

**MINUTES
OF THE
LA PAZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JOINT MEETING WITH THE
LA PAZ COUNTY BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 30, 2018, 11:00 a.m.
Special Meeting**

Chairman Wilson called the January 30, 2018, special joint meeting of the La Paz County Board of Supervisors and the La Paz County Budget and Finance Committee to order at 11:00 a.m. Elected Officials and Department Heads presented were: Chairman Wilson, Supervisor Minor, (Supervisor Irwin had a previously scheduled appointment), County Administrator Drake; and Deputy Clerk of the Board Green. Committee members present were: Members Sexson, Denton , Schilling, Simpson, Saiter, Learn, Seechoma, Newton, and Wedemeyer.

Chairman Wilson stated, that regarding to item #5 on the agenda, the Committee could give its recommendation to the Board in writing; making it easier to submit.

Member Sexson stated that he would submit a letter.

Approve to appoint Budget and Finance Committee Chairman

MEMBER DENTON MOVED to appoint Member Sexson as Chairman to the La Paz County Budget and Finance Committee. Motion seconded by Member Simpson, passed unanimously.

Approve to appoint Budget and Finance Committee Vice-Chairman

MEMBER DENTON MOVED to appoint Member Simpson as Vice-Chairman to the La Paz County Budget and Finance Committee. Motion seconded by Member Wedemeyer, passed unanimously.

Approval of committee Minutes

MEMBER DENTON MOVED to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, January 24, 2018, 1:00 p.m. joint meeting. Motion seconded by Member Seechoma, passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action by the Budget Finance Committee related to the Committee's recommendations regarding the County's draft Fiscal Stability Plan and expenditure limitations

Chairman Wilson stated that it appeared from the last meeting that the Committee was satisfied with the discussion on the expenditure limits; however, not comfortable with the items listed in the Fiscal Stability Plan. He explained that the information on the expenditure limits was specific; however, the other plans/ideas were stated more generally.

Member Sexson expressed that more information needed to be obtained in order to address those items listed in the plan.

County Administrator Drake explained the base limit associated with expenditure limitations and its multipliers; noting that the \$3 million one-time increase request for an expenditure limitation was needed to be compliant for the upcoming FY2018/2019 budget year, necessitating that it be voted on at the May 15th special meeting. He also discussed the need for a permanent increase to be voted on at the November 2018 general election to continue the limits and accommodate future plans.

Discussion ensued with questions from the Committee as to how the County would stay abreast of needed increases over the years since there was no provision of automatic or inflationary increases allowed by statute.

County Administrator Drake answered that there were many reasons today that the County is now equipped to keep informed of the County's fiscal situation, noting that knowledgeable staff is in place; and budgetary procedures are in place, such as quarterly meetings with department heads on their budgets to oversee and avoid overspending.

He added the Public Hearing the Board of Supervisors conducted at their January 29, 2018, special meeting, brought out the substantial decreases in the County's expenses.

Supervisor Minor added the Board does not have to wait until an audit is complete to find out where the County is fiscally; it is able to see this easily during budget considerations.

Chairman Wilson stated that there were three pieces to expenditure limitation "forecasting". He stated that audits; periodic reviews of the budget; and an awareness of the budget while looking forward at least a few years, were necessary to keep abreast of the compliance with statutory limitations.

County Administrator Drake expressed that he felt the Board of Supervisors were confident with what he and the new Finance Director were doing.

Discussion ensued at length regarding the fiscal condition of the County in recent months; the changes made; and the need to communicate to the public the County's efforts at accountability and transparency related to the issue of expenditure limitations, as well as educating the public on these issues.

Further discussion ensued on a suggested correction of a draft letter of recommendation to the Board of Supervisors by the Committee; and ideas on how former members can choose to act individually in advocating the direction they have recommended to the County after the Committee has been disbanded.

La Paz County Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, May 30, 2017, 10:00 a.m. Special Meeting

MEMBER LEARN MOVED to approve correction of the draft letter of recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, as presented. Motion seconded by Member Denton, passed unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

APPROVED:

/s/
D. L. Wilson, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
Diane Green, Deputy Clerk of the Board