



## MINUTES

### BUDGET COMMITTEE

**April 19, 2010, 9:00 a.m.**

Present: Judge Gary Thompson, Commissioner Michael Smith, Commissioner Steve Burnet, Jean McKinney, Larry Hocter, Steve Kock – Budget Committee Members; Debbie Hayden, Budget Officer; Melva Thomas, Court Administrative Assistant.

#### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN

**Motion by Jean McKinney, second by Larry Hocter, to cast a unanimous ballot for the 2009-2010 officers to continue for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: unanimous. (Chairperson - Steve Kock, Budget Committee Secretary – Larry Hocter)**

**Motion by Larry Hocter, second by Jean McKinney, to allocate \$50,000.00 for early childhood education programs for fiscal year 2010-2011 and grant authority to the County Court to determine distribution. Vote: unanimous.**

**Motion by Larry Hocter, second by Jean McKinney, to increase commissioner positions to 0.5 FTE beginning with the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: Jean McKinney, Larry Hocter, Steve Kock – yea.**

**Motion by Jean McKinney, second by Larry Hocter, to award a 3% COLA and step increase for elected officials for 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: Jean McKinney, Larry Hocter, Steve Kock – yea.**

**Motion by Larry Hocter, second by Jean McKinney, to approve step increases for staff as recommended and a 3% COLA for 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: unanimous.**

**Motion by Jean McKinney, second by Larry Hocter, to approve a request for increase in FTE for Justice of the Peace from 0.8 to 1.0 beginning July 1, 2010. Vote: Jean McKinney, Larry Hocter, Steve Kock – yea.**

**Motion by Larry Hocter, second by Jean McKinney, to approve the budget for 2010-2011 for a total amount of \$20,298,117 and approve the permanent tax rate of 8.7141. Vote: unanimous.**

**Budget Message:**

Judge Thompson welcomed the committee members to the 2010 budget meeting and presented the budget message noting a number of changes proposed for this year's budget including:

- A 3% cost of living increase (COLA) for personnel
- Proposed allocation of Strategic Investment Program (SIP) funds
- Establishment of Revolving Loan Account

Committee member Jean McKinney noted she would like to see all the child care requests included in the budget and recommended that a deadline for submission of requests be enforced for the next budget year.

**Election of Officers:**

**Motion by Jean McKinney, second by Larry Hocter, to cast a unanimous ballot for the 2009-2010 officers to continue for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: unanimous. (Chairperson - Steve Kock, Budget Committee Secretary – Larry Hocter)**

**Budget Comparison Summary:**

Budget Officer Debbie Hayden briefly reviewed the Budget Comparison Summary highlighting the Operating Contingency which is projected to be \$1,027,054 and an Unappropriated Ending Fund balance of 1.5 million. Community Service Fees from wind farm projects are the source of these funds.

Hayden also recommended to the Budget Committee that any additional funding requests made in person during the budget meetings be taken under advisement so the Committee can discuss and make a decision on the request at a later time.

**SIP Allocation Recommendations:**

Community Service Fees to be received from Biglow Canyon, Klondike III and Hay Canyon wind farm projects and disbursements to the affected taxing districts were reviewed. SIP payments dedicated to specific areas of funding were identified and total funds spent to date were noted.

County "Fees" negotiated for in the SIP agreements are allocated by the budget committee. Funds available in 2010/11 total \$2,207,970. Recommended Disbursement: 18% Cities, 20% School District, 22% Resident Compensation, 5% Resident Annuity, 35% Reserve.

**County General:**

Revenue: Received more tax dollars than projected last year so have increased projected current year taxes to reflect that change. Actual Payments in Lieu of Taxes is not known yet but have estimated at \$76,000.

Expenditures: Have included request from Sherman County Child Care Foundation to continue funding at \$13,000 and Little Wheats Day Care is requesting \$10,000 to purchase their building. ***Recommendation to increase Reporter costs to \$5,000 to better reflect actual expense due to increase in postage.***

Jean McKinney asked if we could pay back all the PERS debt. Debbie explained we are in a pool with other agencies. Even if we paid it off, we could still owe more at a later date due to fluctuations in investments - in 2007 we owed \$170,000 and in 2008 we owed 2.5 million. The County is currently paying 12% and will probably never get it paid off until tier 1 folks are all off PERS.

