

MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION  
BUDGET HEARING 2015  
MILLARD COUNTY THE 2nd DAY OF DECEMBER 2014  
AT THE COURTHOUSE, FILLMORE, UTAH

PRESENT: Alan M. Roper. . . . . Chairperson  
James I. Withers. . . . . Commissioner  
Daron P. Smith. . . . . Commissioner

Richard Waddingham . . . . . County Attorney  
Marki Rowley. . . . . Deputy County Clerk  
Brandy Grace. . . . . County Auditor

ALSO PRESENT: Connie Hansen . . . . . County Recorder  
John Hansen . . . . . County Treasurer  
Sheri Dearden . . . . . Treasurers Office  
Hannah Jones. . . . . Chronicle Progress  
Dean Draper . . . . . Commissioner Elect  
Aliese Withers, Ed Phillips, Brandon Bartholomew, Aaron & Justus Leatham, Ted  
Recupero, Dale Bond, Joshua Tolley, Scott Blackburn, Kris Ewert,  
Kary, Susan & Matt Kesler, Bart Whatcott, Steve Maxfield, Jackson George,  
Jake Christensen, Todd Macfarlane, David Williams and Susan Perkins. . . . . Citizen  
Robert Dekker . . . . . County Sheriff  
Morris Burton, Richard Carter, Forrest Roper. . . . . County Sheriff's Office

Note: This meeting in its entirety was recorded and is available for review in the Clerk's Office.

PURSUANT TO AN AGENDA WHICH HERETOFORE HAD BEEN PROVIDED TO each member of the governing body, posted at the principal office of the Millard County Commission, posted on the Utah Public Notice Website, and provided to the Millard County Chronicle Progress, a newspaper of general circulation within Millard County, as required by law, the following proceedings were had:

Commissioner Roper welcomed the public. Everyone stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Commissioner Withers made a motion to enter into the budget hearing to take public comment on the 2015 proposed budget.

Commissioner Smith SECONDED the motion. The voting was unanimous and the motion carried.

Commissioner Roper called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.. He welcomed the

audience and thanked them for their attendance. He then turned the time over to Auditor Grace.

Auditor Grace covered information relative to the adoption of the budget. The 2015 Tentative Budget was adopted on October 30, 2014. Public notices were run in the Chronicle Progress on November 5<sup>th</sup> and November 12<sup>th</sup>, indicating that the tentative budget had been adopted, and that it was available for inspection at both the County Courthouse in Fillmore and the County Offices in Delta, as well as the County's website. It also indicated that the 2015 Budget Hearing would be held today.

Auditor Grace said that the spreadsheets handed out reflect the full detail tentative budget. One handout shows prior year activity, current year budget and activity, as well as the 2015 tentative, which shows all of the departments by line item. The summary form summarizes the budget by funds and departments.

Auditor Grace said that the most significant decrease to the overall budget was in special projects. Millard County has acted as the fiscal agent for the Clay Springs Fire Recovery Project, which provided grant funding. The total project budget was about \$6,500,000.00 and that project is nearing completion, so the only thing anticipated for 2015 is some carryover expense. The \$6,500,000 decrease reflects that projects completion.

Auditor Grace said that at this time there are not funds budgeted that will allow for a cost of living adjustment in the 2015 budget. She said that it is anticipated that there are funds for pay increases that are in accordance with the County Step and Grade program.

Auditor Grace explained that renewal for health insurance costs for County employees was approximately a 1.13% increase over last year. Renewal for dental insurance was an 8% increase. All County employees will still contribute 15% towards their premium of health and dental coverage

Auditor Grace said that the County has continued to work on the budget since the adoption of the tentative budget. Various meetings have been held with elected officials and department supervisors as they worked through the budget process. Some changes that are being considered that are of greater significance are:

- The Assessor's budget reflects an increase of \$43,495.00, but \$42,000.00 will be taken out of that increase because the County has chosen not to add the pictometry program.
- The Recreation budget will decrease by \$51,500.00, which had been planned for improvements to buildings and equipment. They are continuing to look at expenditures in the Recreation budget and taking a look at the money needed from the General Fund in order to cover those expenses.
- The Road Department budget has been reduced by \$110,000.00.
- Significant consideration is being given to the Capital Projects budget and they will continue to talk about these things.

- \$350,000.00 is being considered for the golf course including \$50,000 for a lawnmower and \$300,000 for a new clubhouse.
- The East Recreation line item will be decreased by \$50,000.00.
- \$50,000.00 has been added for the communications line item.
- \$80,000 as been budgeted to the courthouse, which includes \$50,000.00 that is being re-budgeted from this year for the phone systems that will not be completed by year end. Then an additional \$30,000.00 for improvements to the building.
- \$30,000.00 is being added to the Delta Office line item, also for a new phone system that was anticipated this year that will not be completed.
- \$10,000.00 will be added for the new public health facility to add a fence and to finish up landscaping the property.
- \$70,000.00 has been added for a new Weed Department storage building.
- \$100,000.00 is being reduced from the fund balance line item. That money was put in the tentative budget for the anticipated projects and not having a line item for them. The money will be taken out in place of some of the other things that are being considered.

