

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Special Board Meeting – Budget Workshop
Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Benton County Administration Building

Meeting provided by Video Live-Broadcast and Telephonically

Present: Chairman Shon Small
Commissioner Jerome Delvin
Commissioner Will McKay
County Administrator Jerrod MacPherson
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Deputy County Administrator Matt Rasmussen; IT Manager Robert Heard; Linda Ivey, Finance Manager; Assessor Bill Spencer; Danielle Hayes, Chief Assessor; Treasurer Ken Spencer, Treasurer; Kirsten Yniguez, Deputy Treasurer; Brenda Chilton, Auditor; Lorene Roe, Deputy Auditor; Tim Waters, Franklin County WSU Director; PA Andy Miller; Ginny Badley, Administrator; Cody Shelton, IT; Clerk Josie Delvin; Shela Berry, Public Works; Shyanne Palmus, Communications Coordinator; Carlee Nave, HR Manager.

Revenue & Expenditures

Linda Ivey highlighted the following:

- Revenues have not really changed since the last presentation
- Expenditures as of October 11, 2022
 - \$2.7 million above revenue
 - Included CBA contracts approved by the Board - increased expenditures by an additional \$4 million for a total of \$6.7 million over revenues
 - \$5.5 million in new requests – would be \$12.2 million in expenditures over revenue

Mr. MacPherson said they would have a recommendation for the Board on November 1 after hearing the budget workshop requests.

Assessor

Assessor Bill Spencer and Chief Deputy Assessor Danielle Hayes presented their budget which included the following:

- New Chief Appraiser position

Treasurer

Treasurer Ken Spencer and Deputy Treasurer Kirsten Yniguez presented the Treasurer's budget and highlighted the following:

- New position request
- Request for increase in services such as the line items where they pay for GARDA and banking service fees. The Garda contract increased by \$4,000.00 per month over the budget proposed
- Discussed keeping \$5 million in the bank versus the historical \$17 million, which would require the new position request
- Trying to focus more on increased interest rate
- Will not be allowed to collect penalty and interest for not paying property taxes - starting January 1, 2023- previously \$500,000 to \$600,000 in revenue

Auditor

Auditor Brenda Chilton and Deputy Auditor Lorene Roe presented the budget for the Auditor's office and highlighted the following:

- No new increases
- Successes – New Administration Building
- Eliminated some programs in department and a position
- Voting Center
- Appreciative of salary realignment to secure and keep talent they have in their department
- Recognized the Elections, Licensing, Recording, and Accounting Teams

WSU / Benton County Extension

Tim Waters, Franklin County, covering for Gwen-Alyn Hoheisel presented the following information:

- 2018-19 program accomplishments
- Budget
 - MOU with WSU sets rates for faculty and there is a small increase for wages and benefits
 - Small decrease in copier rental fees

Prosecuting Attorney

PA Andy Miller and Ginny Badley, Administrator, presented the PA's budget and highlighted the following:

- Pay raises with Courthouse Union provided an incredible boost in morale and would help correct some of their problems with hiring and retaining employees
- Issue of exempt employees now making less money than people they supervise. He knows the plan was to follow up with that and encouraged the Board to move as fast as possible, potentially making it retro or effective immediately
- Artificial limit on number of jury trial: only two court reporters and limited number of bailiffs which puts a limit on the jury trials
- Continue to need to help with PST positions, even if the public safety tax does not pass; 14 murder trials lined up and ready to go

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman