

**Morrow County Budget Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 2017**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present**

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay  
Commissioner Don Russell  
Commissioner Jim Doherty  
Larry Mills, Budget Committee  
Linda LaRue, Budget Committee

Jill Parker, Budget Committee  
Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer  
Kate Knop, Finance Director  
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director  
Ronda Fox, Finance Management Assistant  
Roberta Lutchter, Executive Assistant

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** 9:00 a.m.

**Election of Budget Committee Chairperson and Secretary**

*Ms. LaRue nominated Mr. Mills as Chairperson. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

*Chair Mills nominated Ms. LaRue as Secretary. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval. (Ms. LaRue delegated the Secretary duties to the Board Executive Assistant.)*

**Minutes**

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the minutes of the 2016 Morrow County Budget Hearings as presented. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Budget Message**

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer

The main topic areas of Mr. Sorte's Budget Message were:

- Changes that have occurred in the County over the past year
- Revenues
- Expenditures and Strategic Issues

**Explanation of Budget Documents**

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop reviewed the changes implemented for this budget cycle in the way departments and other entities make budget requests.

**Presentation of Revenue, Property Taxes, Strategic Investment Program (SIP) & Long Range Planning**

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector

Both Ms. Knop and Mr. Gorman presented information and statistics on assessed values in the County; property tax revenue (will decrease \$1,400,000); Enterprise Zone exemptions; and 2017-2018 anticipated funds from SIP agreements.

Ms. Knop said the adopted Fiscal Year 2016 Budget for the General Fund only was \$17,112,000. The proposed Fiscal Year 2017 is \$16,684,000, a decrease of 2.5%, she said.

### **Compensation and Benefits Update**

Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director

Ms. Wolff outlined the changes coming to medical, dental and vision insurance premiums, as well as, liability, property, and auto physical damage premiums (increases for every category except auto physical damage). She continued by reviewing Workers' Compensation rates; anticipated rates for cost of living adjustments (COLAs); and other HR items of interest.

**Break:** 10:01 a.m.                      **Resumed:** 10:17 a.m.

### **Road Fund**

Presenters for various Road & Public Works Funds:

Burke O'Brien, Public Works Director

Matt Scrivner, Assistant Road Master

Sandi Putman, Public Works Management Assistant

Greg Close, Parks General Manager

Tony Clement, General Maintenance Supervisor

Dave Pranger, Weed Coordinator/Inspector

Mr. O'Brien explained road projects are established by the Road Committee through the Five Year Road Plan. He said the original budget submission reflected those projects in their entirety. Chair Mills requested a summary of projects the Road Department would like to complete this year, which was provided by Mr. Scrivner. He noted the current Five Year Plan runs through the 2018 season and all but two projects have been completed. They are the Ella Road project (being done this year), and the Ione-Boardman Road project, which is planned for next year.

At the request of the Budget Committee, Mr. Scrivner outlined the impact to upcoming projects and the Five Year Road Plan if the Road Department received funding above the requested amount.

Chair Mills said because the County has money now, it presents a great opportunity to upgrade the road system and infrastructure. He said he'd like to dedicate as much as possible to Roads rather than adding programs and personnel. As we near the end of the budget process, the Committee will have a better understanding as to whether or not the County can increase funds to the Road budget, he said.

Mr. O'Brien discussed the need to increase a part-time position in the Public Works Office because some tasks are not getting done.

Commissioner Doherty commented the Road Department budget request is the highest to date. Mr. O'Brien agreed and noted it includes a great deal of paver patching outside the Five Year Road Plan.

Commissioner Russell said he preferred the SIP funds be used for infrastructure such as roads and buildings because these funds have a defined end-date. If they were used for programs or personnel, they would eventually have to be cut when the funding ends, he explained.

Discussion.

*Ms. Parker moved to tentatively change the Road Budget to add \$500,000 to Operating Contingency and \$500,000 to Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Equipment Reserve**

Mr. Scrivner reviewed payments that will come from this fund for several pieces of heavy equipment. He also said four used pickups were purchased from this fund in the last year but there is still equipment remaining to be upgraded. Mr. O'Brien discussed the need for grinding work and the possibility of leasing a machine to do that for five years.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Equipment Reserve Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Finley Buttes Trust Fund**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Finley Buttes Trust Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Park Fund**

Mr. Close began by presenting revised budget numbers; Ms. Knop requested a list of the changes. Discussion.

During review of the budget, it was clarified the Parks are entirely grant and fee funded and receive no General Fund dollars. Commissioner Doherty brought up the fact that the Board of Commissioners recently approved the purchase of a Quonset hut at the OHV Park but the deal fell through. He requested Mr. Close rebid it and bring it before the Board for consideration.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Park Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Aye: Chair Mills, Ms. LaRue, Ms. Parker, Commissioner Russell, Commissioner Doherty. Nay: Chair Lindsay. Chair Lindsay said she voted no because the numbers are not clear.*

### **Airport**

Tom Headley, Project Manager, Century West Engineering

Ms. Pointer said the Lexington Airport receives Federal Aviation Administration funds every three years and the plan is to use some of the funds for apron improvements and tie-down areas. Mr. Headley discussed the process of Airport Improvement Program grants and State match funding grants for these types of projects.