**Other changes noted:**

- Predator Control – decrease due to some funding from State & Federal
- Enterprise Facilitation – no request made
- Mid-Columbia Center for Living – increased support from \$1 to \$3/resident
- Public Health – now three county program: North Central Public Health – funding formula has changed for each county

**Assessor:**

Very little change from last year. Was not able to find suitable candidate for training but still hoping to find someone this year.

**County Clerk:**

Carol Thompson is retiring the end of April as Elections Deputy. There will no longer be an Elections Deputy as the new position will be half-time Deputy Clerk and half-time Office Help for the Finance Director. One-half of this position will be budgeted under Financial Services. BOPTA expense was moved to the Clerk's budget last year and Road admin costs for accounting are included in the general fund which was increased from \$30,000 to \$35,000.

**Computer Related Expense:**

No significant changes

**County Court:**

Expenses show some increase in travel and lodging due to Commissioner Smith's increased participation with National Association of Counties. No other significant changes.

**Sheriff/Marine:**

Brad Lohrey present.

**Sheriff's Department:**

This budget's increase due primarily to increase in personal services. Lohrey has proposed a 3% increase for each certificate received by the deputies as incentive and reward for continued training. Two deputies received a certificate this year. Salaries for Sherman County Deputies are about the same as other counties our size in the region. Sheriff Lohrey also noted an increase in the cost of ammunition.

Animal control Expense has been increased to \$3,500 due to a proposal to contract with Dean Dark of USDA Wildlife Services for dog control. Sheriff's office does not have the means to take care of dog issues in the cities. Payment of \$2,800 to USDA would cover catching and housing up to 15 dogs during the year and \$750 for Home At Last services if needed.

Compensatory Fine funds in the amount of \$18,000 were received from the Feds recently. The funds remaining will be dedicated to drug prevention.

Only \$2,000 has been allocated for education since many of the trainings are provided by the state and are free. The department will be purchasing one new patrol vehicle this year.

Lohrey noted Sherman County is providing a lot of service to schools and agencies in the surrounding region with our drug dog and Brian Hulke has been asked to be the lead trainer for the region. Providing these services is of great benefit to the department in its relations with other agencies.

An exhaust fan is still needed in the drug storage area.

**Marine:**

Budget shows decrease in personal services since Cliff Jett has retired and Daniel Hall has replaced him. Cliff will continue to help on occasion. Lohrey suggested we may want to get another Explorer to train and help at some future date.

**Courthouse:**

No significant changes.

**Parks:**

This budget includes OYCC and OYEI funds for summer youth employment plus an OYEI grant request of \$15,000 included under equipment for a used pickup to transport the summer work crews.

Commissioner Smith suggested setting up internet access for the RV Park and fairgrounds which would probably cost \$600-\$700 per year. *Consensus to increase telephone costs to \$2,000 and*

*add \$1,000 to marketing expense to purchase larger ad in RV magazine.* The Camp Host is now on the payroll under RV Park Host

**Planning Department:**

Little change noted in this budget. *Consensus to increase contractual services to \$6,000 for the services of Dan Meader.*

**Sanitary Landfill/Solid Waste:**

No significant changes.

**Commission on Children & Families/Prevention:**

Dee Lieuallen, Theresa Mobley present.

This is a special fund that is totally supported by State and Federal grant streams. Dee explained that half of Theresa's position is funded through the Prevention budget.

A review of the budget breakdown aided in explaining how the various grant streams are allocated.

This year the OYEI funds must be tracked separately from the OYCC grant. New partners have been added this year including US Army Corps of Engineers at Rufus, ABC Huskies Day Care and Little Wheats Day Care. The OYCC crew will spend time at the day cares. The OYEI crew can't work on building maintenance. Commission will be hiring 10 youth and two crew leaders for OYEI and 4 youth and one crew leader for OYCC. They have also applied for a vehicle and quite a bit of equipment through the OYEI grant. Staff is working with MCP to get a deal on equipment needed for the summer work. The OYCC grant requires a County match and 100% of the grant goes towards crew salaries.

There are no Child Care Development Funds in this biennium and Healthy Start funds are now part of a Tri-County program through North Central ESD Early Education.

**Treasurer's Department:**

No significant change.

**Financial Services/Tax Collection:**

This budget is still a work in progress getting things sorted out of the Clerk's budget.

Budget increase is primarily due to addition of office help or one half of the deputy clerk's position. Sharing this person will continue to work the way it does right now and the two departments will help cover each other as needed.

The only other significant change is an increase in office supplies from \$1,000 to \$6,000 to better reflect actual costs.

**Juvenile Department:**

The County can no longer use State Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) grant funds for NORCOR. A new plan has been developed and these funds will be used for addition counselor time plus an after-school tutoring program at the high school. We still have \$10,000 budgeted for Assigned Counsel which is needed since most of the cases now are dependency cases.

**County Vehicle:**

The County purchased a new Nissan Altima this past year through the Cash for Clunkers program. There are now three county cars. Consensus of the Committee that there is no need for a new car in the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Committee suggested establishment of a sinking fund for future replacement of a county vehicle.

**Sherman County Annex:**

This budget just includes maintenance for the Annex. A new heat pump that was installed this past year has reduced electricity costs.

**District Attorney:**

Office assistant position was used to cover when Officer Manager was on maternity leave - position no longer needed. An increase in office supplies was noted from \$3,200 to \$5,000.

**Transfer to Other Funds:**

Community Corrections – Increased payment to NORCOR from \$148,522 to \$168,985. County has agreed to pay for another ½ a bed to 6.5 beds. This is the first increase in funding in last three years. NORCOR lost the Federal Marshall contract which has created a huge hole in their budget.

CR&I – Courthouse Repairs and Improvements: There may be a need to increase this if further improvements are made.

DA V/WAP fund – County is locked into paying this due to supplanting.

Community Transit - \$5,000 used as a match for grant application.

Ambulance - \$10,000 used last year for EMT training in Rufus. Nothing budgeted this year.

Weed Control – Reduced from \$122,382 last year to \$106,477 this year.

Parks Reserve – Funds could be used for RV Park.

Fairgrounds Maintenance – Reserve fund for building maintenance.

Fair Reserve – Fund is controlled by the Fair Board and they are planning to buy a tractor this year.

Sheriff Vehicle – Reserve for vehicle purchase.

Emergency Services – Funds to balance budget.

Community Dev – May want to increase this transfer.

Senior Center – Additional funds to balance budget which continues to increase.

Drivers Ed – Will address later.

County Fair – Funds to support Fair operations if needed in the amount of \$15,000. Hope not to use these funds as it would be supplanting fair operations. Note: Sherman County is now in charge of the bookkeeping for the Fair board.

SIP County Reserve – No funds budgeted for this transfer.

Budget Committee reviewed a comparison of salaries around the state prepared by AOC which demonstrated that Sherman County is competitive for Counties of our size.

### **Justice Court:**

Ron McDermid present.

Ron McDermid presented a request to increase Justice of the Peace from 0.8 to 1.0 FTE effective July 1, 2010. The case load has increased fairly steadily over time since 2001. He also noted that the JP participates in programs, committees and special projects on a continuing basis.

The primary change in the budget is due to salary with proposed increase in the FTE of the Justice of the Peace. A new line item has been added in revenue. The Violation Surcharge of \$36,000 is the result of a new rule from the legislature charging each violation a \$45 surcharge. The local jurisdiction gets all of the \$45 and nothing goes to the state. It is not known how long the surcharge will remain in place. Justice Court office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-Th and 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Friday.

The request for increasing the Justice of the Peace from 0.8 to 1.0 FTE will be taken under advisement with a decision to be made later.

### **Driver Education:**

Ron McDermid present.

