

JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

PRESENT: Charles Howell, Chairman
Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman
John Crozier, Commissioner
Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Meeting convened at 9:30 A.M.

TEVIAN EKREN-KOBER—FY 2020-21 TREASURER BUDGET REQUEST

Treasurer Tevian Ekren-Kober, Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson, and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim were present.

Tevian Ekren-Kober requested three percent salary increases for herself and her two deputy treasurers in the FY 2020-21 budget. She said she had kept all lines in her “B” budget the same as in the current fiscal year.

Ekren-Kober stated her office needed a new printer but that its expense would come from the IT budget and that she would wait another year to request new office chairs.

➤ Tracee McKim said she would determine whether she could purchase a printer from the current budget.

Commissioner Howell asked the treasurer if she would be satisfied if the budget would include increased employee expenses (such as medical insurance) but not salary increases. Ekren-Kober said she felt like her deputies deserved raises because of their efforts within the past year, especially when she was not able to be in the office.

ROY PRESCOTT—UPDATE AND BUDGET REQUEST

Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim were present. Also present was Roy Prescott.

Roy Prescott presented a letter from the Notch Butte Rangeland Fire Protection Association (RFPA) requesting \$1,000 from the FY 2020-21 budget, an increase of \$250 from the current budget year donation. He said the support of Jerome, Lincoln, Gooding, and Minidoka Counties enables the Association to purchase fire supplies and continue its efforts to help the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) firefighters.

Prescott stated the Association had fought three fires in Jerome County within the last year, expressing that the Rangeland firefighters have real value, which the BLM is beginning to recognize.

GEORGE OPPEDYK—FY 2020-21 BUDGET REQUESTS

Present were Sheriff George Oppedyk, Chief Deputy Sheriff Gary Taylor, Jail Administrator Marisela Ibarra, Emergency Management Director Tanya Stitt, Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim, and Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson.

Emergency Management Budget: Tanya Stitt reviewed her “B” budget requests, explaining why she had requested slightly more for utilities, office equipment, postage, and education. She stated she had requested an increase of \$1,284 in the Repairs/Maintenance line because the cost of maintaining the County generators had increased.

Detention Budget: Marisela Ibarra reviewed the increases she had requested in the Detention budget for FY 2020-21. She noted increases in Travel, Inmate and Cleaning Supplies, Food, Repairs, and Out of Area Transports because of opening up a new jail pod with 30 beds within the next fiscal year.

Ibarra requested 50 cent salary increases for Deputy 1, II, and II positions and one dollar increases for the Senior Deputy, Corporal, Sergeant, Staff Sergeant, and Lieutenant positions. Her proposed budget increased the Wages for Detention Deputies line to cover two new positions and also the Court Security Wages line.

Sheriff Budget: Sheriff Oppedyk requested a three percent wage increase for himself. He requested an increase in Wages for Deputies in order to add one new position and for Administrative Staff in order to add a full-time employee to issue driver’s licenses. He said the Part Time Wages line could then be reduced by \$10,000.

Gary Taylor announced that he would be retiring, which would be a substantial savings to the County. He explained that to be eligible for PERSI (State retirement), he could only work five consecutive months and be rehired after one month lapse.

Taylor told the Commissioners that Jerome County was competitive in its starting wages for deputy sheriffs but lacking in salaries for upper classifications.

Taylor explained increases requested for Law Enforcement Equipment, Vehicle Equipment, Telephone, Gasoline, Vehicle Repairs, Investigation, Uniforms/Weapons, Ammunition, and Education. Capital budget line requests were increases for Firearms and Ballistic Vests.

➤ Commissioner Howell requested that the sheriff’s department update its training room so that it would qualify as an incident command center.

Vehicle Purchase: Sheriff Oppedyk said he had ordered two new pickups as allowed in the current fiscal year budget.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to purchase two new pickups for the sheriff’s department at \$31,300 each to keep up with the maintenance and rotation of vehicles. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

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RICK HABERMAN—FY 2020-21 BUDGET REQUESTS

Assessor Rick Haberman, Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson, and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim were present.

Rick Haberman stated he had requested three percent salary increases for all employees in his office but no changes in his “B” budget.

Meeting recessed at 11:47 A.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1:19 P.M.

TRACEE MCKIM—FY 2020-21 BUDGET REQUESTS

Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim and Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson were present.

Tracee McKim asked for a three percent salary increase for the Data Processing director. She requested an increase in Repairs/Maintenance-Office Equipment in order for the amount to be closer to the expenses incurred in the current budget year. Her budget request for Internet Access anticipated a cost decrease.

NANCY MARSHALL—FY 2020-21 BUDGET REQUESTS

Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall, Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson, and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim were present.

Planning and Zoning Budget: Nancy Marshall requested three percent salary increases for the planning and zoning staff but said that her employees would understand if the County was unable to grant raises in the next budget year.

Marshall explained requested increases in the Travel, Publications, and Education budget lines but said she had trimmed the budget lines for Supplies and Vehicles-Repairs.

Commissioner Howell asked for an estimate of gallons of fuel used by the P&Z office and suggested County departments pool their fuel purchases for a greater discount.

GIS (Mapping): Marshall asked for a 3.843 percent salary increase for the County mapping employee to bring him up to what others in his position earn. She suggested a decrease in the Supplies-Mapping line to more closely reflect expenditures in the current budget year. Marshall requested an increase from \$500 to \$1,000 in the Vehicles-Repairs line, saying that the recent purchase of a used truck rather than a new vehicle may require repairs.

MIKE SEIB—FY 2020-21 BUDGET REQUEST FOR PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE

Attorney Mike Seib, Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson, and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim were present.

Mike Seib requested three percent salary increases for the prosecutor’s office. He did not request any increases in his “B” budget except in office equipment. Seib explained that his office was in need of an electronic filing system with an estimated cost of \$60,000. He said he had found a system that would be compatible with the Odyssey software already used by the County. Seib

claimed that the new program would be a good search engine and would increase efficiency in his office.

SHIELA HARMON—UPDATE AND FY 2020-21 BUDGET REQUEST

Present were Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim. Also present was Shiela Harmon, director of the Jerome Senior Citizen Center.

Update: Shiela Harmon reported the Jerome Senior Center was enjoying the bingo board made possible by the County’s donation from its current budget. She said the Center would like to add another bingo night and that bingo was the Center’s biggest fundraiser. She also said the County’s donation had helped purchase new dinnerware used for David’s Night Out, another fundraiser that she hoped to expand.

Request: Harmon requested \$6,000 from the FY 2020-21 budget rather than the \$6,500 received from the current budget. She said the Center needed a new washer and dryer, tables and chairs, and a refrigerated salad bar.

BRENT CULBERTSON—FY 2020-21 BUDGET REQUEST

Present were Maintenance Supervisor Brent Culbertson, Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson, and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim.

Brent Culbertson did not request a salary increase for himself but did request three percent increases for his janitors.

Culbertson submitted only two increases in his “B” budget for Cleaning Supplies at the Courthouse and the Judicial Annex Building. He explained that supply prices were higher and that more sanitizer and disinfectants were necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

Charles M. Howell, Chairman

Jane White, Deputy Clerk

A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

John Crozier, Commissioner