

Budget Update

June 25, 2024

2 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Ryan Barrett, Becky Butler

Guest(s):

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Public comment: None.

Becky Butler provided the following updates and overviews:

- **2024 year-to-date:** Revenue is not keeping pace with expenditures. Year-to-date expenditures are roughly \$1.3 million higher than the same time in 2023, while revenue is only \$607,000 higher.
- **2025 budget planning:** Commissioners will soon be asked to establish 2025 budget limitations. One option is to instruct offices and departments to absorb any increases in contracts, interfunds, etc.
- **2025 budget planning:** Volunteers are being sought for the Citizens Budget Committee.
- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):** Commissioners can consider moving excess from the 911 project (totaling \$500,000) to General Reserves as one-time funds to plug budget holes, restricting the funds as contingency funds.
- **ARPA:** State Auditor's Office has begun its audit of Lewis County's use of ARPA funding.
- **Opioid settlement funds:** County has received \$1.2 million year to date.
- **Broadband grant:** Work in the Winlock area continues.
- **Risk:** Claims Administrator Aimee Albright has announced her upcoming resignation. Risk Pool will provide onsite playground certification June 27-28.

>> **Public Defense:** Commissioner Pollock made a motion to clarify that Ordinance 1352, adopted on Jan. 2, 2024, established case weights as follows:

- Driving under the influence: Two units.
- Cases filed as domestic violence: Two units.
- All other types of cases not listed: One unit.
- Driving while license suspended or no valid operator license: One-half unit.
- Newly appointed post-conviction show cause: One-third unit.

And established unit billing breakdowns as follows:

- One unit is \$420.
- One-half unit is \$210.

- One-third of a unit is \$140.

Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Public Defense: Becky noted that the county has renewed its contract with JP Enbody and that staff has found a public defender for the Raegan case.

Meeting ended at 2:52 p.m.