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Go Team Report

since June 30, 1992. The work represented in this report is a result of a review of each department, then discussion on what could be revised in each department, based on the presentations, and input from the citizen and employee representation in an "anything goes brainstorming session."

For the Team to bring forward actual dollar values for savings of each recommendation would require further study and much more time. This realization brought forward the recommendation that the County have a follow up team, ongoing year around, to review and bring forward this specific information.

HIGH PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS

ELECTED OFFICIALS-CRITERIA OF EXPERTISE TO BE REQUIRED
Establish qualifications for office to insure that people who occupy offices utilizing specific skills, (e.g. Surveyor, Assessor, Treasurer) actually have the necessary expertise.

COMMISSIONERS FROM GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF COUNTY
Divide the county into electoral districts; elect one commissioner from each district so that outlying areas are better represented.

RETAIN PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
The present arrangement works well, and should not be changed.

MERGE ALL FINANCIAL DEPARTMENTS/MERGE TREASURER & FINANCE
This recommendation was brought forward after discussion of duplications of services here, and also notions that consolidation of these departments would bring about better handling of monies flowing through Jackson County.

MAKE LIBRARIES A HIGHER COUNTY PRIORITY FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS It was recognized that the library operates on a levy, but also recognized this levy cannot support badly needed capital improvements.

SUPPORT PREVENTATIVE SERVICES This recommendation relates to the Health and Human Services Dept., and focuses around the idea that prevention cannot be supported strongly enough to deal with ongoing, and growing, health problems that face the community.

ELIMINATE VETERANS SERVICES This recommendation was brought forward after discussion that the county is duplicating services offered by the Federal and State offices of Veterans Affairs.

GO TEAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

TEAM G (Tuesday)

John Anhorn
Hattie Becker
Dale Bohannan
Marsha Bones
Ted Brittsan
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Ed Olson
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James Stith
Jacqueline Switzer
Rich Thelan
Jim VanSant
Keith Wetlesen
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TEAM O (Thursday)

Jeri Best
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Ken Chapman
Pat Clason
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Doug McGearry
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Ron Mobley
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Nov - Dec. 1992

O-Team

positions and divisions of authority were not only outdated but were cause for confusion by citizens at large.

Reorganization of government and elimination of many elective positions may not necessarily save money in the short run, but they would certainly make the organization more understandable and logical for the public while improving efficiency and eventual cost savings for management as a whole. Therefore, to start, the group recommends

A. Increasing size of the board of commissioners from three to five. One commissioner would act as chair and who would be paid full salary. The remaining commissioners would work and be paid part time. Compensation for part time commissioners would be viewed as reasonable compensation for lost income resulting from their civic work but not a primary source of income. The Board of commissioners would have appropriate but minimal staffing.

The above changes would increase representation and provide better access by the public to county government through contact to their elected Board of Commissioners. Individual commissioners may have more time to concentrate on government departments that are in particular need of assistance or are of particular interest to the commissioner. Finally, more time would be freed for commissioners to organize for long range planning and setting policy.

This last point was of particular concern. The "O" team believed that, where possible, the commissioners should be relieved of ministerial duties. Job council interviews or determining animal nuisance cases are only a few of the seemingly administrative tasks that were mentioned. If the commissioners' duties do not specifically affect county wide issues of policy or direction then the commissioner should not be required to be involved.

B. Reduce the County Administrators office to one chief administrator with one or two administrative assistants and a secretary for staff.

The drive here is to start at the top to stop layers of bureaucracy. There needs to be a more direct administrative path between the CAO and the department heads without successive levels of bureaucracy. Certainly, those now doing necessary support services in the administrator's office would be logically redistributed to other departments as those departments exist, are modified or are created.

C. All department heads should be appointed except for the District Attorney's position. The Administrator would be responsible for selecting each department head.

This may probably be the most controversial recommendation of all but it appears to be the most consistently held opinion of the "O" Team. Government's suffering from lack of credibility begins in the voting booth. The average voter has little to no knowledge