown plus the 3% COLA brings the total increase to \$15,000.

Legislator Birmingham questioned where the COLA is shown.

Fiscal Manager Wunner explained that the difference between the salary shown in the "Current Salary" column versus the "2026 Requested" column reflects the 3% COLA increase.

Legislator Birmingham stated when the original \$15,000 request was made, they did not know about the 3% COLA.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated that is correct.

Legislator Birmingham stated he wants to make sure that any request submitted by a department is properly reflected in the tentative budget. He stated that this raises the concern that departments may submit requests without knowing what adjustments the County Executive plans to apply, making it difficult for legislators to understand the true original requests.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated the 3% was automatically applied to all lines and additional amounts were then evaluated.

Legislator Birmingham stated a \$15,000 request was made and subsequent to that, the 3% COLA was applied by the County Executive. He questioned why the Legislature is not seeing the \$15,000 request.

Commissioner Carlin stated that can be provided.

Legislator Birmingham stated it should be provided in the tentative budget.

Commissioner Carlin stated the 3% was added and the difference is shown.

Legislator Birmingham stated putting the 3% aside, the Legislature would have no way of knowing the original request was for \$15,000. He questioned if there was somewhere else in the budget that showed this.

Commissioner Carlin stated everything supplied at the original meetings is in the books and the only thing changed was to add the 3% COLA.

Legislator Birmingham stated in that case the \$15,000 should have been reflected in each line for the split position and the 3% should have been on top of that. He stated this is significant; the Legislature needs to know what the departments are requesting.

Commissioner Servadio stated as a department head in the room right now, this discussion is uncomfortable. She stated the departments put a lot of time into their requests and she is happy to provide more information at the request of the Legislature. She stated staff can watch this meeting to see if they are not being advocated for at this platform and it is uncomfortable.

Chairman Jonke stated he is familiar with this position and employee; it is a critical position in Mental Health in Putnam County. He stated he respects Commissioner Servadio's opinion and inclusion of this increase.

Legislator Crowley questioned how Commissioner Servadio arrived at a \$15,000 increase. She stated this position is not reflected in Catapult survey the County had done.

Commissioner Servadio stated they compared the position to surrounding counties and found that other counties have entire departments dedicated to serving the disability population. She stated that they combined two part-time positions into one full-time position. She stated with the expansion of services in the County, the increased education efforts, and the overall growth in responsibilities, this individual is taking on a lot more. She stated that the comparison to surrounding counties was the primary basis for the salary request, and they wanted to bring the salary to a level that would allow them to compete with other counties.

Legislator Crowley questioned how the position compared to the surrounding counties.

Commissioner Servadio stated other counties are organized differently so they focused on the responsibilities being handled by the employee and their title.

Legislator Montgomery stated likewise, employees are watching the Legislature as well. She stated the County Executive has budget meetings with each department and has an opportunity to make adjustments and the Legislature does not have that opportunity until now. She stated the Legislature needs to know what was requested by each department to know how to advocate.

Chairman Jonke stated the Administration creates the tentative budget over months and the Legislature has a much shorter window to review it.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to restore the requested \$15,000 increase bringing the salary of the Disabilities Coordinator to \$104,740; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated the numbers submitted by the department were without knowledge of the 3% COLA. He stated an extensive review was done during the Catapult survey process and the research done for this position does not meet that level. He stated it is important to take into consideration other requests made; not all requests were granted. He stated to do it properly, all other positions in the department need to be looked at as well.

Chairman Jonke stated then the Legislature is not needed. He stated the Legislature does not collaborate with the Administration; the County Executive sends the tentative budget for the Legislature's review. He stated the Legislature's job is to review the tentative budget and make changes where necessary.

He stated there is a motion and second on the floor. He requested a roll call vote.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to restore the requested \$15,000 increase bringing the salary of the Disabilities Coordinator to \$104,740; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. By roll call vote: Two Ayes: Chairman Jonke and Legislator Addonizio and One Nay: Legislator Gouldman. Motion carries.

Legislator Birmingham stated going back to his main concern; the Legislature should see each request made by all departments.

Commissioner Carlin stated each department request was submitted in July. He stated the only changes were to add the 3% management COLA to salaries. He stated in the instance just being discussed, if you added 3% in both lines pertaining to the split position and then added the increase to each, it comes out to \$15,000. He stated the reason it was done was because it was assumed the Legislature would not want to make changes to the COLA.

Legislator Birmingham stated when he was previously on the Legislature the original request was always shown, even if there were layoffs.

Commissioner Carlin stated he has seen where the COLA gets removed along with a requested increase when it is not the intention.

Legislator Birmingham used another salary as an example; the line is requested at \$66,000 and the tentative budget is 3% higher, including the COLA. He questioned if the request for that line was \$66,000.

Commissioner Carlin stated yes, the request was put in without the COLA. He stated the column to the left shows the request without the COLA.

Legislator Birmingham stated the position that was just discussed did not show the original departmental request in the left column.

Commissioner Carlin stated the request came in July and he believed it would be better to add the COLA into the request so if it is changed along the way, the COLA would not be changed.

Chairman Jonke stated he would like to move forward with the budget review.

SPOA Coordinator (Adults) – Position 431013102

Chairman Jonke stated there is another position within the Department of Social Services to be discussed. He stated a request was made to increase the salary of the position of SPOA Coordinator (adults) by \$10,000, which was reduced to \$5,000. He stated the tentative budget does not show that.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated the 2026 requested column shows the salary with the COLA, adding the proposed increase shown on the bottom brings it to the requested amount. She stated the 2026 Tentative amount reflects the reduction to a \$5,000 overall increase.

Chairman Jonke requested background on this employee and position.

Commissioner Servadio stated this is a standalone position and they are working 50-60 hours per week with no overtime. She stated the employee has been here about 10 years.

Legislator Birmingham stated again, this increase is not shown as requested here.

Commissioner Carlin stated the \$10,000 increase is reflected here; it is shown in the two (2) lines.

Legislator Birmingham stated the amount listed under “2026 requested” should show \$10,000 to let the Legislature know the Department requested \$10,000. He stated this is how it had been done in the past.

Commissioner Carlin stated it is done this way because there were issues in the past where increases were removed during the budget process and positions were stripped of the COLA as well, which was not the intention.

Legislator Birmingham stated it would be helpful to have the complete department request reflected in the tentative budget.

Commissioner Carlin stated any adjustment shown on the bottom is over the 3% COLA.

Legislator Birmingham stated the reason we have a decentralized budget process is so the Legislature can know what the department heads have requested.

Legislator Ellner stated the Legislature is supposed to receive written explanation why the department's request is different than the County Executive's tentative budget.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to grant the requested increase of \$10,000 for the position of SPOA Coordinator (adults); Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. Chairman Jonke called for a roll call vote.

Legislator Goldman stated he has a point of order; he would like to appeal the motion of the Chairman. Legislator Addonizio was not in favor.

Legislator Birmingham explained that in the matter of an appeal the Chairman does not get a vote and in the event of a tie, which is what has occurred here, the motion fails.

Chairman Jonke stated he would make his motion again, but it will continue to be appealed.

Legislator Addonizio suggested bringing this motion forward at the Budget & Finance Committee Meeting.

Legislator Montgomery suggested requesting copies be made of the original budget requests right now for this evening's meeting.

Legislator Birmingham stated this is the Committee process and there are three (3) sitting Members. He encouraged the Committee to continue operating as they normally would and if the process is slowed down because of dilatory tactics, so be it. He stated no one Legislator can stop the Chairman from making a motion.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to grant the requested increase of \$10,000 for the position of SPOA Coordinator (adults); Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. By Roll Call Vote: 2 Ayes. 1 Nay – Legislator Goldman (and stated he would like to appeal). Motion carries.

Legislator Goldman requested clarification from Legislative Counsel.

Legislative Counsel Abissi stated a motion was made and there was a majority vote, therefore the motion passed. She stated if Chairman Jonke were to make a ruling on something that could be appealed.

