

MINUTES

BOARD OF BENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Budget Workshop Meeting
October 13, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
Commissioners' Conference Room
Benton County Courthouse, Prosser, WA

Present: Chairman Max E. Benitz, Jr. Chairman
Commissioner Leo Bowman
Commissioner James Beaver
County Administrator David Sparks
Clerk of the Board Cami McKenzie

Benton County Employees Present During All or a Portion of the Meeting: Deputy Administrator Loretta Smith Kelty; Finance Manager Linda Ivey; Treasurer Duane Davidson; Central Services Manager Randy Reid; Auditor Bobbie Gagner and Deputy Auditor Brenda Chilton; Erhiza Rivera and Nick Kooiker, Treasurer's Office; Juvenile Administrator Sharon Paradis; Clerk Josie Delvin and Deputy Clerk Jacki Hill; Assessor Barb Wagner; Clark Posey and Carel Hiatt, Planning Dept.

Revenue/Expenditures

Linda Ivey reviewed the initial revenue figures and preliminary baseline and requested 2010 Current Expense Budget. The initial figures were as follows:

Revenue:	\$51,347,977
Expenditures (Baseline):	<u>52,847,437</u> (1,499,460)

Revenue:	\$51,347,977
Expenditures (Requested)	<u>54,114,237</u> (2,766,260)

Ms. Ivey then presented a worksheet with suggested revenue modifications for real and personal property taxes, retail sales and use tax, retail sales and use tax-criminal justice, intergovernmental revenues, charges for services, and fines and forfeitures. Ms. Ivey said the modifications brought the new net decrease amount to fund balance at (493,637).

Additionally, Ms. Ivey presented information on the consolidated budget for all funds.

Commissioner Bowman said the new revenue number helped the budget, but it did not appear there was room for any new requests. Commissioner Beaver commented that if there was new

money available during the course of the year to fund certain items, the Board might be able to accommodate that.

Chairman Benitz stated the importance of identifying grant-funded positions in the budget so if the grant went away, then the position would go away. Commissioner Bowman commented the Board always had that philosophy, but sometimes the programs become a priority and the Board agreed to keep the program (i.e. drug court). However, now the reality was that these programs would have to be prioritized.

Commissioner Beaver suggested exploring the idea of departments cost sharing expenses (one employee being shared by different departments).

David Sparks said they were fairly aggressive on revenue numbers this budget, where in the past they had been more conservative. He said it was imperative that the number to balance be zero, now more than ever, and that the Board reduce ½ million from expenditures.

The Board agreed to the proposed revenue changes as presented by Ms. Ivey.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Clerk of the Board

Chairman