Ms. Pointer and Mr. O'Brien requested to replace the above-ground fuel tanks while other work is being done at the Airport, but that cost was not included in the budget. Mr. Headley explained tank replacements are not eligible for FAA grant funding. Discussion. It was decided to consider the request at the end of the Budget Hearing process.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Airport Fund, with the fuel tank request to be considered at the end. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Public Works General Maintenance**

Mr. Sorte discussed the recent change in the General Maintenance Department by consolidating all maintenance activities instead of having a separate part-time maintenance person at the Fairgrounds. Mr. O'Brien said the budget request is to increase staffing from 2.5 FTEs (full-time equivalents) to 3.0 FTEs.

Commissioner Doherty asked if the decisions on FTE requests should wait until the end of the budget process. Mr. Sorte said there were 5.40 FTE requests County-wide totaling \$500,000 but it is up to the Board and the Committee. Commissioner Russell said he'd prefer to wait until the end to ensure consistency in the process.

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Public Works General Maintenance Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Public Works Administration**

Ms. Pointer explained the request includes a 40% portion related to the FTE increase request.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Public Works Administration Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Weed Department**

Mr. Pranger said this fund is seeing more revenue from a few different grants. He also said he'd like to order new weed booklets, which are running low and have been updated. He said he plans to put any additional funds in an Equipment Reserve Fund in anticipation of replacing the spray pickup and sprayer next year.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Weed Department Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Public Comment**

Cyde Estes, Heppner

Ms. Estes said the recent addition of the full-time General Maintenance person has resulted in the Courthouse area looking much better.

Gerry Aronson, Heppner

Mr. Aronson suggested a few ways to better inform the public as to how the County Parks are funded and operate. Ms. LaRue agreed the information would be helpful, and added she spends a great deal of time clearing up people's misconceptions about the way the Parks are funded.

Cam Sweeney, Road Committee Member

Mr. Sweeney said he attended to show his support of the budget submitted by the Road Committee. He said the Oregon Department of Transportation is scaling back and counties are feeling the results all over the State.

**Lunch Recess:** 12:30 p.m.

**Resumed:** 1:36 p.m.

### **Soil & Water Conservation District**

Janet Greenup, Manager, SWCD

Ms. Knop said Ms. Greenup's \$55,000 request is the same as last year's. However, Ms. Greenup said last year's request was for \$100,000, but they received \$55,000.

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Soil & Water Conservation District Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff Ken Matlack

Undersheriff John Bowles

Administrative Lieutenant Melissa Ross

Sheriff Matlack reviewed the budget requests for departments and funds within his purview, which was followed by Undersheriff Bowles' review of the four new positions requested.

Questions and answers. Chair Mills informed them the Committee and Commissioners would revisit this at the end of the Budget process to determine what can be funded and what cannot.

(Sheriff Matlack noted several of his budget numbers differed from those of Ms. Knop. The two decided to follow-up outside the Budget Hearings.)

### **Assessment & Taxation**

Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Assessor/Tax Collector Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **District Attorney**

Justin Nelson, District Attorney/County Counsel

Chair Mills asked Mr. Nelson about his request to increase his DA stipend from \$6,000 per year to \$8,000 per year. Chair Mills referenced the 2016 Budget Hearing minutes in which Commissioner Leann Rea made it clear Mr. Nelson was not to expect an increase every year. Mr. Nelson explained it was a recommendation of the Compensation Committee.

Mr. Nelson discussed his request to change how the Victim/Witness Advocate position is funded. Currently, the General Fund pays \$48,000 and grants fund the remainder of the salary and benefits (current salary for that position is \$50,377; factor in benefits and it brings it to \$83,683.46). Mr. Nelson said if the position was not dependent on grant funds, it would free up time for that employee since she currently spends a substantial amount of time on grant writing and reporting. (Mr. Nelson's request is for an additional \$35,000-40,000 from the General Fund for this position.) After various options and scenarios were discussed, Chair Mills asked Mr. Nelson to check when and how the Victim/Witness Advocate position was established in the County, which he said he would do.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the District Attorney General Fund, with \$46,611 set out for discussion at the end of the Budget process. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### **Alcohol Enforcement Fund**

Mr. Nelson said there is a balance that can be used in this fund and he doesn't anticipate any more funds coming in.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Alcohol Enforcement Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### **Victim Witness Assistance Fund**

Mr. Nelson said this fund currently shows zero FTE but it's important to note it may change, depending on the decision of the Budget Committee later in the Budget process.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Victim Witness Assistance Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### **CAMI (Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention) Grant**

Mr. Nelson said this grant pays for trainings and payments to our interview facility at the Mt. Emily Safe Center in La Grande.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the CAMI Grant Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### **Law Library Fund**

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Law Library Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **DUII (Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants) Impact Fund**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the DUII Impact Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

(Ms. Parker temporarily left the meeting to attend to a work-related matter.)

### **Liquor Control Fund**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Liquor Control Fund. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Law Library Fund, continued**

Commissioner Doherty asked for additional discussion on the Law Library Fund. Mr. Nelson said he is considering purchasing a computer to put in the Law Library to access legal information online because people do not use the books very often. The difficulty in doing this would be access to the computer/Law Library in the courtroom because the State Circuit Court locks the courtroom. Chair Lindsay suggested moving it elsewhere and the group decided this should be a discussion for a later time.

### **Treasurer**

Gayle Gutierrez, Treasurer

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Treasurer Fund (General Fund). Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **County School Fund (Morrow County School District)**

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the County School Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Ione School Fund**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Ione School Fund. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Break:** 3:36 p.m.                      **Resume:** 3:51 p.m.

(Ms. Parker returned to the meeting.)

