



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approval Date:

January 22, 2020

Commissioners' Hearing Room, Courthouse Annex
94235 Moore Street, Gold Beach, Oregon

www.co.curry.or.us

QUARTERLY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

November 12, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Alcorn at 10:03 a.m. Present were Vice Chair Brad Alcorn, Budget Committee Member Court Boice, Budget Committee Member Sue Gold, Budget Committee Member Christopher Paasch, and Budget Committee Member Richard Thode.

Also present: Legal Counsel John Huttli, Finance Director Sharlyn Harvey, Director of County Operations Julie Schmelzer, and Administrative Assistant John Jezuit

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. ADOPTION/AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Paasch, seconded by Gold, to approve agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

4. APPROVE MINUTES

A. Budget Committee Meeting May 13, 2019

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve Budget Committee Meeting minutes of May 13, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Budget Committee Meeting May 14, 2019

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve Budget Committee Meeting minutes of May 14, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Budget Committee Meeting May 15, 2019

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve Budget Committee Meeting minutes of May 15, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Budget Committee Meeting May 16, 2019

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve Budget Committee Meeting minutes of May 16, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Budget Committee Meeting May 17, 2019

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve Budget Committee Meeting minutes of May 17, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

5. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. Overview of Budget, Discuss Audits, and Discussion on Efficiencies – Sharlyn Harvey

Harvey used a PowerPoint presentation to show the following agenda:

- Updates from May 2019 - She gave an update on revenue ideas raised in May and the status of those discussions. Ideas presented were: Justice Court, grants, IT, Code Enforcement, Sheriff's office, State Parks land swap, Facilities Maintenance successor, amnesty program, Event Center funding, Road Department, Building Official, centralized purchasing, marijuana tax revenues, inmate medical costs, and using Road Funds to balance the budget.
- Status of Last 3 years audits and the Corrective Action Plan submitted to the state by her predecessor - 2016, 2017, 2018.
- First quarter FY (Fiscal Year) 2019-20 Review - (16 page spreadsheet).
- Events after adoption – She discussed items that were not budgeted that had already come up that needed money: Unpaid membership fees, personnel changes, emergency HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning), Strategic Plan, Equitable Pay, Wage Study.
- Propose Solutions were presented by Harvey.
- Budget Law on Appropriation Resolutions were discussed.
- Anticipated Change for 2020-2021 FY - Cost impact of PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) regulation changes, Equitable pay analysis.
- Question and Answer – Time was allowed for members to ask questions.

Huttl updated the Budget Committee on the status of the State Parks land swap stating the county is awaiting a wet ink signature from the State. Schmelzer gave more details on the Amnesty program.

The Budget Committee discussed:

- **Sheriff's Department**

Alcorn stated the Sheriff's Department has some vacancies in patrol. Captain Phil McDonald stated there are four (4) vacancies in the patrol division, spoke about jail inmate medical needs observing there are two (2) inmates currently who need medication, spoke about Senator Merkley's bill which would allow an inmate's health insurance to continue while inmate is incarcerated, and stated CCH (Curry Community Health) terminated the contract for jail medical services. Paasch stated funding has been put in place for patrol deputies. Paasch also stated we will work with Senator Merkley's office on his bill supporting inmate access to their medical provider. Boice observed jail inmate medical expenses are a problem all rural counties face, and the solution has to come from the State legislature. Boice asked about forming a task force to bring attention to the issue. Gold asked if most inmates have health insurance and asked about the law which terminates coverage upon incarceration. Schmelzer stated at the November 20, 2019, Board meeting, a resolution supporting Senator Merkley's bill will be on the agenda. Thode asked if Senator Merkley's bill will apply to veteran's health care, too.

- **Finance Department**

Gold asked questions about the audit. Harvey expressed concern about communicating with auditors, stated she is not sure where we are in the audit process to have it completed in time, and advised we will be getting new auditors in the Spring. Thode stated auditors did not bring us into compliance and wants to see the audit completed before next budget process. Paasch stated we will put out another RFP (Request For Proposal) for another firm to do our audit and hopes to get a head start on this for next year. Schmelzer observed sometimes it is good to get a fresh set of eyes.

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- **Anticipated Changes for FY 2020-2021**

Harvey stated she came in with a fresh perspective, stated we should be able to analyze expenditures, spoke about improvements in software, and added there will be a major review in January, 2020. Harvey also spoke about the impact PERS, union negotiation, and health insurance will have on our budget, observed we do not have a lot of PERS tier 1 people, and stated once an employee is in PERS, the employee cannot back out. Schmelzer stated the Board of Commissioners is looking at software. Gold asked if increase in PERS takes into account all tier levels, and observed some counties have set up a new employee retirement system. Boice stated Klamath County has such a plan. Gold also asked about several counties coming up with a HSA (Health Savings Account), and concluded both health and PERS contribute to a very large adverse financial burden on the county.

- **Code Enforcement**

Thode asked about figures on Code Enforcement and fines, observed county staff is overworked and under paid, advised caution in hiring more staff, asked about Harvey's background, and inquired about the Amnesty program. Schmelzer stated Code Enforcement is under the Community Development Department, observed during the first year of the program a softer approach rather than writing citations is being used, stated another Code Enforcement Officer will be coming on, spoke about the impact business licensing and the TLT (Transient Lodging Tax) will have on revenues in the future. Paasch stated the current Code Enforcement Officer is inundated and observed between soft approach and Amnesty program, County may be sterner in the future. Alcorn stated the Code Enforcement Officer does a great job in the field. Boice spoke about leadership, observed the recession was really difficult, and stated he liked the softer approach and the amnesty program.

- **Assessor**

Jim Kolen advised the Assessor's Office is still in a review process for their software and expect to make a decision in December, 2019. Kolen also stated the software project will take about 18 months.

B. Budget Committee Questions and Comments

Paasch spoke about the efficiency of the Finance Department software, specifically in the areas of accounts payable and payroll. Harvey lauded the software's benefits, advantages, and ease of use.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the mid-year review on January 22, 2020, and there will be workshops on February 5, 12, and 19, 2020, to discuss the budget. Harvey stated January 30, 2020, is the pay equity completion date.

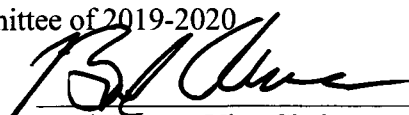
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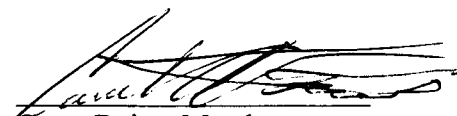
Vice Chair Alcorn adjourned the meeting at 11:43a.m.

Dated this 22nd day of January, 2020.

Curry County Budget Committee of 2019-2020

(Vacant)



Brad Alcorn, Vice Chair


Court Boice, Member 1-22-20

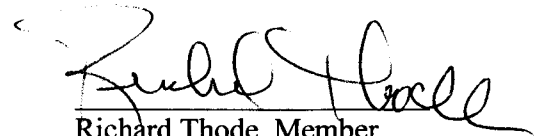
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Sue Gold, Member



Christopher S Paasch, Member



Richard Thode, Member

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant

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