



**SHERMAN COUNTY
BUDGET COMMITTEE
2021 – 2022 MINUTES**

May 12, 2021

Present: Judge Joe Dabulskis, Commissioner Justin Miller, Commissioner Joan Bird; Forest Peters, Jeffery Judah, Stacy Eakin – Budget Committee Members; Debbie Hayden, Budget Officer; Tammi Gaskey, Court Administrative Assistant.

May 12, 2021:

Open – 9:00 a.m.

Budget Message:

Judge Dabulskis welcomed the committee members to the 2021 budget meeting and presented the budget message noting changes proposed for this year's budget including:

- A 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
- Recommended Merit Increases by Department Heads
- Continued Allocation of SIP Funds to Sherman County School District, Local Cities, Resident Incentive Program, Sherman County Museum, Scholarship Committees
- Fiber Project - Phase III (Rufus to Biggs)
- Internet Access Expansion
- Adjustments for Elected Officials (to be Considered by Citizen Members Only)
- Reallocation of Funding for Biggs Service District Water System Project, Sherman County Fair Project and Kent Water District Project

Judge Dabulskis thanked Debbie Hayden for her work in preparing the budget document and to the Budget Committee members for their time and attention to this important process.

Election of Officers

Motion by Stacy Eakin, second by Commissioner Miller, to appoint Forest Peters as Budget Committee Chair.

Vote: 5-0

Yes: Bird, Miller, Dabulskis, Judah, Eakin

No: 0
Abstain: 1

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Judge Dabulskis, to appoint Stacy Eakin as Budget Committee Secretary.

Vote: 5-0
Yes: Bird, Miller, Dabulskis, Peters, Judah
No: 0
Abstain: 1

Pages 1-2: County General, Non – Departmental

Debbie Hayden stated that the Library has an excess carryover of \$42,000, so their request will be lowered by \$32,000 to leave a carryover of \$10,000. The Sherman County Budget Committee approved a reduced request of \$76,847.

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved the following monetary allocations for Mid-Columbia Economic Development District:

- \$1,306 Local Assessment
- \$45,000 Economic Development Contract
- \$2,000 Gorge TransLink Match
- \$600 Gorge Technology Alliance

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved \$138,934 to North Central Public Health District.

Page 3: County General, Assessor

There were no changes.

Page 4: County General, County Clerk

There were no changes.

Page 5: County General, Computer Related Expenses

Debbie Hayden stated that the County has switched to a new IT company this fiscal year. The new IT company has recommended using Cloud storage and adding a more secure firewall for added protection.

Page 6: County General, County Court

There were no changes.

Page 7: County General, Courthouse

There were no changes.

Page 8: County General, Justice Court – Ron McDermid

Ron McDermid came to the Budget Committee to give an in-person report and to answer any questions. He did not have a monetary ask at this time. Ron did state that it could be up to a year or longer before Justice Court went back to in-person court proceedings. For now, Justice Court is handling most cases phonetically and in the future it will most likely be a hybrid of phone and in-person hearings.

Page 9: County General, Parks

The question was asked about DeMoss Park Maintenance and why the amount was so high. Judge Dabulskis stated that trees need trimmed, there is a need for some additional lighting in the parking lot and there is some money as a place holder in case a building needs to be cleared away.

Page 10: County General, Planning

There were no changes.

Page 11: County General, Solid Waste/Recycling

There was a question as to who pays for the annual County-wide Cleanup Day. Tammi contacted Jim Winterbottom from The Dalles Disposal and he said that they donate the hauls and pay for the disposal at all 5 events in the County.

Page 12: County General, Sheriff

There were no changes.

Page 13: County General, Treasurer

There were no changes.

Page 14: County General, Sheriff – Marine Patrol

There were no changes.

Page 15: County General, Financial Services

There were no changes.

Page 16: County General, Juvenile

Youth Work Programs include both Litter Patrol and Youth Marine Patrol.

Page 17: County General, County Vehicle

Money was added to this line in case the county decided to replace a county vehicle.

Page 18: County General, NORCOR

The Sherman County Budget Committee has approved the following monetary allocations for NORCOR:

- \$177,375 Adult
- \$50,222 Juvenile

Page 19: County General, Weed Control/Grounds Maintenance –

SWCD Grant – Grass Valley project amount decreased due to COVID. Department has hired two seasonal crew members for nine months this year.

Page 20: County General, Burnet Building

Measuring for new carpet in meeting room.

Page 21: County General, District Attorney

There were no changes.

