

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES
OF FY 2022-2023 BUDGET MEETING
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Court met in a Budget Meeting on May 25, 2022; June 1, 2022 and June 2, 2022, starting at 1:00 p.m. in the County meeting room located at 320 NE Court Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754.

Court Members Present: Judge Seth Crawford, Commissioner Jerry Brummer and Commissioner Brian Barney

Budget Committee Members: Bobbi Brooks, Steve Forrester and Steve Markell

The meeting was **called to order May 25, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

Others Present in Person or Via WebEx: Administration Executive Assistants Amy Albert; Director Dodge Kerr; Budget Analyst Jamie Berger; Accounting Manager Christina Haron; Treasurer Galan Carter; Manager Sydney Chandler; Manager Levi Roberts; Andy Parks; Monty Kurtz; Christina Kurtz and Corey Whalen.

Steve Forrester was absent from today's meeting.

Judge Seth Crawford began the fiscal year 2022-2023 budget meeting by reading the Judge's Budget Message. Consultant Andy Parks informed the Court the budget book is a working document, not the final product.

The Budget Committee nominated Steve Forrester as budget chair.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 1:30 p.m.**

The meeting was **called to order June 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

Others Present in Person or Via WebEx: Administration Executive Assistants Amy Albert; Director Dodge Kerr; Budget Analyst Jamie Berger; Accounting Manager Christina Haron; Treasurer Galan Carter; Andy Parks and members of the public.

The meeting began with the following public comments:

Monty Kurtz spoke about the budget being late and having difficulty locating it on the County's website. He asked why previous staff from the Finance Department left, as he only knows why his wife left. Mr. Kurtz asked the budget committee not to pass the budget until it is complete and transparent.

Mike Ervin stated it is difficult to communicate with the Court.

Jack Rabenberg felt that his input has not been well received and feels the Library Board should not appoint their members, the Court should.

Dar Fishal wanted more transparent information regarding where the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Ms. Fishal asked why only County employees were receiving retention pay from the APRA funds.

Today's meeting included presentations from the following departments: Jon Soliz, Assessor's Office; Cheryl Seely, Clerk's Office; Seth Crawford, Administration; Kim Barber, Human Resources; Kari Hathorn, District Attorney; Dodge Kerr, Finance Department; Levi Roberts, GIS Department; Sydney Chandler, IT Department; Andy Parks, Juvenile Department; John Eisler, County Counsel; Bob O'Neal, Road Department; Will VanVactor, Community Development; Weed Department, Dodge Kerr and Airport, Andy Parks.

Andy Parks discussed the following budgets: General Fund; Special Transportation Budget; Video Lottery Fund; Mental Health Services; Surveyor; Taylor Grazing; Tourism Fund; Open Campus; School Fund; Title III Fund; Crooked River Watershed Fund; Capital Assets Reserve Fund; Debt Services and the Justice Center.

Budget presentations included discussion regarding staffing, department accomplishments and challenges, strategic issues, department changes, revenue, and a fund overview.

The meeting was open for public comment, none were received.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 4:40 p.m.**

The meeting was **called to order June 2, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**

Others Present in Person or Via WebEx: Administration Executive Assistants Amy Albert; Director Dodge Kerr; Budget Analyst Jamie Berger; Accounting Manager Christina Haron; Treasurer Galan Carter; Andy Parks and members of the public.

The meeting began with the following public comments:

Corey Whalen spoke about his concerns with the lack of voter turnout and difficulty locating the meeting information.

Dar Fischal stated her comments from the June 1st meeting still stand however, she does have an appreciation for the County.

Monty Kurtz wanted to know when the County was going to hire an Administrator. Mr. Forrester reminded Mr. Kurtz this is a budget meeting.

Rich Mires stated the budget did not appear transparent the way it was written.

Arlene Kurtz stated there were too many pages making the budget hard to understand.

Today's meeting included presentations from the following departments: John Gautney, Bill Elliott, Aaron Boyce, Stephanie Wilson, Mike Ryan and Andrew Rasmussen, Sheriffs Office; Katie Plumb, Health Department; Sean Kirk, Veteran Services; April Witteveen, Library; Casey Daly, Fairgrounds and Joe Viola, Maintenance Department.

Budget presentations included discussion regarding staffing, department accomplishments and challenges, strategic issues, department changes, revenue, and a fund overview.

The meeting was opened to the following public comments:

Jack Rabenberg requested budget meetings not be held during the day and not the week after Memorial Day weekend.

MOTION to approve total budget as amended; \$177,157,200 total budget, \$150,350,100 total appropriations with a contingency of \$35,979,100 and \$26,807,100 in non-budgeted reserves. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION to approve levying the County's maximum property tax rate of \$3.8702 per \$1,000 TAV. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION to approve a property tax levy, exempt from limitations, of \$571,000 to pay voter approved debt services. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION for the County to commit to the following terms: report final year-end budget numbers, provide quarterly budget actuals, conduct a budget 101 meeting, work towards continuous improvements and create a strategic plan for future forecast. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 6-0.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 4:37 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Albert