

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF BLAINE COUNTY  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JULY 2013 SESSION  
BLAINE COUNTY FISCAL YEAR TENTATIVE 2014 BUDGET MEETING  
SET TENTATIVE FY2014 BUDGET**

**Third Day**

**Wednesday, July 10, 2013**

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Lawrence Schoen, Vice-Chairman Angenie McCleary, Commissioner Jacob Greenberg; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Clerk JoLynn Drage; Blaine County Human Resources Generalist Susan Potucek; Operations Director Char Nelson; Chief Deputy Assessor Martha Heuston; County GIS Program Manager Joel Hall; Chief Deputy Sheriff Ed Fuller; County Prosecutor Jim Thomas; County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; County Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers; County Chief Probation Officer Teresa Espedal; County Assessor Valdi Pace; Recording Secretary Sunny Grant; and *Mountain Express* reporter Greg Moore.

Chairman Schoen called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

**BLAINE COUNTY FISCAL YEAR TENTATIVE 2014 BUDGET – PUBLIC MEETING**

Also present: Blaine County Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers and Chief Deputy Sheriff Ed Fuller.

FY2014 Tentative Budget is based on the following:

- Receiving 100% Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding.
- Once the tentative budget is set, the total budget can only go down. It cannot increase.
- The BCC has chosen to budget all money available from increased property taxes, including new construction.
- Employee Healthcare hasn't been resolved and the actual expense is unknown at this time.
- Blaine County pays workmen's compensation on the Fair Board. Last year's payment was out of the Commissioners' budget; this year is out of the Fair budget.

**Tax Supported Funds**

The BCC discussed the Clerk's worksheet on Tax Supported Funds—Includes New Construction and 3%. Tax Supported Revenues are broken out by fund. The report shows the departments' total request, revenue and expenses, and cash or levy necessary to support the department's request.

**Budget Assumptions and Questions – FY2014 Tentative Budget**

Also present: Blaine County Human Resources Generalist Susan Potucek.

- Annual Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding is uncertain.
- Ketchum Police will have equal Revenue and Expenses when budget is complete. Staff will review administrative expenses, including hidden costs of other County departments, in the coming year.
- Blaine County will continue with 4/10 Service Model through FY2014. This affects cost of utilities.
- Benefits amounts are based on current family status. The budget assumes any new employees filling vacant positions will have a family plan.

**Questions from the Clerk's List:**

The BCC approved most requests. The BCC discussed the following questions from the County Clerk's List:

1. Employee Health Insurance. Potucek is doing a survey of employees' preferences. The BCC would like to preserve healthcare benefits as much as possible, but within a tight budget and as part of a total compensation package based on performance management. Greenberg said efforts to keep dependents' coverage low could be unfair to employees without dependents on their plan.
  - All step increases are included in the base in each departmental budget.
2. BCC agreed that the advance to Croy Canyon Ranch Foundation should not be included in revenue projections.
3. Elected Official have been placed in the Kinds & Levels chart. Merit pool, market adjustments and potential job description corrections are included in the HR budget. Step increases are included in the Department budget.
  - BCC supported adjusting the Coroner's salary.
  - Schoen doesn't think Commissioners should be in the Kinds & Levels chart because the position is unique and it increases their salary more than he thinks is appropriate. Greenberg felt Commissioners and all elected officials should be paid at least the minimal salary of their market rate level on the Kinds & Levels chart. Commissioners work at least full time and must make informed and sometimes difficult decisions. McCleary feels Commissioners and all elected officials should be compensated fairly and fully, and should remain on the Kinds & Levels chart.
4. BCC will wait to approve a new scanner for the Clerk/Auditor.
6. BCC supports an additional "cost of doing business" and a temporary part-time person for the Treasurer.
14. BCC doesn't support a new Prosecutor Investigator position at this time.

- 17. Blaine County Prosecutor Jim Thomas said to remove the request for software at this time.
- 20. BCC did not support a new copier for Buildings and Grounds. Operations can continue to use the Commissioners' copier.
- 23. Repairs and maintenance to the Carey shop are approved but should be moved to Capital Improvements.
- 35-36. Greenberg will ask the Extension office for more information on their request for supplies/ equipment and printing.
- 38. Drage thought the University of Idaho should reimburse Blaine County for two employee vacancies in 2012.
- 57. Additional Jail Central Control position – The Jail needs an extra deputy to fulfill Idaho Cities Risk Management Program (ICRMP) standards. The majority of BCC hesitated to fund the new position, but will wait to make a final decision.
- 61. GIS Survey Control Network provides positional accuracy. This annual expense was put on hold during the recession, but should be reinstated as new development and housing bounce back. The BCC will wait until more development and home sales actually happen.
- 46. Consolidated Elections funding is adequate to cover local elections, but the County has to fund state-level elections and advertising expenses for them.
- 49. Land Use and Operations are primary users of the County Engineer. Land Use is reimbursed for much of the engineer's time. Road and Bridge could use additional engineer time to assist in decision-making and drafting new road standards.
- 50. The Clerk will review interoperability annual expense for radios used by Dispatch, Sheriff and Road and Bridge with Dispatch and bring back to BCC.
- 51. The BCC will support outside agencies at their existing level, except Fly Sun Valley Alliance. BCC will discuss Mountain Rides later.

**BREAK**

- 63. Road and Bridge equipment is aging, which requires in-shop maintenance to keep it operational. An in-shop mechanic would be more efficient use of the money. The BCC agreed to restore the position and include it in the Road and Bridge funding package.
- 92c. Prosecuting Attorney Remodel — Remodel is probably a good idea, but BCC wants more details and consideration of best use of the area.

**Dedicated Funds**

- Consolidated Emergency Communications is already in the red with new funding model, contingent on benefits.
- The BCC discussed the potential for a fuel station. Greenberg will work with the sheriff to determine actual savings and who would partner in the project.
- The BCC discussed security improvements for the Annex and Judicial Building, including a full-time Court Security Officer.

25-26-27. The County's healthcare consultant Western Benefits Solutions challenged Blue Cross's large FY2014 annual premium increase. Blue Cross subsequently dropped their increase from 15.89% to 10.78%. Using the revised healthcare premium, the BCC discussed HR's proposed solutions.

The BCC supports a 1% merit increase, a 1% market adjustment for employees and elected officials, and reclassification for pay grade adjustments.

39-45. The BCC supports IT requests at this time, subject to getting revised budget figures.

57 and 72. BCC agreed to fund the Jail Central Control position and Court Security position at this time, subject to getting revised budget figures.

**ADJOURN**

At the hour of 4:04 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
                     JoLynn Drage  Lawrence Schoen  
                     County Clerk  Chairman