

JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, July 26, 2016

PRESENT: Catherine Roemer, Vice Chairman
Roger Morley, Commissioner
Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Meeting convened at 9:30 A.M.

BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Commissioner Roemer said the Board needed to consult its legal counsel about allowing outside boards to have offices in the Courthouse.

9:48 A.M. – Commissioner Howell was present.

DEPARTMENT HEADS—COUNTY FY 2016-17 PROPOSED BUDGET REVIEW

Present were Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle **Emerson** and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee **McKim**. Also present were Prosecutor John **Horgan** and Deputy Prosecutor Mike **Seib**; Maintenance Supervisor Brent **Culbertson**; Emergency Management Coordinator Clint **Blackwood**; Assessor Rick **Haberman**; Deputy Sheriffs George **Oppedyk** and Marisela **Ibarra**; Probation Administrator Kyle **Fisher**, and Planning and Zoning Administrator Art **Brown**.

Commissioner Howell highlighted funds included in the proposed FY 2016-17 Budget. He said it had been helpful in determining salaries when department heads had submitted salary comparisons with other counties. He told those present that the Commissioners had budgeted extra operating expenses in anticipation of maintaining a new building for the jail and sheriff administration offices. Other budget items were a new courtroom requested by judges, remodeling Airport housing into a terminal, and improvements to the ambulance building.

Commissioner Roemer said she had advocated hiring a company to write job descriptions and do a market evaluation in order to evaluate employee salaries but that the Board had not supported the expenditure.

Commissioner Roemer reported the Commissioners had budgeted for three percent wage increases for elected officials and five percent increases per department at supervisor discretion. She added that unused ambulance funds had been moved into the General Justice Fund to help promote public safety. Other expenses budgeted for were \$15,000 for Quick Response Units, a part-time human resource person, another full-time janitorial/maintenance person, and an additional vehicle for employee transportation to the new jail.

Commissioner Roemer said the Board was pursuing additional security in the Courthouse because sheriff personnel would no longer be present.

Fisher recommended the County employ a person to teach de-escalation skills to employees.

Brown questioned how the emergency buttons work, followed by a short discussion.

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Seib reported the prosecutor's office would be able to cooperate with other offices for transportation to the new criminal justice facility.

Emerson said the new budget would allow a \$3,000 donation to the newly formed Northside Military Museum.

Deputy Ibarra reported 53 prisoners currently incarcerated in the new jail.

ADOPT TENTATIVE COUNTY AND AMBULANCE DISTRICT BUDGETS

Present were Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle **Emerson** and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee **McKim**. Also present were Prosecutor John **Horgan** and Deputy Prosecutor Mike **Seib**; Maintenance Supervisor Brent **Culbertson**; Emergency Management Coordinator Clint **Blackwood**; Assessor Rick **Haberman**; Deputy Sheriffs George **Oppedyk** and Marisela **Ibarra**; Probation Administrator Kyle **Fisher**, and Planning and Zoning Administrator Art **Brown**.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to approve the tentative FY 2016-17 County budget. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Morley to approve the ambulance budget as written. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Attorney Mike Seib was present.

Commissioner Roemer questioned Seib about allowing outside groups access to the Courthouse after hours. Seib advised the Commissioners could decide what to allow, but he said the County would need to charge at least \$1 a year for office space to anyone who was not a County employee.

Commissioner Howell pointed out that one entity that requested a meeting room was a club, while the other was a taxing district.

PUBLIC HEARING—SUNRISE DAIRY EXPANSION (recorded)

Planning and Zoning Administrator Art Brown, Administrative Assistant Stephanie Aslett, and Attorney Mike Seib were present. Also present was Matt Thompson, representing the applicant, and John Reitsma, applicant.

No one from the public was present.

The deputy clerk swore in those who were to testify.

APPLICANT

Thompson presented an application from John Reitsma to expand the Sunrise Dairy #2 near Hazelton. He explained the proposed expansion on a large map, saying the applicant did not want to increase his number of animal units but rather build another barn and move animals. He

said the new application was necessary because of the new structures and a composting yard and calf raising not included in the original site plan.

Thompson reviewed how the applicant would meet the seven conditions recommended to accompany approval of the expansion by the Planning and Zoning Commission, which had also recommended a waiver of the berm and windbreak requirement.

Commissioner Howell questioned the dairy's plan to control weeds because it was now qualifying as an organic dairy. Thompson said tillage was the most prevalent practice.

STAFF REPORT

Brown requested an additional requirement if the Board approved the application. He wanted in writing that approval of the permit would not be a permit for construction; the applicant shall obtain permits for all structures from the P&Z Office prior to construction. He presented 36 exhibits as part of the application.

Brown said no negative comments had been received from residents within a mile of the proposed expansion.

OPPOSITION

No opposition to the application was expressed.

NEUTRAL

No one testified as neutral to the application.

REBUTTAL

Thompson asked the Board to rethink the 1-400 map scale requirement because it was tedious to use.

Commissioner Howell closed the public hearing.

COMMISSIONER DISCUSSION

Commissioner Morley said every concern had been addressed and that he was in favor of the waiver and approval of the application. Commissioner Howell agreed but said the applicant would have to obtain building permits. Commissioner Roemer concurred with the staff report and the recommendations from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Commissioner Howell recessed the discussion, pending signatures on a written decision.

Meeting adjourned at 11:43 A.M.

Respectively submitted:

Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Charles M. Howell, Chairman

Catherine M. Roemer, Commissioner

Roger M. Morley, Commissioner