Page 22: County General, Extension

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved \$103,953 for the Sherman County OSU Extension Office. This includes \$54,720 for the cost of Sue Mabe’s position under Sherman County and a payment of \$49,233 directly to OSU. OSU Extension has a carryover of \$26,000. We reduced the proposed budget by \$20,000 leaving a projected carryover of \$6,000.

Page 23: County General, Transfer to Other Funds

There were no changes.

Page 24: County General, Operating Contingency

Reduced the Transfer to the Weed Sinking Fund by \$46,000 and Increased Operating Contingency by same. Reduced Operating Contingency by \$288,544 to offset additional expenditures in the SIP Additional Fees Fund.

Page 25: UNAPP Ending Balance

The money in this line is set aside to start the new year with.

Pages 26-27: Community Transit

Community Transit will be adding another shopping bus. Community Transit received a grant to purchase a new vehicle.

Page 28: Ambulance – Dana Pursley-Haner

Dana requested funds to purchase a new LIFEPAK 15 V4 Monitor/Defib machine for the ambulance. The current AED machine is old enough that replacement parts can no longer be purchased.

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved \$31,892.45 for Sherman County Ambulance to purchase a new Stryker Monitor/Defib machine with SIP Additional Fees.

Page 30: MCCOG Respite

Account is closed.

Page 31: Courthouse Repair & Improvements (CR&I) Reserve

This is a maintenance account for grounds and the courthouse.

Page 32: Prevention Program

Summer Work Crew is OYCC.

Page 33: County School per Capita

This is pass through from the state.

Page 34: County Surveyor

There were no changes.

Page 35: CAMI

CAMI stands for Child Abuse Multidiscipline Intervention.

Page 36: Community Development

Paying rent on towers to RTG comes out of Wireless Network project fund.

Page 37: Court Security

There were no changes.

Pages 38-39: Emergency Services

There were no changes.

Page 40: Victims Assistance

There were no changes.

Page 41: Wasco, Moro, Grass Valley and Rufus Road District

There were no changes.

Pages 42-44: General Road & Road Improvement – Mark Coles

Mark Coles stated that both Finnegan Bridge and Rutledge Bridge are completed. Mark said that the person who had been in the Maintenance II position had retired and he is not refilling that position since weed control by the roadsides went to the Weed District.

Mark mentioned that gas and chemical prices are hard to predict right now.

Pages 45-46: County Fair Board – Bryce Coelsch

Bryce Coelsch gave an update on the building construction. Jeff Schott from Pillar Consulting Group, Inc., says that they are planning on submitting for land use on May 13, 2021. At this time, the plan is to start site work right after fair – at least the bulk of excavation and to get everything rocked in.

The unspent \$4.5 million previously budgeted for the Fairgrounds Building Project in 2020/21 will be re-allocated for the 2021/22 fiscal year.

Pages 47-48: Tri-County Corrections

Tri-County Community Corrections with Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler County's is dissolving as of June 30, 2021. Sherman County will be joining Wasco County's Parole and Probation Services.

Page 49: Wellness Center

There were no changes.

Page 50: Tri-County Veterans

There were no changes.

Page 51: Drivers Education

Account no longer needed.

Page 52: Early Learning Services

Early Learning Services have moved their money to Columbia Gorge Community College as the fiscal agent.

Pages 53-54: – Senior Center

There were no changes.

Page 55: SIP Income Tax Distribution

There were no changes.

Page 56: Courthouse Facility

There were no changes.

Page 57: Fairgrounds project

There were no changes.

Page 58: Renewable Resources

There were no changes.

Page 59: – Workforce Housing

There were no changes.

Page 60: Infrastructure Study

There were no changes.

Pages 61-62: Resident Incentive Program Fund/Annuity Fund

There is a typo on page 62 showing a negative number in the line ‘TRANS FROM SIP ADD’L FEES’. Debbie will fix the typo for the final copy.

Corrected the entry in both Revenues and Expenditures by \$890,000

Currently SIP Agreement breakdown:

20% County Reserve

20% School

5% Resident Annuity Fund

Balance held in SIP Additional Fee fund

Page 63: Weed Sinking Fund – Rod Asher

Rod Asher came to the Sherman County Budget Committee with multi requests. He requested a new spray truck with a new spray system. An upgrade to the current sprayer and an additional new truck not associated with spraying.

Sherman County Budget Committee approved funding for the Weed District to purchase a new spray truck/sprayer and upgrade the existing sprayer in the amount of \$146,000. Funding for the second new truck was not approved.

Reduced Revenues and Expenditures by \$46,000

Page 64: Community Transit Reserve

There were no changes.

Page 65: Ambulance Reserve Fund

There were no changes.

Page 66: Computer Reserve Fund

There were no changes.