Ron presented a letter validating the Driver Education program as an approved ODOT program. The program is very structured and has gone well. Ten students participated last year and seven this year. Ron is working with Association of Oregon Counties to change legislation so that county governments would be allowed to run driver education programs and qualify for reimbursement of costs from ODOT.

Budget reflects an increase in County support from \$7,855 to \$13,000 which would allow for putting some dollars away for vehicle replacement.

**Court Security:**

Ron McDermid present.

Revenue for this fund is generated from court fees and is used to enhance the video system in the circuit court room and maintain the security system in the courthouse. ASET out of The Dalles has installed cameras, monitors in the offices, panic alarms and fire detectors. Funds will also be used to develop more specific Courtroom protocol.

**North Sherman Pre-School:**

Samantha Smith, Jeremy Shull present.

North Sherman Pre-school has a five member board of directors and is currently serving ten children ages 3-5. The program operates Monday through Thursday, 8:30 am to noon in the basement of the Methodist Church in Wasco.

Funding sources include head start, tuition from parents, Commission on Children & Families, fundraising and this year received a Sherman Development League grant for learning materials.

North Sherman Pre-School, Inc. received its 501 (c) (3) non-profit status from the IRS last summer. The board is currently working to become own sponsor for their food program and is looking for a permanent home for their school.

Requested funding in the amount of \$18,500.00 from the County for teacher wages, payroll taxes and the addition of a food preparer position.

This request was taken under advisement with a decision to be made later.

The Budget Committee spent time discussing possible options for funding day cares and pre-schools in the county. No consensus reached.



**Community Transit:**

This is a pretty self sufficient budget. Grant funds received have allowed for the hire of Paula King as part-time help. Vehicle maintenance was increased to \$14,000 since they now have five vehicles.

**Ambulance:**

Revenue shows an increase in the beginning fund balance at \$77,000 and an increase in service fees to \$85,000 which better reflects reality.

Pay for on call duty has been proposed which explains the increase in ambulance salaries from \$25,000 to \$40,600 and, since funds are available, a \$10,000 increase in the transfer to the Ambulance Sinking Fund has been budgeted.

**Respite Care Services:**

This program is administered by Katie LaDouceur for both Sherman and Wheeler Counties. Funding for this program has been significantly reduced over the past couple of years.

**Community Corrections:**

This fund tracks payments to NORCOR. Sherman County has increased its share of beds from 6 to 6.5 accounting for the increase in costs from \$148,522 to \$168,985.

**Weed Control:**

Transfer from County General down due to carry over. This fund shows little change in expenditures. Transfer to weed sinking fund includes \$7,125 for lawn mower that has been purchased and will be paid for July 1, 2010.

**CR & I:**

Upgrades to the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC) system, replacement of windows and a new phone system are being considered. Have decided to leave the fund with \$32,100. If we do move forward with these projects, a supplemental budget would be required which is easily done.

**School per Capita, County:**

This is a pass through fund.

**Emergency Communications:**

A pass through fund for the 911 system. Beginning fund balance is down due to transfer of \$28,016 to Emergency Services.

**Surveyor:**

The County Surveyor is no longer an employee. County now contracts for a service which is reflected in this fund.

**CAMI (Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention):**

This is a state funded grant program. Coordinator has requested an increase in insurance coverage for her family and asked if the County could cover the additional costs.

Discussed options to cover the increased insurance costs. This position includes 0.175 FTE for CAMI (7 hrs/week). 0.325 FTE for V/WAP and 0.5 FTE as Senior Center manager.

CAMI budget reflects insurance for coordinator and spouse at \$2,558. If child added would increase to \$3,431. *Committee recommended decreasing supplies to \$250 and training to \$1,000 to cover additional insurance.*

**Community Development:**

No beginning fund balance this year. Personal Services have increased due to planner's change in classification.

*Requested a \$5,000 increase to the MCEDD line item to \$30,000.* This pays for the services of project manager Jessica Metta for economic development.

