

MINUTES OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION  
BUDGET HEARING 2013  
MILLARD COUNTY THE 4th DAY OF DECEMBER 2012  
AT THE COURTHOUSE, FILLMORE, UTAH

PRESENT: James I. Withers..... Chairperson  
Bart A. Whatcott. .... Commissioner  
Daron P. Smith..... Commissioner  
  
Richard Waddingham ..... County Attorney  
Marki Rowley. .... Deputy County Clerk  
Brandy Grace..... County Auditor

ALSO PRESENT: Morris Burton and Forrest Roper ..... Sheriff's Office  
Alan Roper ..... Commissioner Elect  
Robert Dekker ..... County Sheriff  
Connie Hansen ..... County Recorder  
John Orullian and Klint Penney ..... East Millard Maintenance  
Jamie Orulian ..... East Millard Recreation  
Dean Draper ..... Chronicle Progress  
Bonnie Gehre ..... Auditor's Office  
Sheri Dearden ..... Treasurer'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 Withers welcomed the public.

Commissioner Whatcott made a motion to enter into the budget hearing to take public comment about the 2013 proposed budget.

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

Commissioner Withers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.. He then turned the time over to Auditor Brandy Grace for comments.

Auditor Grace covered information relative to the adoption of the budget. The 2013 tentative budget was adopted on October 16, 2011. Public notices were run in the Chronicle Progress on October 24, October 31 and November 7, announcing that the budget had been

adopted and was available for inspection at the County Courthouse in Fillmore, the county office building in Delta and on the County's website.

Auditor Grace said that the spreadsheet handed out is summarized by department. She did not hand out the tentative budget that was adopted, but said she had it available for review. She said that since adopting the tentative budget the commission has continued to work on the budget and make changes to the budget through various meetings with the elected officials and department supervisors.

Auditor Grace said that the largest portion of the revenue for General Fund comes from taxes. The budget reflects an increase in property tax revenue, though it is not anticipated that there will be an increase in the tax rate. She said that the revenue reflected is from centrally assessed properties and new growth value on those properties.

Auditor Grace explained that at this time a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to the county pay plan is not being considered for county employees for next year. However, it is anticipated to fund the pay increases on the step and grade.

Health benefit costs for county employees have increased about 7%. Renewal for dental insurance was nearly 30%, therefore, the County decided to select a new dental insurance carrier who was offering lower rates. County employees pay 15% of insurance premium costs for health and dental coverage.

Auditor Grace said the most significant increase to the overall budget was in Special Projects. Millard County is the acting fiscal agent for the Clay Springs Fire recovery project. That project has a budget of \$1,500,000.00 and of that amount, there is federal funding that will reimburse about \$1,100,000.00 which is also reflected in the budget.

The Capital Projects fund reflects an increase of about \$400,000.00. Annual projects from this fund vary from year to year. As of 2013 there is \$435,000.00 in that fund for a new public health building. For that project it is anticipated that there will be a grant for \$180,000.00 which will offset part of that expense.

Commissioner Withers said that he appreciates Auditor Grace and her staff who have worked hard to get this budget ready for tonight's hearing.

He then asked for public comment.

Alan Roper asked if the county were to get the \$180,000.00 grant for the public health building, could the County bid the job out locally or would it have to be bid out throughout the State?

Commissioner Whatcott explained that the bid request would be advertised in the paper for three weeks and anyone could bid on it.

Mr. Roper asked if by receiving this grant, would it place the County into a category

where there would be special wage increases and if the grant is not received could it be put into a lower wage requirement?

Commissioner Whatcott said that if the grant is received the contractor would have to pay Bacon Davis wages. He also said the bidding process would not change if the County did not get the grant.

Commissioner Whatcott read a letter he sent to the CIB committee in Moab on why the County is going after grant money to help fund the new public health building in Fillmore, Utah.

Commissioner Whatcott said that the County was awarded the \$180,000.00 grant to proceed with the new public health building. There will be another meeting held on February 7, 2013 where the County can ask to borrow the remainder of the money needed for the project.

*(See attachment)*

Dean Draper, Chronicle Progress, questioned increases in the following funds:

- Economic Development:
  - Commissioner Smith explained that Millard County is contracted with the State for the BEAR Program allowing Linda Gillmor, Millard County Economic Development Director, to visit businesses and see if there are any State programs available that would help their businesses. The State will reimburse the County for all expenses incurred with the program. When the reimbursement comes to the County it will be put in the General Fund.
- Auditor's Office:
  - Auditor Grace explained that the increase is to cover employee benefits for this year.
- Attorney's Office:
  - Attorney Waddingham explained that the increase in his budget was almost exclusively to cover a prosecutor's full time status and benefits. It also includes his raise which he has not taken.
- The Jail and the West Desert Deputy:
  - Sheriff Dekker explained that the increase was to cover the computer program that the County will be purchasing, improvements made to the Public Safety building and the security operational system, and the purchase of a newer vehicle for the jail and the west desert deputy.
- Transfers and Other Uses
  - Auditor Grace explained that Transfers is the amounts transferred from the general fund to operate the recreation fund and other uses is fund balance appropriations. There is less money being budgeted for fund balance. The transfer to recreation last year was \$1,557,780.00 and this year it is \$1,585,540.00 which is about \$30,000.00 more for recreation.
  - Mr. Draper questioned if there was a proscription in the County for transfers from left hand to right hand in different departments. Auditor Grace said that technically recreation expenses are considered general fund

expenses. She just separated it into a different fund because recreation was being looked at more closely each year.

- East Millard Swimming Pool
  - Commissioner Smith said improvements made to the facility has helped reduce utility costs. Commissioner Whatcott said that Klint Penney and his crew are finding out that the new lighting system is saving the County approximately \$25,000.00 a year. They are also looking into old contracts to see where they can save the County money.

Commissioner Smith explained that the increase in Public Health was due to the funding to the Care Center.

Mr. Draper questioned the maintenance of the accounts for the Clay Spring Fire. Auditor Grace said that account is for the re-seeding recovery and has nothing to do with the suppression. It is only for rehabilitation.

There were no other comments made.

Commissioner Whatcott 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 7:26 p.m..

Sheriff Dekker thanked the Auditor's office for the hard work on the budget.

Commissioner Smith said that there is a lot of effort put into the budget by all the departments by projecting where each budget will be and apparently the public is okay with the numbers.

Commissioner Withers said that he appreciated the departments keeping their budgets reasonably close to what they were last year.

WHERE UPON THE MEETING ADJOURNED

Commissioner Whatcott made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Smith SECONDED the motion. The voting was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m..

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

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