### **Accountant Fund**

Kate Knop, Finance Director

*Commissioner Doherty moved tentative approval of the Accountant Fund. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Justice Court**

Judge Ann Spicer

Judge Spicer discussed her request to increase a staff member from 0.80 FTE to full-time due to increased workload from citations. Judge Spicer said she also requested her salary be increased

but she did not include it in the budget request because it may still be under review by the Compensation Committee.

*Commissioner Doherty moved tentative approval of the Justice Court Fund and to set aside the FTE request until the end of the Budget process. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Bails & Fines**

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Bails and Fines Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Video Lottery - Economic Development Fund**

Mr. Sorte said the request remains much the same as last year. Money from this fund goes toward the brochures and website for County Parks; labor attorney; Oregon State University Extension Office; Rodeo Fund; Museum; Fair Fund; Morrow County Tourism; and the Willow Creek Economic Development Group. He also said there is \$12,000 in Professional Services as a placeholder in the event outside legal counsel is needed during upcoming SIP negotiations.

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Video Lottery – Economic Development Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **County Clerk**

Bobbi Childers, Clerk

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the County Clerk Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Board of Property Tax Appeals Fund**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Board of Property Tax Appeals Fund. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Clerk's Records Fund**

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Clerk's Records Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Public Comment** - No comments

**Recessed until 9:00 a.m. April 26<sup>th</sup>:** 4:29 p.m.



**Morrow County Budget Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 2017**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present**

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay  
Commissioner Don Russell  
Commissioner Jim Doherty  
Larry Mills, Budget Committee  
Linda LaRue, Budget Committee  
Jill Parker, Budget Committee

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer  
Kate Knop, Finance Director  
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director  
Ronda Fox, Finance Management Assistant  
Roberta Lutchter, Executive Assistant

**Call to Order/Resumed and Pledge of Allegiance:** 9:08 a.m.

**Budget Update**

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop reviewed the changes made to the Budget based on yesterday's presentations by Departments and other entities:

- The Budget presentation by the Sheriff's Office did not have numbers in agreement with those of the Finance Department, so the Sheriff and Undersheriff are making revisions and will present again on Thursday.
- Assessor/Tax Collector Mike Gorman had a correction concerning a grant no longer received.
- Parks General Manager Greg Close expressed concern that some of his budget numbers may not have been accurate. After meeting with him, Ms. Knop determined his numbers were good and only a minor change was made to Personnel, which she will share tomorrow.
- Corrections were made to some department's Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) calculations.
- An error was found in the District Attorney Budget which indicated the DA Stipend was \$6,000 instead of \$8,000. A motion will be necessary to remedy that. The Committee members and Commissioners agreed the intent was to approve the \$8,000 stipend.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the DA Stipend at \$8,000. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group & Morrow County Tourism**

Sheryll Bates, Executive Director, Heppner Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Bates said she just learned the Video Lottery Fund was approved yesterday and she thanked the Committee and Commissioners for the \$25,000 to WCVEDG and the \$10,000 to Morrow County Tourism. She explained WCVEDG continues to work on solutions to housing needs in south Morrow County. WCVEDG is currently exploring ways to facilitate the construction of a

duplex or triplex, and a process to offer monetary assistance to landlords with rentals in need of repair. Regarding the Morrow County Tourism funds, Ms. Bates said they are split equally between the economic development entities in Heppner, Ione, Irrigon and Boardman.

### **Oregon State University/Morrow County Extension Service**

Mary Corp, OSU Regional Administrator

Julie Baker, Morrow County Co-County Leader, Administrative Program Specialist

Ms. Corp reviewed the activity of the OSU positions partially funded by Morrow County. Some of those positions have split assignments between Morrow and Umatilla Counties, she noted.

Discussion took place on the nearly \$12,000 increase in this year's Budget request. Ms. Corp said some of it is attributed to the estimated cost to upgrade the interior lighting at the Extension Office in Heppner, which is of very poor quality.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the OSU Extension Budget of \$177,065. Chair Mills seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Planning Department**

Carla McLane, Planning Department Director

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Planning Department General Fund Budget. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Heritage Trail Fund**

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Heritage Trail Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Building Permit Fund**

After discussion of the amount accumulating in this fund, it was decided to create a new Line Item in the Building Permit Fund called "Contract Services" in the amount of \$30,000. It would be used to assist the communities in the County with Planning-related needs, such as comprehensive plans or land-use matters. A consulting firm or previous Planning Department staff member might be contracted for these services, explained Ms. McLane.

*Ms. Parker moved to create an additional Line Item for Contract Services in the Building Permit Fund in the amount of \$30,000; and give tentative approval to the Building Permit Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Water Fund**

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Water Fund. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Veterans Services Office**

Linda Skendzel, Veterans Services Officer

Ms. Skendzel's budget included three items that will be considered at the end of the Budget process – two additional help requests (\$2,000 and \$10,000) and \$2,000 for Auto Repair & Maintenance.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Veterans Budget, General Fund, noting they will review the request for extra help and for Auto Repair & Maintenance at the end of the Budget process. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **Fair**

Ann Jones, Fair Secretary

Cody High, Fair Board Member

There were two Decision Packages for consideration:

1. \$19,000 for a St. Patrick's Weekend Bull Riding Event
2. \$7,500 for a Small Animal Barn

After discussing both requests, several issues arose: 1.) Mr. High said the Bull Riding Event is unlikely to show a profit until the third or fourth year. Chair Mills said while the event might be a good idea, he wasn't sure the County was the proper organization to backfill the funding, and 2.) Regarding the Small Animal Barn, discussion pointed to the fact that some things are in transition concerning facilities and maintenance with both the Fair and Rodeo, and it might be better to wait to see if General Maintenance can repair the current structure or pursue other options.