*Judge Thompson recommended increasing tourism from \$3,146 to \$8,000.*

*The Court has proposed a revolving loan fund administered through MCEDD in the amount of \$50,000 which would be used strictly for Sherman County Businesses.* MCEDD has applied for USDA funding which requires a dollar for dollar match for total of \$100,000 in the loan fund.

*A new line item of Advertising to bring new businesses into the County was added in the amount of \$5,000.*

Matching funds were requested by the Sherman County Cultural Trust. Debbie will check on the amount of the request.

Adjourned 4:15 p.m.

**April 20<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m.**

The Budget Committee continued discussions on how to help fund preschools and day care programs going forward. Setting aside a lump sum of funds for early childhood education programs and allowing the Court to determine distribution was considered.

**Motion by Larry Hoctor, second by Jean McKinney, to allocate \$50,000.00 for early childhood education programs for fiscal year 2010-2011 and grant authority to the County Court to determine distribution. Vote: unanimous.**

**Extension:**

Sandy Macnab present.

Macnab presented Extension budget historical data. In 2008-09 the budget was under spent since additional personnel were not received. Received \$18,500 in 2009-2010 from James Weir District to support 4-H Coordinator/Clerical Assistant position.

The 4-H numbers this year stand at 88 compared to 94 last year. Elizabeth Wallis, the new 4-H Coordinator, has recruited some new leaders. There are 12-15 clubs plus a few independent projects.

Under Materials and Services have added \$25,000 for conference tables, chairs, flat screen TV, and moving T-1 line for proposed new building. A higher quality internet connection is needed as they are doing more webinars. Debbie suggested putting \$25,000 for equipment for the new building in a separate fund that could be considered a reserve fund.

Discussed plans for new office building at Experiment Station site. County is currently considering a 3,600-3,800 sq ft building with space for experiment station personnel, two extension agents and the County Weed Department. OSU's long range plan is looking at one crop agent for multiple counties to be located at Moro Experiment Station. Costs projected to be \$150-\$180/sq ft for a total of \$550,000-\$681,000.

County is not interested in starting anything until the new budget year and would need to go through a formal bid process. Commissioner Burnet suggested bringing Milt Ketchum on board as project manager.

This building would be owned by the County and to date there has been no commitment of funding from OSU for the building but will likely cover costs of the furnishings. Current funding includes a \$50,000 grant from SDL and \$50,000 from the Experiment Station Endowment Fund. SDL has also been asked to serve as fiscal sponsor for the project.

***Consensus to commit \$500,000 from the County to be included in the Extension budget along with the \$25,000 for furnishings.***

**Road Department:**

Mark Coles present.

The department currently has nine employees.

Revenue is about the same except for a decrease in Special County Program funding from the state and medical insurance payments are down since Carl Langston has opted out of continuing his coverage.

Expense changes include:

- Increase from \$30,000 to \$35,000 for Administrative Services
- Decrease from \$780,551 to \$325,000 in Repairs & Supplies due to supplemental budget transfer in 2009-2010
- New line items for Water & Sewer and Debris Disposal which had previously been listed under Road Misc
- Added \$30,000 transfer to Road Reserve Fund to purchase another crew cab pickup next year

Committee member Jean McKinney asked about the possibility of adding a fog line on Van Gilder Road. Mark explained that it costs quite a bit more for a solid line vs. a dotted line and this is one of the places the department saves money.

Coles noted the loader will be paid off May 30, 2010, and the grader will be paid off February 2011. A new grader may eventually be needed due to new emission standards or could upgrade the old grader. Will probably wait on that for now but could put some funds into a sinking fund for future purchase. Budget currently shows an unappropriated ending fund balance of \$140,000. Plans for the rock crusher were discussed. Possible options include purchasing a new one, contracting out or sharing with another road department. No decisions at this point.

**Road Improvement:**

Stimulus funds went in and out of this fund as well as dollars from wind farm projects for road damage. Hilderbrand Lane was paved with wind farm dollars and Scott Canyon was paved with stimulus funds. Fairview to Monkland will also be repaved with wind farm dollars. Road Improvement is well funded now and would like to keep these funds available for any repairs that may come up. This fund is also a good resource to help keep chip sealed roads maintained.

