

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING - Thursday, April 30, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

Anne Basker Auditorium, 600 NW 6th Street

Grants Pass, Oregon

Budget Committee: Pat Fahey, Jim Brumbach, Margaret Goodwin, Keith Heck, Cheryl Walker, Simon Hare.

Budget Officer: Arthur O'Hare, Finance Director

1) Open Meeting – Keith Heck, BCC Chair

Mr. Heck opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

2) Elect New Chair of Budget Committee

Mr. Heck opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Budget Committee. Mr. Brumbach nominated Mr. Fahey, seconded by Mr. Hare. Mr. Fahey accepted the position. *Upon roll call vote, nomination carried, 6-0; Mr. Hare - yes, Mr. Fahey - yes, Ms. Goodwin - yes, Ms. Walker - yes, Mr. Brumbach - yes, and Mr. Heck - yes.*

3) Elect Vice Chair/Secretary of Budget Committee

Mr. Fahey opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Budget Committee. Mr. Hare nominated Mr. Brumbach, seconded by Ms. Walker. Mr. Brumbach accepted the position. *Upon roll call vote, nomination carried, 6-0; Mr. Hare - yes, Mr. Fahey - yes, Ms. Goodwin - yes, Ms. Walker - yes, Mr. Brumbach - yes, and Mr. Heck - yes.*

4) Budget Officer presents Budget Message and Proposed Budget for FY 2015-16

Arthur O'Hare, Finance Director, read **Exhibit A, Budget Message**.

5) Elected Officials Compensation Committee Recommendation – Larry West

Larry West, Member of Elected Officials Compensation Committee read **Exhibit B, Recommendations and finding of the Elected Officials Compensation Committee** and complimented the Elected Officials for performing well under extreme budget limitations. In summary the recommendation was to make no adjustments at this time as the salaries are properly aligned with comparable counties but to allow \$100 a month be placed into a HRA account for each elected official.

Mr. Heck asked why his request to lower his position III Commissioner's salary was not mentioned in the presentation. Mr. West said he was not aware of the request.

Mr. Hare said he made a request at the Elected Officials Compensation meeting regarding PERS and requested an alternative retirement plan for Elected Officials. Mr. West said PERS is a state function and not a county function and would need the assistance of County Counsel to review this and Ms. Walker agreed that this matter will take a lot more research.

Mr. O'Hare mentioned the Elected Compensation Committee just makes recommendations and it is up to the Budget Committee to decide what the compensation for the Elected Officials shall be. He also noted that he did not include a COLA into the current budget. If the Budget Committee decides to give a COLA to the Elected Officials the impact would be fairly de minimis.

Mr. Hare advised he would like to codify these recommendations when the Budget Committee has an opportunity to look further into Elected Officials Compensation Committee recommendations and also have Mr. Heck's annual request looked into and have time to think about these before they make an action. The Board agreed and also thanked Mr. West for a job well done.

No action was taken on the Elected Official Compensation Committee recommendation.

6) Department Presentations: Budget Officer

a. Summary of Funds

Arthur O'Hare, Finance Director referenced the Summary of Funds in the Budget Message.

b. General Fund Overview

Arthur O'Hare, Finance Director reviewed **Exhibit C, General Fund Overview**.

Presentations:

Planning – Dennis Lewis

Dennis Lewis, Planning Director reviewed **Exhibit D, Planning** with the Budget Committee showing the work they do for the County and advised there is online mapping on the County website with a lot of data from the Assessor's records available to the general public.

Veterans – Lisa Shipley

Lisa Shipley, CVA/Program Manager, reviewed **Exhibit E, Veteran Services** with the Budget Committee and showed a seven minute video regarding services the County provides.

Forestry – Vic Harris

Vic Harris, Forestry Program Manager reviewed **Exhibit F, Forestry** with the Budget Committee.

c. ISF Overview – Arthur O'Hare

Arthur O'Hare, Finance Director, deferred the ISF Overview until the next meeting on Thursday, May 7, 2015.

7) Budget Committee establishes meeting calendar. Proposed dates: meet from 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursdays: May 7th and May 14th. Other dates set as needed.

The Committee approved meeting on May 7th from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

8) May 7th proposed presentations: Public Safety (Sheriff, District Attorney, Juvenile Justice), Public Health and Public Works.

The Committee discussed presentations and decided to hear Public Safety, Public Health and Public Works on May 7, 2015.

9) Public Comment (limit of three minutes each, public comment may be allowed at additional meetings)

Dale Matthews, Grants Pass spoke in opposition on how budget material is distributed and would like it available ahead of time.

Ms. Goodwin would like to know if these documents are on the website. Arthur said the budget books were distributed yesterday at 12:30 p.m. to the Library and the Boards office and all the material is available on the County website and in the Finance Office.

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Guinn

Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Budget Message

Exhibit B: Elected Official compensation Committee Recommendation

Exhibit C: General Fund Overview

Exhibit D: Planning

Exhibit E: Veterans

Exhibit F: Forestry