

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

Sixth Day

Thursday, July 18, 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; County Administrative Services Manager Mandy Pomeroy; County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson; County Assessor Jim Williams; Chief Deputy Assessor Melissa Fry; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Commissioner Fosbury was absent until 9:20 a.m.

Chairman Greenberg called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

Public Comment:

- Sarah Michael expressed concern about the newspaper headline stating the County was \$2 million short of revenues to meet its FY2020 budget.
- Sun Valley Economic Development Outreach Director David Patrie said economic development is a necessary government function. SVED provides a full-time outreach employee at one-third what it would cost the County; and helps businesses throughout Blaine County to develop and grow.

FY2020 TENTATIVE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS, CONTINUED

Budget Officer - JoLynn Drage

Commissioner Fosbury arrived at 9:20 am.

Drage compared what the County had spent from the General Fund with what was spent overall in the last three years, which indicated the BCC had increased what they were using from Reserve funds. She encouraged the BCC to not dip into the 15% Reserve.

- The BCC discussed available reserve funds and what should actually be budgeted for the Reserve account. Budget Officer Drage strongly encouraged the BCC to maintain at least 15% reserve funds.
- Drage said the BCC cannot build a Reserve if it continues to draw it down.
- The BCC discussed future possible budget draws and actual FY2019 draws, including Road and Bridge had to spend extra money removing several avalanches on Warm Springs Road; and the County had to remodel the Judicial Building to keep it safe and secure after deferred capital expenses the last few years.

The BCC reviewed and made final decisions on most of their earlier budget deliberations and assumptions.

Public Comment:

- Sarah Michael questioned the County's Reserves budget for the past several years. She said the Clerk is always worried about using reserve funds; but end-of-year budgets always show over a million dollars in Reserve. She said the County can't budget for really good programs if it is told it has a \$2 million deficit; and requested another budget hearing with real numbers.
- Kiki Tidwell said it is fiscally irresponsible for the BCC to not sell the former Blaine Manor property, which is prime real estate, and spend the money on more housing units at a different location.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 11:44 a.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
JoLynn Drage County Clerk Jacob Greenberg Chairman