**Road, General Reserve:**

With a transfer of \$30,000 from General Road, the \$48,375 in this fund will be used to purchase a crew cab pickup and a pup-trailer.

**Fair, County:**

Beth McCurdy present.

With a beginning fund balance of \$24,700 and state lottery allocation of \$36,000, the Fair revenue looks pretty good this year. Beth indicated the Fair board is trying to increase some revenue sources such as charging admission for some of the special events. Additional food vendors, new activities and cash premium payouts are planned. Application has been made to the Cultural Coalition for funds to pay for the band.

On the expense side, \$2,000 has been added for Administrative Services since the County is now providing fiscal services and Irrigation Water has been reduced to zero since a new well is now in place eliminating the need to purchase water from the City of Moro. The overall budget shows little change from last year.

**Fairgrounds & Building Reserve:**

Funds from this reserve were used to drill a new well at the fairgrounds which is almost complete and will produce about 30 gal/min for irrigation purposes.

The list of projects planned for next year include: ventilation for show arena and swine barn; replacement of windows and doors; wiring upgrades; investigating the grandstand roof leak and possible options for restroom facilities. It was noted that Georgia Macnab will apply for a State Parks & Recreation grant for new bathrooms and showers at the RV Park.

**Emergency Services:**

No significant changes.

**DA – Victim/Witness Assist:**

No beginning fund balance but revenue from Unitary Assessments and VOCA Basic Grant about the same.

In order to cover insurance costs for addition of spouse and child, *increased insurance from \$4,750 to \$5,967 (change of \$1,217). To balance budget, recommended the following: decrease Travel Expense from \$1,500 to \$800, decrease Meals, Lodging & Regist from \$1,000 to \$500 and decrease Office Supplies from \$647 to \$630.*

**Tri County Corrections:**

This department has their own board that oversees this budget and Sherman County provides administrative services.

Primary change noted in Personal Services since the board approved granting longevity pay for having been with the program 10 years or more. The Office Assistant position was previously filled by Julie Davis who is now full time with Sheriff's Department.

**Tri-County Veterans:**

No beginning fund balance.

The Veterans Service Officer (VSO) asked the counties to increase their quarterly contribution to the program from \$900 to \$1,050 to cover increased costs in salary and insurance and still maintain the same rate of reimbursement for transportation. This request was approved by the three County Courts.

Debbie explained the VSO's salary was adjusted last year after the beginning of the fiscal year in order to provide additional funds for transportation reimbursement.

**Senior Center:**

The Senior Center Director position is now the Senior Center Manager and the change in salary is due to a change in managers.

The Budget Committee members and Budget Officer have agreed that the increase in insurance costs for the manager due to addition of spouse and child will be divided up amongst three budgets: Senior Center Manager, DA-Victim/Witness Assistance and CAMI. For this budget, *insurance will be increased from \$22,013 to \$23,885.*

*A line item for Paving in the amount of \$50,000 was added for the Senior Center parking lot project.*

Lunch

**Library Project:**

This is the loan payback fund for construction of the Public/School Library.

Commissioner Burnet explained the need for a new loading dock at the school as a result of the construction of the new library. The school district has estimated the cost of a new dock to be \$11,000 and district will pay half if the county can pick up the other half. This will be paid out of County General.

**Renewable Resources:**

This fund administers dedicated SIP Payment funds: school renewable energy program; county renewable energy fund; workforce housing, city infrastructure studies, CREA Payment and county museum.

To date have spent \$65,000 of the school renewable energy program funds, \$13,689.90 of the county renewable program funds and \$50,000 to the museum. The CREA Payment is a pass thru fund.

County could use the county renewable energy fund for energy saving upgrades to county facilities and Judge Thompson and Commissioner Smith are working on a plan to develop solar energy in each of the cities. A survey will be needed to determine how many people would be interested and they would need to be tied into PPL since Wasco Electric not is interested in net metering at this time.