Chairman Jonke stated he would like to move on to the next position.

Dual Recovery Coordinator Position – Budget Line 431010103

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated an increase was requested for the position of Dual Recovery Coordinator.

Chairman Jonke stated the requested increase was reduced by \$5,000.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated that is correct, the request was for \$10,000 which was reduced to \$5,000 in the tentative budget.

Commissioner Servadio stated this is 100% reimbursable using Opioid Abatement money.

Legislator Birmingham stated he will again point out that the \$10,000 request is not clearly shown.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to restore the full request for a \$10,000 increase for the position of Dual Recovery Coordinator; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. 2 Ayes. 1 Nay – Legislator Gouldman. Motion carries.

Crisis Intervention Specialist Position – Budget Line 431010102

Commissioner Servadio stated this is a grant position that will be funded through the end of June 2026 and the County will need to cover the cost beginning on July 1, 2026.

Legislator Montgomery stated she is hopeful the grant can be extended further.

Chairman Jonke requested a description of this position.

Commissioner Servadio stated this position is part of the Co-Responder Team (CRT) where a mental health worker accompanies the Sheriff's Department of mental health calls.

Legislator Crowley stated she is happy to see this grant extended; this employee is instrumental in the County.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to restore the full request for a \$10,000 increase for the position of Crisis Intervention Specialist; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. 2 Ayes. 1 Nay – Legislator Gouldman. Motion carries.

Director of Children and Family Services – Budget Line 601002101

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated the request for this position was an increase of \$15,000. She stated \$10,000 was included in the tentative budget, inclusive of the COLA.

Commissioner Servadio stated there was a successful union negotiation this year that resulted in stipends for on-call employees. She stated this increase is an attempt to get the supervisor position to a higher level than those they supervise.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to restore the full request for a \$15,000 increase for the position of Director of Children and Family Services; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. 2 Ayes. 1 Nay – Legislator Gouldman. Motion carries.

Deputy Youth Director – Budget Line 731010112

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated the requested increase for this position was \$15,000 to bring it to \$97,200 and the tentative budget included a \$5,000 increase, bringing the salary to \$87,000.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to restore the full request for a \$15,000 increase for the position of Deputy Youth Director; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. 2 Ayes. 1 Nay – Legislator Gouldman. Motion carries.

Daycare/ Social Services Specialist I – Budget Lines 601002N09 & 601002N10

Commissioner Servadio stated these two (2) positions were fully funded in the tentative budget.

Deputy Commissioner of DSS Nicolle McGuire stated their contract with the Childcare Council of Putnam and Dutchess is ending at the end of this year so they have requested two (2) full-time positions to help with subsidized daycare. She stated they put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) and received one (1) bid that did not work out.

Fiscal Manager Wunner stated it is New York State mandate so it is their hope to have the positions filled by January. She stated their contract line was decreased by \$87,000 to offset a portion of this expense.

Real Property (page 8)

Director of Real Property Patricia McLoughlin provided background information on the Department's employment history over the past year. She stated they have brought on a part-time clerk and have requested a permanent personnel line for this position as they have become an invaluable member of the office. She stated she is anticipating further changes in the department in the next few years and is planning ahead so any transition can be seamless.

Chairman Jonke stated his appreciation for the current and future plans for Real Property.

Historian (page 85)

Putnam County Historian Jennifer Cassidy stated she was unaware of the changes that came out of the Catapult survey. She stated she is currently part-time working 25 hours per week without benefits and increasing the hours to 30 would preclude her from getting another part-time job. She stated if the hours are going to increase she would rather the position be made full-time.

At 7:16pm Chairman Jonke made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

At 7:25pm Chairman Jonke made a motion to come out of executive session; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor. No action was taken.

Chairman Jonke stated this will be revisited at the Budget & Finance Committee Meeting later in the month.

District Attorney (page 2)

First Assistant District Attorney Breanne Smith stated a request was included in this year's budget for an additional Assistant District Attorney (ADA), which was approved by County Executive Byrne. She stated they also came to an agreement for salary increases to four ADA positions, which are also included in the proposal. She stated they were in agreement with the results of the Catapult survey. She stated the increases and the new position are entirely funded by grant funds.

