

Budget Update

June 27, 2023

2:38 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Interim County Manager Steve Wohld, Becky Butler, Nic Scott

Guest(s): None

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Public comment: None.

Broadband project update: Becky Butler said Dale Merten and Larry Boehm will provide a broadband update July 11. She provided other updates as follows:

- Resident engineer continued staking and design work.
- Pre bid planned for late July with contract and permitting in August/September.
- Project resources are being added on the ToledoTel side.
- Billing and contract review and process is ongoing.
- US Treasury has issued new guidance for Broadband projects and WSBO is updating guidance.
- Becky said she will review Treasury's new guidance with the PA and ToledoTel to determine whether contract amendments are needed.

Current year budget review and 2024 budget planning: Becky said Rudy Rodriguez has completed the initial reconciliation of FTEs for the county and that she is doing the second review. She said Rudy has done amazing work in the short time he has been with the county.

Becky provide additional updates as follows:

- Working with the Sheriff's Office's accounting staff on salary and benefit calculations for 2024.
- Working with the Sheriff's Office regarding its Registered Sex Offender AV (RSOA) fund balance. The Sheriff's Office was directed in 2015 to use the RSOA funds for the support tech and the detective positions doing the work for RSOAV. The fund balance has been used and annual revenue will cover the Support Tech position, but the detective position would need to be covered by the General Fund.
- Finalizing the review of estimated budget and working on the draft call letter to review with the BOCC on July 11.
- Reviewing revenue estimates provided by the Treasurer for 2023 YE and 2024 projections.
- Internal Services rates are due back July 10, and departments will meet with the BOCC on July 25 to review changes in proposed rates.
- Becky said she and Rudy are assisting departments as needed with rates, noting that they are attempting to avoid the deadline challenges associated with staffing levels.

- Working with OpenGov to set up the 2024 working budget June 29. OpenGov has added several new tools that will make the user experience better and easier to use.

Opioid settlement funding: Becky provided the following updates:

- Funds have been moved to Fund 1100 Mental Health Tax for management.
- We are waiting to hear back from David and outside attorney on next steps with OAC and the next settlement.
- Process has been outlined for management.
- Policy on use of funds and future planning still needs to be worked out.
- Narcan purchase will go forward once staff hears back from the PA's Office on use of funds.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) updates and reporting: The group discussed moving funds to cover post-retirement benefits in the LEOFF 1 account. Becky provided the following updates:

- ARPA is on the State Auditor's Office's list of planned audits along with ERAP and FEMA.
- Staff is working closely with Grace and her team.
- ARPA creates lots of challenges as the guidance has continued to change but the county has lots of internal controls in place.
- Next report will be due at the end of July.
- Budget Office will continue to remind departments the increased responsibility with federal funds.
- Budget will plan an ARPA project update during the next ESC meeting.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to allocate the remaining balance of Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) funds to the county's LEOFF 1 fund. Commissioner Brummer seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Safety Officer position and HR/Risk reorganization: Not discussed.

Announcements: Becky said the county has received is payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) revenue. She said a budget amendment hearing is planned for July 25.

New business: Becky said the procurement process continues to move forward.

Becky discussed grants available for electric vehicle charging station.

Review performance of public employee: At 3:05 p.m., Commissioner Swope announced that the Board would be going into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) until 3:10 p.m. to review the performance of a public employee.

- At 3:10 p.m., Commissioner Swope extended executive session until 3:13 p.m.
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Executive session ended at 3:13 p.m. Commissioner Swope noted that no decisions had been made.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to authorize Becky Butler to enter into contract negotiations as discussed in executive session. Commissioner Brummer seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.