

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF THE MAY 2023 SESSION**

Eighth Day

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:30 a.m. Present were Chair Muffy Davis, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary, and Commissioner Lindsay Mollineaux; County Clerk and Budget Officer Stephen McDougall Graham; Blaine County Budget and Finance Analyst Ozzie Gripentrog; Administrative Services Director Kristy Heitzman; Land Use Permit Technician Rachel Martin; Recording Secretary Sunny Grant; and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Kari Harden. The following were present off-site for parts of the meeting: Blaine County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy; Deputy County Clerk Barbie Royal; Blaine County Assessor Jim Williams, Deputy Assessor Melissa Fry and Appraisers Alyssa Cenarrusa and Eric Swanson; IT Cybersecurity/Network Engineer Jon Eaton, IT Enterprise Architect Ben Parker, and IT Analyst Garrett Boyle; Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers; Land Use Planner Allison Kennedy, Zoning Specialist Crystal Rigby; GIS Manager Sam Young; and Blaine County Sustainability Manager Andrew Mentzer.

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m.

BUDGET PREPARATION WORKSHOP

Blaine County Board of Commissioners Chair Muffy Davis said the FY2024 budget requests and approvals today would be focused on how they align strategically with the County's priorities of sustainability, community well-being, organizational development, transportation, and housing.

County Budget Officer Stephen McDougall Graham said FY2024 Budget Discussions began on April 10. The BCC subsequently heard most Community Service Organization budget requests in May.

Today, the BCC will begin budget discussions. McDougall Graham said budget adjustments would be made daily, and estimates revised continually as information comes in during the next month. Deliberations would begin on June 21.

County Budget and Finance Analyst Ozzie Gripentrog said the County had, historically, projected less income and more expense than actually occurred.

Topics of ongoing consideration and discussion:

- McDougall Graham said the draft FY2024 budget will reflect maintaining the FY2023 9% market increase, in keeping with prior statements of the BCC.
- Transition from Computer Arts, Inc. to another vendor for recording, financial/ERP.
- Discuss strategic long-term planning with the coroner.
- Pomeroy proposed Disaster Services be its own department.
- The BCC will review all one-time capital requests and identify those that are essential and urgent.
- Budgeting for the Colorado Bridge and Indian Creek Road repairs in 2023 and 2024.
- Ketchum Police contract, including management and administrative fees. The County has collected the administrative fee, and then refunded it to Ketchum, and not retained enough money to cover expense of administering the contract.
- The General Fund, and generic questions about line items in the General Fund.
- Mountain Humane contract for 2024. The County currently receives a community service organization request from Mountain Humane, but then later pays additional for impounds and some medical services.
- Memorial for former Commissioner Dick Fosbury.
- Update on ARPA funds.
- Suggest Land Use joint meeting to share their projects and priorities with the BCC.
- Pomeroy suggested expanding County GIS and Emergency Services to encompass more sustainability and resiliency efforts.
- Review the General Fund to include discussion of Indigent Fund and Public Defense Department.
- Ambulance District may want to consider a consultant in negotiating with ambulance partners.
- Discuss emergency communications technology needs into the future.
- Discuss future of the Recycle Center, which needs maintenance.
- Commissioner Davis wants to reach out to Susan Buxton at Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation to see if they have funding available for Blaine County waterways.
- McDougall Graham reminded everyone that personnel costs are the single biggest component of the County's budget and should be revisited and reviewed.
- McDougall Graham encouraged the BCC to review all fees for services offered by the County, some of which hadn't been updated for several years, and continue to review all fees on an annual basis.

At a minimum, the County must retain adequate funds in the General Fund to cover expenses in the first quarter of the fiscal year until the County receives its December first deposit of property tax revenue.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 1:11 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
Stephen McDougall Graham Muffy Davis
County Clerk Chair