**Resident Compensation:**

With a beginning fund balance of \$22,000, have added a transfer from SIP County Reserve in the amount of \$475,000 which would be adequate funding for 950 residents at \$500 each for the Resident Compensation program.

The Court reviewed the process for the first round of payments and felt it went pretty well with a few minor glitches that will be addressed next time. Overall, there was a positive response from community members.

**Resident Comp Annuity:**

Beginning fund balance of \$9,100 plus transfer from SIP County Reserve of \$110,398 for a total of \$119,498.

**Ambulance Sinking:**

For future purchase of new ambulance.

**Weed Sinking:**

Will purchase new lawn mower for \$7,125.

**Community Transit Reserve:**

Used for matching funds for grants.

**Ambulance Reserve:**

Funds for misc equipment needs.

**Computer Reserve:**

Have not added to this fund for a while.

**Parks Reserve:**

Could be used as match for restrooms at RV Park.

**Emergency Services Reserve:**

For vehicle replacement.

**Emergency Communications Reserve:**

These are 911 dollars.

**Fair Reserve:**

Fair Board will use these funds to pay for new tractor.

**Pers Payback Reserve Fund:**

Put in 1 ½% of salary this year

**Sheriff Vehicle Reserve:**

To purchase new patrol car.

**SIP Community Service Fees:**

Fees distributed to taxing districts within the wind projects.

**SIP County Reserve:**

Total revenue of \$4,785,000

*Debbie recommended funding the Extension Service building project in the amount of \$500,000 from this fund and removing it from the Extension budget. The \$25,000 for building contents would remain in the Extension budget.*

Expenses from this fund would include: Payment to cities \$400,000, Payment to School District \$441,594 and transfers to Resident Comp Fund of \$475,000 and RC Annuity Fund of \$110,398.

*As noted earlier, the Sherman County Cultural Coalition requested matching funds in the amount of \$6,187.00. The Committee agreed to add this to the Community Development budget.*

**Fire Disaster:**

The possibility of developing a fund of up to \$100,000 for fire disasters as requested by county fire departments was discussed.

Consensus of the Budget Committee to leave funds in operating contingency where they would be available if needed and not dedicate them to a fire disaster fund.

**Commissioner FTE:**

Commissioner Smith recommended the FTE of commissioners be increased from 0.33 to 0.5. which would better reflect the actual time required by the position. He further suggested the county might attract more people to the position with increased compensation and benefits.



**Motion by Larry Hocter, second by Jean McKinney, to increase commissioner positions to 0.5 FTE beginning with the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: Jean McKinney, Larry Hocter, Steve Kock – yea.**

**Motion by Jean McKinney, second by Larry Hocter, to award a 3% COLA and step increase for elected officials for 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: Jean McKinney, Larry Hocter, Steve Kock – yea.**

**Motion by Larry Hocter, second by Jean McKinney, to approve step increases for staff as recommended and a 3% COLA for 2010-2011 fiscal year. Vote: unanimous.**

**Motion by Jean McKinney, second by Larry Hocter, to approve a request for increase in FTE for Justice of the Peace from 0.8 to 1.0 beginning July 1, 2010. Vote: Jean McKinney, Larry Hocter, Steve Kock – yea.**

**Motion by Larry Hocter, second by Jean McKinney, to approve the budget for 2010-2011 for a total amount of \$20,298,117 and approve the permanent tax rate of 8.7141. Vote: unanimous.**

Reviewed Early Education Program allotment: \$50,000

- \$15,000 - Set Aside
- \$10,000 - Little Wheats Day Care
- \$13,000 - ABC Huskies Day Care
- \$12,000 - North Sherman Preschool

Early Education allotment will be added as an action item to the County Court session on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

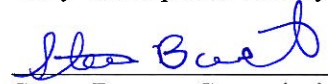
Being no further matters at issue, the Budget Committee adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Court Administrative Assistant

SHERMAN COUNTY COURT

  
Gary Thompson, County Judge

  
Steve Burnet, Commissioner

  
Michael Smith, Commissioner

  
Larry Hocter, Budget Committee Secretary