

CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approval Date:
June 15, 2020
Commissioners' Hearing Room, Courthouse Annex
94235 Moore Street, Gold Beach, Oregon
www.co.curry.or.us

QUARTERLY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING January 22, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Alcorn at 9:25 a.m. Present were Vice Chair Brad Alcorn, Budget Committee Member Court Boice, Budget Committee Member Sue Gold, Budget Committee Member Christopher Paasch, Budget Committee Member Wayne Richards, and Budget Committee Member Richard Thode.

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

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. ELECT BUDGET COMMITTEE CHAIR

Boice introduced new Budget Committee member, Wayne Richards.

Motion by Thode, seconded by Boice, to nominate Alcorn as Chair. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Boice, seconded by Paasch, to nominate Thode as Vice-Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION/AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA

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

4. APPROVE MINUTES

A. Budget Committee Meeting November 12, 2019

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve Budget Committee Meeting minutes of November 12, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

5. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION/ACTION/MID-YEAR REVIEW

A. Sheriff - John Ward

Ward introduced members of his staff and spoke in detail about the lack of control over jail medical costs; the microwave tower communication system; and the positive effects of the K-9 program on crime and drugs. Captain McDonald spoke about day to day monitoring of budget line items; budget funds, specifically Marine and Search and Rescue; concern with medical expenses due to jail inmates; and the need for a supplemental budget for the K-9 fund. Lieutenant Denney stated the Parole and Probation budget is on track.

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

B. Assessor – Jim Kolen

Kolen spoke in detail about researching a new computer system with the goal of making a decision in early February, 2020; the Curry County Pilot Project not making it through the legislature; staffing levels in the Assessor's office and their impact on length of the re-appraisal cycle; and the amount of tax dollars not collected on properties inaccurately assessed due to improvements made without building permits.

C. Clerk - Renee Kolen

Renee Kolen stated the Clerk's office is on track with budget in all divisions and reserve funds and is on point for revenues. Shelley Denney, Deputy Clerk, stated the Clerk's office is now issuing death certificates.

D. Treasurer - Debbie Crumley

Debbie Crumley stated the budget is looking pretty cut and dried, she is adding a .25 FTE (Full Time Equivalency) to the Treasurer's Department in FY (Fiscal Year) 2020-2021, explained the funds she prefers are very conservative, and observed the County's rate of returned has dropped from 2.75% to 2.45%.

E. District Attorney - Everett Dial

Everett Dial introduced his staff, stated the District Attorney's office is down an attorney, stated the Victim's Advocate office is 100% grant funded, and commented the budget is doing pretty good despite high line items now.

F. Juvenile – Wendy Lang, Juvenile Director

Wendy Lang stated there are not a lot of changes in the budget for the Juvenile Department, Oregon State Parks signed a contract for community service, and revenues are all on track. Lang also stated the Juvenile Department has changed the organization structure to be more efficient; they are collecting 100% of restitution, spoke about the need for a security wall, and addressed juvenile transportation.

- G. Emergency Management Jeremy Dumire, Emergency Management Manager Jeremy Dumire spoke in detail about a training grant from State Farm, the preparedness expo, upgrading communication equipment, vehicle usage, and the reliance on General Funds for reserves as his office is grant funded. Dumire concluded with a summary of changes to tsunami siren maintenance.
- H. Veteran's Services Tony Voudy, VSO (Veteran's Service Officer)
 Schmelzer stated Tony Voudy is on medical leave. Schmelzer also spoke about the events coming up at the end of the month and their effect on the budget, expenses, the new staff person, and stated the department is getting money from lottery funds.

I. Roads – Richard Christensen, Roadmaster

Richard Christensen spoke in great detail about the Road Department budget; the number of Road Department employees; the impact of FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) projects on employee work load and costs associated with the projects; major equipment purchases; increase in revenues; and equipment sales. Christensen concluded with the need for a workshop concerning communication tower costs, specifically, adding two (2) towers and more efficient tower management by using Day Wireless.

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

J. Facilities – Eric Hanson, Director and Chet Brewer, Assistant Facilities Director Chet Brewer spoke about focus on seeking grants and partnering with our jurisdictions; stated departmental forecasting will help increase efficiency, and commented on the need to address building conditions. Eric Hanson spoke in detail about courthouse security and the unexpected budget expenses due to replacing the HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) units in the Annex and the CTR (Curry Transfer and Recycling) Port Orford facility needing replacement.

K. Parks – Josh Hopkins, Parks Director

Josh Hopkins spoke in detail about revenues, the effect of campground occupancy on the Parks budget, and the possibility of additional staff.

L. County Counsel – John Huttl, County Counsel

Huttl handed out a document to the committee, stated he had spoken to the finance department about the budget, and addressed all budget line items and their effect on revenues.

M. Director of County Operations and Community Development – Julie Schmelzer Schmelzer spoke about the commissioners non departmental budget account, the phone system crash, the finance department software upgrade and the benefits of the software, the wage study (which may be delayed) costs, staff changes due to resignations of the finance director and vital statistics administrative assistant, and stated the County will be hiring a Public Health Administrator. Speaking as the Community Development Department Director, Schmelzer addressed TLT (Transient Lodging Tax) revenues, Economic Development funding from Lottery dollars, the impact and benefits of code enforcement, contracting out for Surveyor services, and concluded with a summary of the building safety department activities.

6. BUDGET COMMITTEE QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Boice spoke about the impact on the budget of unexpected expenses, the need to meet these challenges head on, and the necessity to show the public what the County is up against. Thode stated he has not seen any extravagant spending and observed, due to things being tabled in the past, it will take years to resolve these issues.

7. NEXT MEETING

Schmelzer stated with the finance director's departure, the schedule will be re-done.

8. ADJOURN

Chair Alcorn adjourned the meeting at 1:59 p.m.

Dated this 15th day of June, 2020.

Curry County Budget Committee of 2019-2020

Brad Alcorn, Chair

Richard Thode, Vice Chair

Sue Gold. Member

Christopher S Paasch, Member

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant

Court Boice, Member 🖋

Wayne Richards, Member

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