Legislator Crowley questioned if the grant will likely be awarded in the future as well.

First Assistant District Attorney Smith stated hopefully it will be.

Board of Elections (page 18)

Board of Elections Commissioner Catherine Croft stated the increase in the salaries for the commissioners was as a result of the Catapult survey.

Board of Elections Commissioner Kelly Primavera stated they are satisfied with the budget.

Veterans Affairs (page 73)

Chairman Jonke requested clarification on the proposed position for Veterans Service Officer.

Office of Veterans Affairs Director Karl Rohde stated the part-time Veterans Service Officer position will be 30 hours per week. He explained that if they work less than 30 hours they cannot be certified by the US Department of Veterans Affairs.

Chairman Jonke questioned if Director Rohde is satisfied with the proposed position.

Director Rohde stated yes, he is looking forward to having extra help.

Chairman Jonke thanked Director Rohde and the whole Office for Veterans Affairs.

County Clerk (page 9)
Department of Motor Vehicles (page 10)
Records Management (page 11)

Deputy County Clerk James McConnell stated the adjustments to salaries in the County Clerk's office are a result of the Catapult survey.

Bureau of Emergency Services (page 35-37)

Commissioner of the Bureau of Emergency Services Robert Lipton stated he requested an \$8,000 increase for the EMS Education Coordinator to bring the salary to \$72,000. He stated the COLA increase was placed in the tentative budget and the remaining increase was included as well to bring the salary to \$72,000. He stated he is satisfied with this.

Law Department (page 12)

First Deputy County Attorney John Cherico stated they have included modest increases for some positions to ensure the continued placement of the talented employees they currently have and to attract qualified professionals to fill vacancies within their office. He stated they have had multiple employees leave recently for positions in the private sector, which offered a better salary. He stated they are cognizant of the fact that salaries associated with government practice cannot equate with those in the private sector, however their research has shown that attorneys in Putnam County are paid less than their counterparts in neighboring counties. He stated they are finding it exceedingly difficult not only to retain the top-notch attorneys they currently have but also to fill the vacant positions through hiring. He stated specifically, the Senior Deputy County Attorney position in line 142010105, they have included an increase of \$5,329.

Chairman Jonke clarified that this increase is on top of a 3% COLA. He stated there is also a vacant Senior Deputy County Attorney position. He questioned if there are any candidates.

First Deputy County Attorney Cherico stated the increase included for that position is to attract a top-level municipal employee.

Legislator Ellner stated there are some increases shown only in the tentative budget column but not in the requested column.

Chairman Jonke questioned if the Law Department is satisfied with this budget.

First Deputy County Attorney Cherico confirmed they are.

Office for Senior Resources (pages 75-80)

Director of the Office for Senior Resources Marlene Barrett stated their requests were all granted in the tentative budget and there was a salary adjustment resulting from the Catapult survey. She stated the budget includes a reclassification for a Senior Account Clerk and two (2) positions are increasing hours from 25 to 27.5 hours per week. She stated this keeps those positions consistent across all senior centers.

Sheriff's Office (pages 20-31)

Chairman Jonke acknowledged the position Sheriff Hess is in with having taken over as Sheriff after the passing of Sheriff McConville.

Sheriff Hess stated many of the changes are contractual and there is an increase resulting from the Catapult Survey. He stated he has been reliant on Commissioner Carlin through the budget process.

Legislator Crowley stated there is also a reclassification of a position.

Sheriff Hess stated they are likely going to propose a reorganization in the near future which will combine some of the units within the Sheriff's Department.

Health Department (pages 40-52)

Public Health Director Rian Rodriguez stated the majority of requests made were with the intention of promoting succession plans across all divisions within the Health Department and ensuring the continuity of services due to the number of pending and completed retirements. He stated the Health Department submitted 11 requests for the 2026 budget and received 7.5, which he is satisfied with. He stated in his 20 years of experience he has never received 100% of what was requested and he appreciates that the more substantial requests were fulfilled.

Chairman Jonke stated last year \$60,000 was placed into subcontingency for the nurses. He stated the Catapult Survey was done and that money is still there for the nurses; he questioned what is being done with those funds.

Health Department Fiscal Manager William Orr stated he would defer that question to Commissioner Carlin.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated three of the four positions have been filled. He stated through the budget process, the positions will be reclassified to a grade level above what they are now. He explained the difference between a Supervising Public Health Nurse and a Public Health Nurse Supervisor position. He stated the Supervisor Public Health Nurse oversees the program and the Public Health Nurse Supervisor supervises the nurses more directly.

Legislator Montgomery stated as discussed earlier in the meeting, the Legislature does not necessarily see what has been removed from the budget. She spoke to the programs and positions that have been removed over the past few years. She stated supervisory positions have been requested over the years.

Public Health Director Rodriguez stated he would love to have divisional lead parity across the Health Department. He stated they are taking an incremental approach to this goal.

Legislator Montgomery stated public health is vulnerable right now across the nation. She stated she is concerned to hear that 11 requests were made and only 7.5 were granted. She stated she has been advocating for the Supervising Public Health Nurse to be a step 24 for years and it concerns her to only have one.

Legislator Birmingham stated he does not want to harp on this issue, but he is hearing that the request was made for the position to be a grade 24, however that is not reflected in the budget.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated the requests were reviewed under the civil service process; positions cannot arbitrarily be assigned to levels.

Legislator Birmingham stated his point is that the requests made by departments should be presented to the Legislature as it is presented to the County Executive.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated this request came right to the Personnel Department because no title goes into the budget until it has been classified. He stated this is done outside the budget process.

Legislator Birmingham questioned what was officially requested by the Health Department.

Fiscal Manager Orr stated a grade 24 was requested because the Health Department believed that was correct, however the Personnel Department corrected it to a grade 22.

Legislator Montgomery stated the Health Department needs to be rebuilt and she believes their requests for a grade 24 over the past few years have been blocked.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated if more nurses were needed they would be added, however the issue is filling the positions they currently have. He stated the department does not request a specific grade; they fill out a form and based on that information the Personnel Department classifies the position.

Chairman Jonke stated if Public Health Director Rodriguez wants to advocate for anything further, it can be addressed by the Budget & Finance Committee later this month.

Legislator Ellner questioned if the classification done by the Personnel Department is subjective.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated it is subjective to some degree.

Public Health Director Rodriguez stated if this is based on workload, there is more than enough to warrant two (2) supervisor positions; one administrative and one clinical. He stated public health nurses are unique in terms of their work performance and there is a learning curve for nurses coming in with only clinical experience.

Chairman Jonke requested that Public Health Director Rodriguez speak with Personnel Officer Eldridge and provide the Legislature with an update prior to the Budget & Finance Committee Meeting.

Finance (page 5)

Commissioner Carlin stated a new Accountant position was requested and granted. He stated this position will strengthen the department.

Chairman Jonke stated all requests were granted, plus some increases due to the Catapult survey.

IT/GIS Department (page 19)

Commissioner Carlin stated he can speak to this budget since there is no representative present. He stated increases were included per the Catapult survey; recruitment has been difficult with the low salaries.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated the position of IT Systems Specialist in line 168010123 was below the minimum therefore a fairly large increase is included to bring that salary to the minimum.

Legislator Crowley questioned why the salary was so low.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated the employee had been an intern and was made permanent. He stated now that they have a couple years of experience and the information from the Catapult survey, it is appropriate to bring the salary up.

Soil & Water (page 87)

Legislator Ellner questioned why the position of Soil & Water District Manager is not under the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Commissioner Carlin stated this was left as-is for 2026.

Legislator Ellner stated in the past this position was funded with Soil & Water Part C funds. He stated this year the Soil & Water Board has not voted to allow those Part C funds. He stated he believes this position should be funded under DPW.

Commissioner Carlin stated it is partially funded in the amount of \$60,000 through Part A funds.

