Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to allow the budget to reflect anticipated year-end personnel expenditures while ensuring that adequate funds are available to fund all positions throughout a fiscal year. Budgeting the cost of positions based on historic knowledge of savings that result from turnover resulting from resignations, terminations, retirements, promotions, and transfers (also known as budgeting for attrition) better reflects what will actually be spent on personnel costs. At the same time, provision must be made if turnover is less than anticipated, and to recognize the potential problems for organizations with few employees.

Policy: It is the policy of the Board of County Commissioners that in preparing the budget, the County Budget Officer may budget less than the calculated annual cost of personnel based on an analysis of historical expenditure trends which reflect the savings that result from turnover resulting from resignations, terminations, retirements, promotions, and transfers. In the event this policy is utilized, a minimum of 25% of the amount that is subtracted from the budget to reflect such turnover savings will be placed in a reserve within the respective fund and be available only for appropriation to meet personnel costs for budgeted positions. This reserve shall not be used to hire new employees or to meet other operational requirements. The funds placed in reserve may be used to meet unanticipated personnel requirements of any organization in which a reduced level of personnel funding was budgeted as a result of the application of this policy. Any reserve balance remaining at year-end will be available for appropriation in the subsequent year.

Amounts subtracted from the personnel budget and not reserved will be available for appropriation in the current fiscal year.

In implementing this policy, provisions should be made to exempt organizations with less than 25 positions, and this policy does not apply to the budgets of Constitutional Officers.

Responsibility: It is the responsibility of the Management and Budget Department, under the direction of the County Administrator as County Budget Officer, to implement this policy.

Approved By: Board of County Commissioners
Approval Date: May 3, 2006