



## Boone projects surplus

By Paul McKibben • pmckibben@nky.com • May 12, 2010

Boone County government should end fiscal year 2010 on June 30 with an expected surplus of \$5.75 million to \$6 million, according to a report by county officials.

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That would be an increase from \$4.77 million on June 30, 2009. County Administrator Jeff Earlywine and County Treasurer Lisa Buerkley said in their third-quarter report that total line-item spending across all departments in the general fund is projected to be below original budget appropriations by \$1.25 million to \$1.5 million at the end of fiscal year 2010.

Also at the end of the fiscal year there will be a reduction in transfers out of the general fund to other funds by \$750,000 to \$850,000.

"What we're trying to do is not to read too much or not enough into this report," Earlywine told the Boone County Fiscal Court on May 11. "It's one quarter of four quarters."

Still, the bottom-line news was welcomed by Boone County Judge-executive Gary Moore and Commissioner Cathy Flaig who have disagreed on fiscal issues.

"The word 'conservative' has been used in this room a lot tonight and I don't know of anything that sums that up better than this report right here," Moore said.

Flaig called it "a great day for the people of Boone County."

Revenue continues to lag behind somewhat.

The report said payroll tax collection was up by

about 5 percent in the third quarter compared to the same quarter last year. That's an approximate \$200,000 increase. But it's still \$359,000 less than budget projections.

Real and personal property tax revenue has improved slightly and is predicted to fall short of the budget projection by about \$200,000, the report said.

Other revenues down are motor vehicle taxes (about \$189,000 from the budget forecast), interest, building permits and others.

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NO, I have some rules!

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