Ms. Knop said \$15,500 could be put in the Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance (Contingency) while the Fair continued to vet the Bull Riding Event and the County finalized facilities and maintenance responsibilities.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Fair Fund with the change to take the Ending Fund Balance to \$15,500 and put it in a Contingency Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **Fair Roof Reserve**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Fair Roof Reserve Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **Fair Improvement Fund**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Fair Improvement Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **U.S.D.A. Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service - Wildlife Services**

Patrick Smith, District Supervisor, Wildlife Services, La Grande

Chris Lulay, Wildlife Specialist, Wildlife Services, Morrow County

Mr. Smith discussed the estimated budgets for his agency from both the Federal and State governments. After Chair Mills' inquiry, it was noted this year's request from the County is similar to last year's.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Wildlife Services Budget of \$54,000. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Surveyor's Department, General Fund**

Steve Haddock, Surveyor

Mr. Haddock said this budget remains basically the same as the previous year. He discussed maps the County received from a surveyor in the area who went out of business, and other maps that have been located and added to the record.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Surveyor's Department, General Fund Budget. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Surveyor Preservation Fund**

Mr. Haddock said he hopes to continue a project regarding preservation of survey monuments that began in the Heppner area and will now move to the Boardman area. He explained corner markers often times are removed during road construction and not replaced. He said he wants everything on one map so anyone who works in the area can see the discrepancies and why. He said some locations have multiple corners with no reference to the other surveyor's work and he doesn't want this to continue.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Surveyor Preservation Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Special Transportation Fund (The Loop – Morrow County Transportation)**

Anita Pranger, Coordinator, The Loop

Sheryll Bates, The Loop Advisory Board Member

In discussing the reasons for increased amounts to some Line Items, Ms. Pranger said she had to tap into reserve funds over the last year due to significant growth in ridership numbers, and she received notice from both State and Federal grant sources that funding will be reduced (State grant reduced by \$13,000/year for the next two years; Federal grant reduced by \$730/year for the next two years). In order for the office to be staffed every week day, Ms. Pranger requested an increase in part-time help from four weeks per year to eight weeks per year, which will be funded by the Federal 5310 Grant. She said she worked with Ms. Knop to develop the \$30,000 request from the County in order to ensure the program does not run in the negative, and that figure does include the request to increase part-time help.

Ms. Bates said as The Loop has grown, so have expenses associated with it. This is a good thing, she said, because it means The Loop is offering the right service for Morrow County

residents. The Loop Advisory Committee members are pleased with the growth and do not want to see this program penalized because of that growth, said Ms. Bates.

Ms. Parker said everything she's heard about The Loop indicates it's a fabulous program.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Special Transportation Fund – Non-Departmental; and the Special Transportation Fund – Special Transportation, with the acknowledgement the staffing request will be reviewed at the end of the Budget Hearings. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Special Transportation Fund (STF) Vehicle Reserve Fund**

Ms. Pranger discussed new vehicles recently, or soon to be added to the STF fleet:

- A bus with a ramp is on-order and expected in the fall. This bus will work well for transporting senior citizens and will be based in Heppner.
- Boardman has a new bus with a lift. A van that is ADA accessible is also expected to arrive in the next few weeks.
- Heppner will soon receive an ADA accessible van.

She said the STF Vehicle Reserve Fund will maintain a balance of \$50,000-60,000 for maintenance of vehicles.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the STF Vehicle Reserve Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant Fund**

Ms. Pranger said this fund, also referred to as the 5310 Grant, covers such things as 50% of her salary; 100% of the salary for the part-time position; tires and maintenance; and the Purchase Service Agreement with Kayak Public Transit to come into Irrigon.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the FTA Grant Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Watermaster Fund**

Mike Ladd, North Central Region Manager, Oregon Water Resources Department

Greg Silbernagel, Watermaster District 5, Oregon Water Resources Department

Ken Thiemann, Watermaster District 21, Oregon Water Resources Department

Mr. Ladd explained this year's request is about \$2,300 higher than last year's. This is due in part to Umatilla County asking Morrow County to pay for Watermaster work done on Upper and Little Butter Creek in Morrow County, which Umatilla County covered in the past. Discussion.

*Chair Lindsay moved tentative approval of the Watermaster Budget of \$12,217. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Lunch Break:** 12:01 p.m.    **Resumed:** 1:15 p.m.

### **Finley Buttes License Fee Fund**

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer

Mr. Sorte said one of the activities supported by this fund is the disposal costs of items taken in at the County's Transfer Stations that are free of charge to residents.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Finley Buttes License Fee Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Public Health Department**

Sheree Smith, Public Health Department Director

Ms. Smith discussed programs and associated budget lines within the Public Health Department. She also reviewed staffing levels and said an experienced Registered Nurse recently hired at 0.60 FTE who then, with Board approval, moved to 0.80 FTE is willing to work full-time and the need is definitely there.

*Ms. Parker moved to approve the Health Department General Fund Budget with the addition of the 0.20 FTE request to make the above mentioned Registered Nurse position full-time. Ms. LaRue seconded. Chair Mills added the 0.20 FTE request entails an increase of \$34,000. Commissioner Lindsay said approving the FTE request is not consistent with all other previous FTE requests, thus far, and she would like additional discussion. Ms. Parker amended her motion to state she moved tentative approval of the Health Department General Fund Budget with the understanding the FTE request will be taken up at the end of the Budget Hearings with all other FTE requests. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Irrigon-Boardman Emergency Assistance Center, Inc. Neighborhood Center of South Morrow County**

It was noted the requests remain the same as last year's.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Irrigon-Boardman Emergency Assistance Center, Inc. request and the Neighborhood Center of South Morrow County request. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Morrow County Museum**

Chair Mills provided a brief history of the museums and discussed current and future projects at both the Rural Living Museum and the Agricultural Equipment Museum and their funding sources.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Museum Budget. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Policy Discussion - Morrow County's unwillingness to backfill funding that is no longer available from State, Federal or grant sources**

Commissioner Doherty said in light of the State's unreasonable revenue and expenditure situation, the Board and staff are in the process of crafting a policy stating the Morrow County General Fund will not backfill or replace reduced or eliminated State, Federal or grant program funding. Discussion ensued. Ms. Parker expressed her surprise that more of these requests haven't been brought forward at these Budget Hearings, however, she said she it may be a different situation next year. Commissioner Russell said Morrow County would not be the first County to make such a policy. We are borrowing another County's good idea, he said.

### **Strategic Investment Program Funds**

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop outlined the funds:

- Willow Creek Wind Fees Fund remains relatively flat at \$40,000
- Echo Winds Fees Fund is budgeted at \$110,100. Ms. Knop said she is proposing a pass-through to the General Fund of \$135,100.
- Shepherds Flat Fees Fund estimated increase of about \$63,000. Ms. Knop said the following is proposed: \$213,000 to Long Term Goals; \$200,000 to Grants to Cities (formula yet to be determined); \$1,000,000 Transfer to Road; \$175,000 Transfer to Road Equipment; \$21,500 to Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) payment; \$6,000 to Miscellaneous Professional Services; \$50,154 Other Expenses
- PGE Carty Fees Fund – \$1,575,000 estimated to receive. Ms. Knop said the following is proposed: \$300,000 as a place-holder for north County capital project; \$50,000 CREA payment (based on project megawatts); \$325,411 to Long Term Goals; \$900,000 Transfer to Roads

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the SIP Funds (Willow Creek Wind Fees Fund; Echo Winds Fees Fund; Shepherds Flat Fees Fund; PGE Carty Fees Fund) with the understanding discussion will continue later in the Budget Hearing Process as to the distribution formula for the \$200,000 Grants to Cities; and that the \$325,411 proposed to Long Term Goals could be a potential funding source for programs. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Break:** 2:16 p.m.      **Resumed:** 2:40 p.m.

### **Rodeo Fund**

Judy Healy, Rodeo Board Member

Ms. Healy outlined the requested increases:

- Transfer from Video Lottery – increase by \$2,330 to bring the total to \$10,000. This would be to cover additional expenses.
- Entertainment/Clown Expense increase from about \$1,900 to \$5,500
- Increase Admin. Expenses from \$850 to \$6,000 to pay attorney and certified public account fees. The Rodeo Committee is in the process of becoming a 501(c)(3) stand-alone organization that will no longer be a County committee. Ms. Healy said after that process takes place, the new Rodeo entity would enter into an agreement to lease County property for its events.

After discussion, it was agreed the Rodeo Fund's Contingency amount of \$27,585 will be used for the \$3,600 increase for the Entertainment/Clown Expense, and the \$5,150 increase to the Admin. Expenses. Ms. Healy agreed and said \$12,000 of the \$27,585 Contingency is currently set aside for improvements.

*Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve the use of the Rodeo Fund's Contingency amount to fund \$3,600 for Entertainment/Clown Expense, and \$5,150 for Admin. Expenses. Ms. Parker seconded. Mr. Sorte asked about the \$2,330 Transfer from Video Lottery. Commissioner Doherty said this funding separation makes him more comfortable. Ms. Healy said the request is not for additional funds but for additional funds within the Rodeo Fund. She said she included that dollar amount in that figure because it increased the lines but it doesn't get in until approved, except for the \$2,300. Commissioner Lindsay said we're on the same page. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Bleacher Reserve Fund**

Ms. Healy said the Rodeo Committee received a bid from a contractor to cover the bleachers a section at a time, but nothing will happen this year.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Bleacher Reserve Fund. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Video Lottery Transfer**

*Commissioner Lindsay moved to transfer \$2,330 out of Video Lottery to the Rodeo Fund as requested. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Safety Committee Fund**

Bob Gates, Safety Committee Chair

Karen Wolff, HR Director

Mr. Gates said head lamps and ice traction cleats were recently purchased for employees in the Sheriff's Office, General Maintenance and Road Department. Puncture resistant gloves were also purchased for Sheriff's Office employees to protect them from punctures while performing searches.

Ms. Wolff said when the County's workers' compensation insurance carrier, SAIF Corporation, pays a dividend, a portion is dedicated to the Safety Committee to use for safety-related items like those mentioned by Mr. Gates. She said the Committee is requesting an increase from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Safety Committee Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*



### **Programming Reserve Fund**

Mr. Sorte said there are several reserve funds to support information service needs and he recommended the same transfer from the General Fund as last year. This will bring the balance to \$65,000 and allow the County to be better prepared for significant program requirements regarding telephone, computers or other department-specific requests.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Programming Reserve Budget. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Computer Equipment Reserve Fund**

Mr. Sorte said this fund is for such things as servers. He said he'd like to build \$15,000 each year into this fund to be available for significant computer upgrades when required.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Computer Equipment Reserve Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Computer Department**

Mr. Sorte said a goal for this fund in the near future is that it will become an internal service fund with departments paying a certain percentage.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Computer Department Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Equity Fund**

Ms. Knop explained Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation receives a fee to administer Morrow County's Equity Fund and the current balance left to loan is \$40,000-45,000.

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Morrow County Equity Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Board of Commissioners**

Mr. Sorte said one change in this budget is to Contracted Services in Materials and Services in the amount of \$10,000. The idea is to purchase NEOGOV online recruitment software to improve efficiencies in Human Resources without bringing on additional staff. He said NEOGOV is used by many other cities and counties across the State of Oregon, as well as nationwide.

Ms. Wolff discussed the advantages of NEOGOV and responded to questions about current HR processes. Discussion.

Commissioner Russell brought up the topic of Compensation for Commissioners. He proposed reducing the amount to where it stood the previous year (roughly \$39,000), plus a three percent COLA. Brief discussion.

*Commissioner Doherty moved tentative approval of the Board of Commissioners Budget with the changes noted. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Public Comment**

Cyde Estes, Heppner

Ms. Estes said the Budget Committee Members and Commissioners were doing a good job. She said she appreciated what the Commissioners just did, given what she's heard in the community. Allowing another year of experience so the Commissioners know the actual time commitment involved will go a long way in getting the public's approval, she said.

Commissioner Russell suggested he and his fellow Commissioners keep track of time spent doing Morrow County business for a few months.

**Recessed until 9:00 a.m. April 27<sup>th</sup>: 3:45 p.m.**

**Morrow County Budget Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 27, 2017**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present**

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay  
Commissioner Don Russell  
Commissioner Jim Doherty  
Larry Mills, Budget Committee  
Linda LaRue, Budget Committee  
Jill Parker, Budget Committee

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer  
Kate Knop, Finance Director  
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director  
Ronda Fox, Finance Management Assistant  
Roberta Lutchter, Executive Assistant

**Call to Order/Resumed and Pledge of Allegiance:** 9:12 a.m.

**Budget Update**

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop reviewed the changes made to the Budget based on yesterday's presentations by Departments and other entities:

- Oregon State University Extension Budget - increased by \$11,825 to match the amount they budgeted (including repair and maintenance quotes).
- Building Permit Fund – added \$30,000 to Contracts from Unappropriated Balance for contract work for the comprehensive plan and additional work mentioned by the Planning Director.
- Fair – moved \$15,515 from Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance to Contingency.
- Special Transportation Fund (The Loop) – the \$30,000 request to Contingency was not included in the budget and will be taken up later this morning (grant funding amounts decreased).
- Rodeo - \$3,600 moved from Contingency to the Entertainment Line Item; \$5,150 moved from Contingency to Admin. Expenses for attorney and certified public accountant fees; increased the Transfer from Video Lottery by \$2,330 for a total of \$10,000. Rodeo's Contingency now stands at \$21,165.
- General Fund – net total reduction of \$45,627 to Commissioner salaries (moved to Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance).
- General Fund currently stands at \$16,735,000 with an Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance of \$2,700,000, which includes a Contingency of \$300,000.

**Public Comment** – No comments

**Heppner Admin. Building Fund (Building Reserve Fund)**

Ms. Knop explained the \$394,000 annual payment for the Bartholomew Building comes from this fund. Discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Heppner Admin. Building Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval*

### **Sheriff's Office**

Sheriff Ken Matlack

Undersheriff John Bowles

Administrative Lieutenant Melissa Ross

Ms. Knop said since Tuesday's initial confusion over differing numbers, she and Undersheriff Bowles met, and updated budget worksheets have been provided.

Undersheriff Bowles reviewed multiple items in the budget request.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Sheriff's Office General Fund Budget with the correction to the Overtime Line Item of \$94,500 rather than \$109,500. Chair Mills seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Russell expressed displeasure at the request to increase overtime when the Sheriff's Office assured the Board overtime would decrease after the recently approved restructuring of that office. Discussion ensued. Based on input from the Sheriff's Office, Ms. Knop pointed out the actual figure for overtime should be \$83,500. Undersheriff Bowles then came to understand the error and said overtime would be closely monitored.*

*Ms. LaRue amended her previous motion as follows: approve the Sheriff's Office General Fund Budget with the correction to the Overtime Line Item of \$83,500 rather than \$109,500.*

*Discussion: Chair Lindsay asked Undersheriff Bowles if it turns out the restructuring doesn't result in less costly staff, is the restructuring still workable for the Sheriff's Office. He replied high overtime costs indicate there aren't enough people working, however, he said he thinks it's workable especially if he pursues grants. Commissioner Doherty asked if it will require the four new requested positions to be workable, adding management staff at the Sheriff's Office increased from six to 10, and if the four new positions are approved, that means 15 new positions since 2010. Undersheriff Bowles said it would be easier to manage overtime with more FTEs (full time equivalents), but the Sheriff's Office will have to monitor it closely. Chair Lindsay said she was concerned with the restructure request from the beginning and the additional FTE requests make it hard to support. Commissioner Russell said he is comfortable with the funding level remaining the same as last year, adding if the Sheriff "reshuffles the deck," it's not the County's fault. Unanimous approval. A few moments later, Commissioner Doherty requested to change his vote to Nay.*

### **911 Emergency Fund**

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the 911 Emergency Fund moving the \$12,000 "Transfer to General Fund – Indirect Cost" to "Contingency." Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Court Security Fund**

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Court Security Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Community Corrections**

*Ms. Parker moved tentative approval of the Community Corrections Budget with an increase to the Jail Room & Board Line Item of \$14,915 and a corresponding reduction to Contingency by the same amount. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Emergency Management**

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the General Fund - Emergency Management Fund with the following change: reduce the \$17,000 requested amount in Kinzua Building Lease to \$12,000 and move that \$5,000 to Repair & Maintenance. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Juvenile Department**

Tom Meier, Juvenile Department Director

In reviewing his Department's Budget, Mr. Meier noted the fee to house juveniles at the Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility (NORCOR) in The Dalles will increase from \$165 per day to \$180 per day effective July 1. Brief discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved tentative approval of the Juvenile Department Budget. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Break:** 11:07 a.m.                      **Resumed:** 11:23 a.m.

### **Forest Service Fund**

Ms. Knop said there are no major changes to this fund which involves cooperative services between the U.S. Forest Service and law enforcement on special projects and search and rescues.

*Commissioner Lindsay moved tentative approval of the Forest Service Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **General Fund - Transfer to Other Funds**

Ms. Knop said the current balance for these requests is \$974,000, which includes the Computer Reserve, Program Reserve, \$500,000 for the Road Fund, and \$394,000 for the Heppner Admin. Building Fund (Building Reserve Fund).

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the Transfer to Other Funds. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **General Fund - Non-Departmental Revenues**

Following Ms. Knop's review, it was decided several line items could be re-categorized.

### **General Fund – Non-Departmental Expenditures**

Mr. Sorte said these line items provide services for multiple departments, for example the annual financial audit, telephone expenses, office supplies, copier expenses, and insurance deductibles. He pointed out a new line item, Green Energy - \$66,000, and explained it's the estimated amount the County will need to put toward solar panels on a future capital project. Continuing, he said when the Bartholomew Building was constructed, that green energy requirement was deferred to a future project.

Mr. Sorte also discussed the increase in Operating Contingency from \$60,000 to \$300,000. He said it will allow some flexibility if the Board and Committee decide against a Decision Package request, for instance an FTE request, but determine it could be reconsidered at some point during the budget year, then a certain amount could be put in Non-Departmental dedicated to FTE discussions, without making a specific allocation at this time. Another example where Operating Contingency could come into play would be if the Board makes a policy level decision about the contribution to retirement accounts. He said the current retirement contribution is 24.8% plus an employee contribution of six percent. Commissioner Lindsay said the retirement account is not being fully funded and needs analysis. Discussion.

*Ms. LaRue moved tentative approval of the General Fund – Non-Department Revenues and Expenditures. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Miscellaneous Issues and Decision Package Requests**

Ms. LaRue said the County's roads have deteriorated and while she could be sympathetic to every request, she felt the roads were in dire need. However, she said she preferred to contract out some road work rather than increase staffing in that department. She said this is being done with the idea the Committee isn't "flipping everything to roads from here forward."

Chair Mills said he believed they were all on the same page and it was his goal to put as much money as possible in the Road Department. Discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve allocating \$375,565 from Strategic Investment Program (SIP) Funds to the Road Fund. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Mr. Sorte informed the group there is \$213,300 in the Shepherds Flat Fees Fund, Long Term Goals Line Item.

*Ms. LaRue moved to approve allocating \$213,300 from Shepherds Flat Fees, Long Term Goals to the Road Fund. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Public Health Department FTE Request**

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Public Health Department request to increase the Registered Nurse position by 0.20 FTE (\$34,000 including benefits). Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval. (Later in the meeting Ms. Knop noted the actual amount will be \$11,635.)*

### Green Energy Budgeted Amount

Commissioner Lindsay said since the County won't be constructing a new building in the next 12 months, she preferred to move that amount to another year.

*Chair Lindsay moved to shift the \$66,000 budgeted in the Green Energy Line Item to the Ending Fund Balance, with the knowledge it will have to be dealt with in the future. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Gilliam-Bisbee Building Maintenance or Demolition

Ms. Knop said there are three Decision Package requests in Non-Departmental, one regarding the Gilliam-Bisbee Building and the costs associated with retaining or demolishing it (\$250,000). According to the request, the County offices once housed there have moved to the Bartholomew Building, but the County does still lease a few spaces in the G-B Building.

Public Works Director Burke O'Brien outlined some of the costs if the County opts to retain the building and said it would exceed well over \$100,000 for just a few of the problems.

Commissioner Russell discussed the interest of the Howard & Beth Bryant Foundation in turning it into an event and lodging facility, and that the County would donate it for such a purpose.

Commissioner Lindsay proposed taking the next 12 months to pursue either the Bryant Foundation option or attempting to sell it to another party. If there are no results after that time, then she said the \$250,000 amount can be addressed.

### Public Works Building Addition

Mr. Sorte said the request is for \$200,000 but that might be somewhat high. Mr. O'Brien said it would likely be closer to \$125,000 to add a conference room, two offices, a breakroom and a bathroom to the existing Public Works Office Building in Lexington.

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve \$150,000 for the Public Works Building Addition. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Public Works Sander Building

*Commissioner Lindsay moved to postpone the \$300,000 request for a Sander/Equipment Storage Building at the Lexington Yard to next year. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Replace Airport Above-Ground Fuel Tanks

*Commissioner Russell moved to not approve the request to replace the above-ground fuel tanks at the Airport. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Sheriff's Office Requests for In-Vehicle Computers and Accessories

*Ms. Parker moved to approve a \$25,000 maximum expenditure using the Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance for the Sheriff's Office in-vehicle computers, security systems, and mounts. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Community Corrections Program (Parole and Probation) Vehicle Request

Ms. Parker said information was lacking concerning the mileage and year of the vehicle currently used and suggested this request be considered at another time. She also said the only FTE request she would consider funding would be the half-time School Resource Officer (SRO) in conjunction with the school districts. She said the Sheriff's Office has been supported by this Committee in the past regarding position requests, but the County still does not have 24-hour coverage and some schools zones are not being patrolled. Commissioner Lindsay said the Sheriff's Office has seen an increase every year since 2012.

*Ms. Parker moved to not approve the Community Corrections/Parole and Probation vehicle request this year. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Sheriff's Office FTE Requests – Criminal Deputy, Patrol Deputy, Traffic Safety/Enforcement Deputy, School Resource Deputy

Chair Mills said he agreed with Ms. Parker's earlier comment about that the only request he could support would be the SRO position since the school districts will fund about half. Discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved the following if the County decides to approve the School Resource Deputy position at a later date after additional discussions with the Sheriff's Office: move \$30,000 for the School Resource Deputy vehicle to Contingency, as well as \$35,000 for the County's portion of that position, making it a total of \$65,000 to Contingency. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

*Commissioner Doherty moved to not approve the Sheriff's Office Criminal Deputy, Patrol Deputy and Traffic Safety/Enforcement Deputy FTE requests. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### The Loop – Morrow County Transportation Fund Request

Ms. Knop said the request is to have \$30,000 available as Contingency since that office will receive reduced grant funding and could run out of funds in Personnel.

The Loop Coordinator, Anita Pranger said this would make sure the program can continue growing as it has been.

Chair Mills said the County has a large Contingency in the General Fund if The Loop runs into trouble there is the ability for the Commissioners to handle it.

*Commissioner Lindsay moved to not approve the \$30,000 Contingency request for the Special Transportation Fund with the understanding there are other options. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Repair & Maintenance



Mr. Sorte said one vehicle is under the General Fund, Non-Departmental. Ms. Knop said two requests were received, Planning Department and Veterans Services Office. Chair Mills said the Veterans Services Office also requested extra help for filing. Ms. Knop said the request is at \$12,000 but she listed \$2,000 and Ms. Skendzel (Veterans Services Officer) can approach the Board if she runs into problems. Ms. Parker suggested putting it in the budget the next year if it runs out. Ms. Knop said there was a \$2,900 request under Repair & Maintenance but she listed \$2,000.

*Ms. Parker moved to not fund the Repair & Maintenance and the extra help for the Veterans Services Office. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### Justice Court Request to Increase One Staff Member's FTE

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the request to increase a staff member's FTE from 0.80 to full-time. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Aye: Chair Mills, Ms. LaRue, Ms. Parker, Commissioner Russell, Commissioner Doherty. Nay: Commissioner Lindsay. Motion carried.*

#### District Attorney Office Request to Transfer the Victim/Witness Advocate to General Fund

*Commissioner Doherty moved to not transfer the Victim/Witness Advocate position to the General Fund but instead to have the DA's Office attempt to obtain grants to fully fund the position. If that does not take place, the issue will be revisited. In addition, it will remain in the Special Revenue Fund where it is currently located (Fund 220). Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### Road Department FTE Requests – General Maintenance and Office Clerk

*Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the 0.50 FTE request in General Maintenance. Ms. LaRue seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Discussion related to the Office Clerk request emphasized that the plan is not to maintain this increased level of funding every year from here on out for the Road Department. Commissioner Doherty summed it up by saying the Committee did not express strong support or opposition for the request so it could be revisited later.

*Commissioner Doherty moved to not increase the current Office Clerk position by 0.50 FTE. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Aye: Commissioner Doherty, Commissioner Lindsay, Ms. Parker. Nay: Chair Mills, Ms. LaRue, Commissioner Russell. Motion failed.*

*Commissioner Doherty moved that the decision be set aside to revisit at a later date. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Break:** 1:15 p.m.    **Resumed:** 1:30 p.m.

#### Discussion – Amount to Transfer from SIP to the Road Department

*Chair Mills moved to transfer \$600,000 from the General Fund Ending Fund Balance to the Road Department. Commissioner Russell seconded. Extensive discussion concerning where the Budget currently stands. (No vote.)*

*Chair Mills moved to transfer \$200,000 from the Grants to Cities to the Road Department. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Public Works Sander Building**

*Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve \$300,000 for the Public Works Sander Building from the General Fund. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Budget Approval**

*Ms. LaRue moved that the Morrow County Budget Committee approves the Budget and Taxes for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year at the rate of \$4.1347 per \$1,000 of Assessed Value for Operating Purposes. Ms. Parker seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Public Comment**

Cyde Estes, Heppner

Ms. Estes commended the Budget Committee Members and Commissioners for the work put forth and thanked them for their years of service.

**Adjourned:** 2:15 p.m.