

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF BLAINE COUNTY  
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF THE JULY 2019 SESSION**

**Fifth Day**

**Thursday, July 11, 2019**

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Jacob Greenberg; Vice Chair Angenie McCleary, and Commissioner Dick Fosbury; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Clerk JoLynn Drage; Chief Deputy Clerk Leslie Londos; Blaine County Administrative Services Manager Mandy Pomeroy; Blaine County Assessor Jim Williams; Chief Deputy Assessor Melissa Fry; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant. County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson; County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; Chief Deputy Sheriff Will Fruehling; County Facilities Manager Patrick Boyle; County Chief Public Defender Justin McCarthy; and Sarah Michael were present for much of the day.

Chairman Greenberg called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- ARCH Community Housing Trust is requesting \$500,000 in support of housing on the former Blaine Manor site, which the County has made available for development of affordable housing. Griffith explained revised plans are now for the entire lot and two buildings, one for senior housing and the other for family housing. The senior building will be all affordable units with one free manager unit; the family building will have three market rate units in order to take advantage of the point system, and a discounted manager unit. \$300,000 of ARCH's request is for the senior building.
- Sarah Michael supported ARCH's request for funding. She also supported a Housing Trust fund for future projects.
- Michael agreed with the proposed FY2020 cost of living increases, as proposed; but suggested the County look into one-time bonuses instead of merit increases that go into employees' basic salaries and become an ongoing expense.

**FY2020 TENTATIVE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS** - Budget Officer JoLynn Drage

- Drage reminded the BCC that the County has to have adequate Reserve funds at the beginning of each Fiscal Year to cover first quarter expenses before property tax revenue is available in January.
- The Tax-Supported Revenue of \$7,303,000 includes receiving anticipated Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds.
- The Contingency line item covers potential expenses for a wildfire, complex court case, etc., should they occur.
- Mandy Pomeroy said the County expects to get an Emergency Relief Funding reimbursement of over \$1 million in the next few months to cover six flooding projects, four of which are complete.
- Drage said the current ongoing annual expense created by a 1% merit salary increase is a little over \$100,000.

The BCC reviewed and made initial comments and preliminary decisions on County departments' new requests and possible reductions.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Sarah Michael questioned why there was \$18 million in last year's General Fund, and only \$7 million this year.  
*Chairman Greenberg said one revenue line item on the spreadsheet was property tax and the other revenue line item was other sources of revenue, for a total of over \$15 million.*
- Michael asked the BCC to reconsider reducing the proposed 40% reserve—15% plus 25% reserve for first quarter expenses.
- Michael asked the BCC to consider moving all employees to a 40-hour work week, and hiring all new employees at a 40-hour work week, to alleviate the need to add new employees.

**BREAK**

**FY2020 TENTATIVE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**, CONTINUED - Budget Officer JoLynn Drage

The BCC continued to review and make initial comments and preliminary decisions on County departments' new requests and possible reductions.

The BCC reviewed the Budget Officer's Assumptions.

**ADJOURN**

At the hour of 5:11 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
JoLynn Drage County Clerk Jacob Greenberg Chairman