Page 67: Parks Reserve Fund

Net line has a typo. It says Computer Reserve instead of Parks Reserve.

Page 68: Emergency Services Reserve

There were no changes.

Page 69: General Road Reserve Fund

There were no changes.

Page 70: PERS Payback Reserve Fund

Account no longer needed.

Page 71: Sheriff Vehicle Reserve

There were no changes.

Page 72: SIP Community Service Fees

There were no changes.

Page 73: SIP Additional Fees

Sherman County Scholarship Association – Molly Belshe

The Sherman County Budget Committee has approved \$20,000 to Sherman County Scholarship Association. The money comes from SIP Additional Fees.

Chris Moore, Gorge Community Foundation

Chris Moore came and talked to the budget committee about creating an endowment fund through Gorge Community Foundation. The foundation was formed in 1999 and has 70 members. Chris stated that it takes a minimum of \$10,000 to start an endowment and then you can take out up to 5% every year to make investments back into the community. You can never withdraw your initial investment.

The budget committee listened to the presentation but did not take any action.

Athletic Foundation – Chris Moore

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved \$25,000 to Sherman County Athletic Foundation to help towards finishing the little league field and walking path. The project is also asking for gravel to be provided for the walking path. In an email on May 14, 2021, Debbie asked if the \$25,000 allocated to them should include the cost of the gravel. The money comes from SIP Additional Fees.

Sherman County Health District - Erin Haines & Caitlin Blagg

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved \$68,915 for Sherman County Health District to purchase an Ultra Sound Machine. The money comes from SIP Additional Fees.

Kent Water District – Elizabeth Mills

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved an increase of \$100,000 to Kent Water District for a total amount of \$250,000 to purchase and install a water storage tank. The money comes from SIP Additional Fees.

Columbia Gorge Community College – Dan Spatz

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved \$62,736 to Columbia Gorge Community College to aid establishment of Construction Technologies and Advanced Manufacturing/Metals Fabrication Training Program. The money comes from SIP Additional Fees.

Condon Chamber of Commerce – K'Lynn Lane

The Sherman County Budget Committee approved a contribution of \$4,000 to the Condon Chamber of Commerce that would normally go to the JDRT.

The Sherman County Budget Committee did not authorize any other contributions at this time. The budget committee would like to extend an invitation to the chamber to come back to the committee next year showing how they spent the money, how the chamber has grown and what more the chamber can offer Sherman County businesses.

Biggs Service District

The previous grant of \$512,000 to Biggs Service District was not just rolled over into the \$1,560,000 loan. The grant has been paid in full and the balance of the loan to Biggs Service District will be reallocated to 2021-22.

Elected Official Salaries –

Entered into Compensation Board of Elected Officials: 4:10 p.m.

Motion by Stacy Eakin, second by Jeffery Judah, to accept the salary schedule as presented for elected officials, to include a 2.5% COLA, and to include step increases for eligible elected officials.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judah, Eakin, Peters
No: 0
Abstain: 3

Exited Elected Officials Compensation Board: 4:12 p.m.

Reconvened Budget Committee: 4:13 p.m.

Review of Proposed Budget

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the budget of \$72,863,059 for the fiscal year 2021-2022.

Vote: 6-0

Yes: Bird, Dabulskis, Miller, Judah, Eakin, Peters

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Stacy Eakin, to approve a tax rate of 8.7141 percent for fiscal year 2021-2022.

Vote: 6-0

Yes: Bird, Dabulskis, Miller, Judah, Eakin, Peters

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to adjourn the 2021-22 Sherman County Budget Committee meeting.

Vote: 6-0

Yes: Bird, Dabulskis, Miller, Judah, Eakin, Peters

No: 0

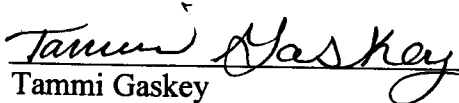
Abstain: 0

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Budget Committee

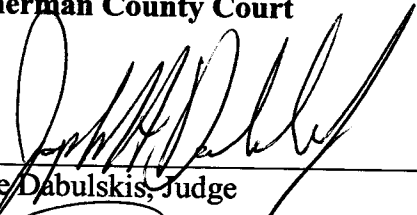


Stacy Eakin, Budget Committee Secretary


Attest: 

Tammi Gaskey
Administrative Assistant

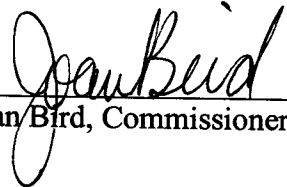
Sherman County Court



Joe Dabulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner