

**MINUTES FOR THE
JACKSON COUNTY BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**

April 5, 2022

The Jackson County Budget Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Craig Morris at 1:30 p.m. in the Jackson County Courthouse Auditorium and by audio/videoconference. Roll call was taken.

Present: Craig Morris, Chair; April Sevcik, Budget Committee Member; John Rachor, Budget Committee Member; Rick Dyer, Commissioner; Dave Dotterer, Commissioner; and Colleen Roberts, Commissioner

Staff: Danny Jordan, County Administrator; Harvey Bragg, Senior Deputy County Administrator; Traci Carrier, Budget Analyst; and Alycia Hartley, Recording Secretary

Members of the Public and Press

Election of Presiding Officer

Mrs. Sevcik made a motion to nominate Mr. Morris as the Chair and Presiding Officer of the Budget Committee. Mr. Rachor seconded the motion. Those who voted aye: Mrs. Sevcik, Mr. Rachor, Commissioner Dotterer, Commissioner Roberts, Commissioner Dyer, and Chair Morris. Motion passed.

Approval of Budget Committee Minutes

Commissioner Dyer made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Dotterer seconded the motion.

Mr. Rachor noted that the minutes should be for November 18, 2021, not November 19, 2021, as stated on the agenda.

Commissioner Dyer amended his motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2021. Commissioner Dotterer seconded the amended motion. Those who voted aye: Commissioner Dyer, Commissioner Dotterer, Mrs. Sevcik, Mr. Rachor, Commissioner Roberts, and Chair Morris. Motion passed.

Presentation of Budget Message

Mr. Jordan explained the budget process for the benefit of the public, beginning with the process of planning in November of the prior year. In March, the County Administrator reviews each budget with the Department Directors; these meetings are open to the public and the Budget

Committee is invited for observation, but there are no deliberations. He stated that the budget message is delivered a week prior to the hearings so that the public has the opportunity to review and formulate comments. He read the entire budget message into the record and explained that more specific detail will be provided during the budget hearings. Mr. Jordan provided detailed information about significant impacts from, and how the County has responded to, the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 wildfires, ongoing and worsening drought, and the cannabis industry.

In preparing for the year ahead, the total recommended Jackson County budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 is \$573,824,327. The adopted budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 totaled \$474,025,874, and the recommended budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 continues the principles adopted in fiscal year 2021-2022. Mr. Jordan highlighted several key changes in the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023, including funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, capital projects at the Airport and in the Roads and Parks Department, and an increase of 47.60 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. He spoke about long-term financial matters that impact the budget, such as Oregon and California Lands (O&C) payments which were last received during fiscal year 1991-1992. Although the Federal government provided funding through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (SRS), those SRS revenue guarantees are sporadic and the amounts are unknown. Mr. Jordan reviewed various County facility needs and explained that, as sufficient non-operating funds become available, the County intends to address those needs for improvements. Additionally, he reviewed significant Department and fund highlights for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Mr. Jordan then reviewed the budgeting process, beginning by explaining each of the Budget Committee meetings held to date. He announced the dates for the upcoming budget hearings and informed the public of the scheduled opportunities for public input. All meetings are open to the public, and the Elected Officials' Salary Committee will meet April 12, 2022, at noon. A report will then be presented from the Elected Officials' Salary Committee for action from the Budget Committee on April 14, 2022. The Board of Commissioners' public hearing for adoption of the budget will be held in June.

Chair Morris thanked Mr. Jordan, and the County Administrator's Office, for the changes in the budget narratives as they are much improved and more readable. He asked Mr. Jordan to clarify, with regard to the increase in FTEs, that most of those positions are funded by sources other than the General Fund. Mr. Jordan explained that, yes, the majority are funded by non-General Fund revenue sources.

Budget Overview Presentation

Mr. Jordan presented the Budget Overview (*Submission No. 1*), including a video regarding the County's Independent Financial Report by MossAdams, LLC. He explained operating, non-operating, dedicated, and non-dedicated revenue sources, and the percentage of each in the recommended budget. He explained that nearly 80 percent of discretionary spending is spent on public safety. He then reviewed the discretionary spending for each of the other departments. The General Fund Reserves are approximately \$86,085,737 in the recommended budget, with the total Reserves, Contingency, and Ending Fund Balance at approximately \$107,629,274. He explained that many local governments have to borrow money to operate each year and the Reserves make that unnecessary for the County, and also saves the taxpayers money. He reviewed expenditures by category compared with fiscal year 2021-2022.

Mr. Rachor asked if the budget presentation and document are available for the public. Mr. Jordan explained that the budget document will be posted to the County's website, and the presentation may be requested through a Public Records Request.

Chair Morris announced that the department budget hearings would begin on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. in Courthouse Auditorium and by audio/videoconference.

There being no further business, Chair Morris adjourned the Budget Committee meeting at 2:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Craig Morris
Craig Morris, Presiding Officer/Chair

/s/ Alycia Hartley
Alycia Hartley, Recording Secretary

Approved on: 11/28/2022