Auditor Grace said that with the above changes the new balance of the Capital Projects budget will be \$1,148,900.00.

The Tourism budget has been increased by \$25,000.00; \$20,000.00 to promote local events and \$5,000.00 for the development of trails.

Auditor Grace said that this is a summary of the changes that are being considered. The final adoption of the 2015 Budget will take place at the regular scheduled commission meeting on December 16, 2014.

Commissioner Roper then opened the floor to the public for comments.

Susan Kesler, Kris Ewert, Dale Bond and Dave Williams all made comments regarding Recreation and the Golf Course budgets.

Mr. Williams voiced his concerns with the County operating the golf course with tax payers money while competing with a private golf course who pays taxes. Ms. Ewert suggested to sell the golf course and put the \$350,000.00 in a rainy day fund.

The commissioners explained that the Golf Course clubhouse needs to be redone to comply with ADA requirements. They have tried other options that have not fixed the problem.

Susan Kesler, Steve Maxfield and Todd MacFarlane all made comments regarding the Economic Development budget and/or Linda Gillmor, Economic Development Director, duties and current projects.

Commissioner Roper said that Ms. Gillmor is a great asset to the County. She has worked on and is currently working on several projects that are good for the economy of the County, including, the Magnum project, gas lines and infrastructure in areas, wind projects and solar projects.

Commissioner Roper said that anything taking place economically Ms. Gillmor has had a hand in it.

Todd MacFarlane, Steve Maxfield and Josh Tolley all made comments regarding Planning and Zoning and Planning Consultant Bruce Parker's position with the County.

The main discussion was regarding the ordinance that Mr. Parker worked on for the County. Commissioner Smith said that issues they have with the ordinance are taken out of context and they are addressing those issues. The County benefits from Mr. Parker's expertise on the planning and zoning laws and how to put together permits. The County pays Mr. Parker for working on certain projects for which the County is reimbursed.

Todd MacFarlane made comments regarding the State inmate medical, court systems revenue, the decrease amount in the Elections fund, the Assessor's budget and the revenue from interest.

Sheriff Dekker explained that the County is reimbursed for State inmate medical. Auditor Grace explained the differences in the amounts from last year to this year, which was an error in the receipting process. She also pointed out the line item where the court systems revenue was in the budget and that the elections budget had decreased because there is not a scheduled election this year. The amount in the election budget is for election equipment repairs and/or replacement, if needed.

Chief Deputy Sheri Dearden explained the revenue from interest and Auditor Grace pointed out it's a line item in the budget.

Steve Maxfield made comments regarding the Sheriff's budget, Task Force, Task Force Forfeiture and the increase in the Miss Millard line item.

Sheriff Dekker explained that the task force is funded by a grant. Millard County is the caretaker of that grant. He said that they have an employee who takes care of the process with that grant, which reflects the amount on the budget line item.

Auditor Grace explained that there are no taxes used for the grant, the County is just a pass through of the money.

Sheriff Dekker and Auditor Grace explained the task force forfeiture budget.

Dave Williams discussed his concerns regarding the Library fund and it being in competition with the private businesses. He also made comments regarding the public and private lands owned by the federal government. He asked if the County is willing to fight to get it's land back.

Auditor Grace explained that the library fund is actually the contract for the bookmobile. Commissioner Smith said they would lose the PILT money which comes from the Federal Government for the land.

Commissioner Withers said that it is important to keep money in a rainy day fund because there might be a gap from PILT money and what comes from the State, so that they can continue to have the essential services that the County provides.

Auditor Grace explained that taking on this issue is not an issue that only Millard County

will take on, it would be multiple counties.

Josh Tolley questioned PILT funding.

Several citizens suggested that the County tighten its belt and reduce its budget.

The commissioners and Auditor Grace addressed each citizens' questions and or concerns to the best of their ability.

Commissioner Withers said that it is good for the public to attend the public meetings and express their concerns even though there may be differences of opinions. He said that this county has been blessed with finances that very few counties our size have. He said that he has always been grateful for what financial benefits this County has had.

Commissioner Smith said that it is great to have people come out and express their opinions.

Commissioner Roper thanked everyone for attending and said that the County will take the suggestions made tonight to heart. He said that this is the process and they cannot move forward without it.

There were no other comments made.

Commissioner Withers made a motion to go out of the public hearing.

Commissioner Smith SECONDED the motion. The voting was unanimous and the motion carried. The public hearing closed at 8:51 p.m..

WHERE UPON THE MEETING ADJOURNED

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_