

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Paul Trampe, Board Member
David Ross, Board Member
Larry K. Pritchett, Treasurer
Debbie Williams, Commissioner of Revenue
Mark Cole, Deputy County Administrator

OTHER STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Annette D'Alessandro, Grants Manager
Susan Hahn, Bridges Project Manager
Steve Cooper, Deputy Chief - FREM
LaShahn Gaines, Schools' CFO
Peter Zicari - Schools' Director of Technology
Bonnie Jewell, Budget Manager

Bridges Grant Program Award for FY 2019

Susan Hahn, Bridges Project Manager explained that Spotsylvania Department of Social Services (DSS) has been the grant recipient of the (Bridge to the Future Grant) Employment Advancement for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Participants Program Grant since FY 2002 and lead agency for the regional grant since FY 2003.

The "Bridge to the Future Project," is an inter-agency project between the Spotsylvania Department of Social Services and Spotsylvania County Schools. The project provides intensive services to TANF recipients with multiple barriers to employment, and provides intensive direct services to include the following: identifying and addressing learning and other disabilities; diagnostic services; intensive work readiness and GED preparation. The goal of the project is to assist TANF recipients in gaining and maintaining employment, and to ultimately achieve self-sufficiency, ending dependence on government assistance.

She explained that the project's lead fiscal agent is Spotsylvania DSS, but the employees who support this program are employed by Spotsylvania County Schools.

DSS has been approved program continuation funding in the amount of \$177,100 for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. There is no local match requirement and no requirement for the locality to continue to participate in the project beyond the grant award period and staff is requesting the Board's approval to accept the grant and to approve the associated FY 2019 budget adjustment and appropriation.

On a motion by Mr. Pritchett, seconded by Ms. Williams, and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the budget amendment and associated appropriation for the acceptance of the Bridges Grant award.

Adjustment for Additional E-Rate Technology Revenue and Expenditures

LaShahn Gaines, Chief Financial Officer for Spotsylvania Schools, explained that the Federal E-rate Program ensures that schools and libraries can obtain high-speed internet access and increased Wi-Fi support at affordable rates. With this program, eligible items purchased can receive a partial reimbursement of the purchase costs which the school division then uses to purchase additional technology items.

Ms. Gaines explained that she anticipates receipt of \$866,367 in E-rate funding in FY 2018, an increase of \$258,367 over their FY 2018 estimate of \$680,000. The School Board is expected to approve the budget amendment to reflect the additional \$258,367 at their meeting on May 21, 2018.

Mr. Zicari, Director of Technology, Spotsylvania Schools, explained that the program provides discounted internet access and infrastructure and the additional reimbursement received is a function of wiring replacements at various schools. When asked about specific purchases to be made with these additional funds, Mr. Zicari noted that additional technology devices, and technology for English core classes and for "libraries of the future" are to occur. To avoid having to purchase and/or replace tvs for individual classrooms, technology will be made available to allow morning announcements to be seen in classrooms via the existing overhead projectors. The Finance Committee asked that these examples be included in the executive summary of the agenda item to be sent to the Board of Supervisors.

On a motion by Dr. Trampe, seconded by Mr. Ross, and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the FY 2018 Budget amendment and appropriation to recognize the additional E-rate funding.

Budget Adjustment and Appropriation for FY 2018 Heavy Technical Rescue Scholarship Award

Steve Cooper, Deputy Chief - Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management (FREM), explained that FREM submitted a request to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs (VDFP) for scholarship assistance under the Heavy Technical Rescue (HTR) Scholarship Program. Funding was approved in the amount of \$1,695 to partially pay for the tuition to send a Firefighter to the Structural Collapse Technician School. The Firefighter attended the course and successfully completed it which is a prerequisite for obtaining the reimbursement scholarship. There is no requirement for the locality to continue to participate in the project beyond the scholarship award period. The HTR Scholarship program does not contain a supplanting clause. Staff is requesting the Board's approval to accept the grant and to approve the associated FY 2018 budget adjustment and appropriation.

On a motion by Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Pritchett, and passed unanimously, the Finance Committee recommended approval of the FY 2018 Budget amendment and appropriation to recognize the scholarship revenue and course costs.

Other Business:**Update on FY 2019 – FY 2023 Capital Improvement Plan**

Bonnie Jewell, Budget Manager, reminded Committee members that when the CIP was presented for adoption along with the FY 2019 Budget on April 12, the motion failed. Since that date, additional information impacting the projects in the CIP has been received and will be presented to the Board along with an updated CIP for adoption on May 22.

Certain technical adjustments are being made to the CIP to match the FY 2019 projects with actions taken by the Board when approving the FY 2019 Budget. Additionally, after discussion with and approval by the Transportation Committee, adjustments are being recommended to transportation projects to better align the local funding for a roundabout at Old Plank Road and Andora Drive with potential future State funding; to remove the Lansdowne/Rt. 17 turn lanes; and to add a roundabout at Old Plank and Chancellor roads.

Mr. Ross asked if the updated version of the CIP includes artificial turf fields authorized by voters in the 2014 bond referendum. He recalled having been promised at the time of the referendum a future discussion on the pros and cons of such fields in advance of their approval in a CIP and is concerned that such discussions have not occurred. Ms. Jewell confirmed that one turf field is planned for each of the five high schools at an estimated cost of \$800,000 each over the course of the five-year CIP. Courtland High School is included in FY 2019 and FY 2019 is the only year being requested for budget purposes at this time. The four out-years in the CIP are for planning purposes only at this time.

Mr. Ross asked if the Board could approve the CIP without the turf fields. Ms. Jewell and Mr. Cole explained that while the Board of Supervisors cannot approve line item budgets for the Schools, the Board of Supervisors could vote to remove the \$800,000 associated with the Courtland turf field from the FY 2019 Schools' Capital Projects Fund, but it would be up to the School Board to make the determination as to which projects that \$800,000 reduction would actually apply.

No action was sought from the Finance Committee. Ms. Jewell simply alerted the Committee members that a budget adjustment aligning the Board's actions on the FY 2019 Budget and the CIP would be before the Board on May 22. The Committee generally agreed in concept to the adjustments described.

Adjournment:

Ms. Jewell adjourned the meeting.