Brett Yarris, resident of Carmel stated he has not seen anywhere in the budget that is publicly available where it is designated that the Part A funds are not County funds.

Commissioner Carlin stated the budget forecasts that the revenue will be incoming, it is shown on page 249 of the budget under the Soil & Water Revenues and Expenditures.

Mr. Yarris stated the Soil & Water Conservation District Board has not yet voted on the allocation of those funds.

Commissioner Carlin stated the funding is in place the same way it has always been.

Mr. Yarris stated the Part A funds are earmarked from the State directly to the Soil & Water district. He stated he understands this is how it has always been done; it is being presented as County money.

Chairman Jonke stated that is outside this budget process.

Personnel (page 13)

Deputy Personnel Officer Adriene Iasoni stated their budget includes two (2) reclassifications: one for position 143010105 from Confidential Secretary to Office Manager as they recognized the duties of this individual go beyond that of a confidential secretary and the other is for position 143010107 from Personnel Assistant to Personnel Specialist. She stated there are also some salary increases resulting from the Catapult Survey.

Chairman Jonke stated a new position was requested, but not granted.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated they are comfortable without that new position, the most important thing was to classify everyone correctly.

Legislator Ellner stated the variance report shows an increase in salary for two (2) positions.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated the COLA, plus the increase listed on the bottom of the budget sheet make up those increases.

Auditing (page 6)

Chairman Jonke stated because the County Executive cannot adjust the Legislature's request, any changes were put into subcontingency. He stated he would like to make some adjustments based on the Catapult survey.

County Auditor – Position 132010101

Chairman Jonke stated based on the Catapult survey, the mid-point for this position is \$149,000 and he would like to bring this salary to \$150,000.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to take the money for the Auditing salaries out of subcontingency; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to increase the salary for the County Auditor position to \$150,000; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. By roll call vote: All Ayes. Motion carries.

Audit Manager – Position 132010102

Chairman Jonke made a motion to increase the salary for the Audit Manager position to \$87,000; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. By roll call vote: All Ayes. Motion carries.

Deputy County Auditor – Position 132010103

Chairman Jonke made a motion to increase the salary for the Deputy County Auditor position to \$127,000; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. By roll call vote: All Ayes. Motion carries.

Legislature (page 1)

Chairman Jonke stated according to the Catapult survey the position 101010113 should be at a mid-point of about \$87,000.

Chairman Jonke made a motion to increase the salary for the position 101010113 to \$87,000; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. By roll call vote: All Ayes. Motion carries.

Chairman Jonke questioned if there were any more things pertaining to the personnel budget to be discussed.

Commissioner Carlin stated he wanted to clarify that the PIO (Public Information Officer) stipend remains in subcontingency.

Legislator Montgomery stated in reference to the earlier discussion about the nursing staff, she requested a job description showing the differences between a grade 22 and grade 24.

Personnel Officer Eldridge stated he would provide that.

Commissioner Carlin explained that when he put the budget together he was under the assumption that no department head would include a COLA in their personnel lines. He stated the COLA was automatically added to all salaries and any requests above the COLA were adjusted accordingly. He stated if it would be helpful to have the requested amount and the amount after the COLA is applied he could provide that.

Legislator Birmingham stated it would be helpful to see it in detail, the way it is presented does not provide the most clear picture of what was requested. He stated some representatives were not present and the Legislature would not know their original request unless they asked.

Commissioner Carlin stated he would provide a report.

Legislator Ellner stated the Legislature's budget includes two Counsel positions that are currently part-time. He suggested making them "less than full time" so a benefit package could be associated with it, possibly making the position more attractive.

Legislator Sayegh stated she is comfortable with part-time for 2026. She stated it can be revisited if it does not work out.

Legislator Montgomery discussed the history of the Legislative Counsel position when it was an employee and then a contract.

Chairman Jonke stated under a contract, the Law Department can direct who the attorney will be.

Item #4 – Other Business – None

Item #5 – Adjournment

There being no further business at 8:52pm, Chairman Jonke made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Beth Robinson.