

MINUTES
OF
LA PAZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Monday, May 2, 2016, 1:00 p.m.
Worksession

Chairman Irwin called the May 2, 2016, worksession of the La Paz County Board of Supervisors to order at 1:00 p.m. Elected Officials and Department Heads present were: Chairman Irwin, Supervisor Wilson, Supervisor Clapperton, County Administrator/Clerk of the Board Field, Community Development Administrator Yackley, Parks Director Prefling, Assessor Schuler, Emergency Services Director Biro, Finance Director Mancuso, Animal Control Director Ramos, Community Resources Manager MacFarland, Career Center Director Miller, Elections Director Scholl, Treasurer Castro, School Superintendent Price, Health Director Shontz, Judge Weis; and Deputy Clerk of the Board Green.

Discussion of La Paz County Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget

County Administrator Field stated that the purpose of the worksession was to give an overview of the current budget and set a budget calendar.

He stated that the mission of each department was to provide an adequate level of service to ensure “health, safety and welfare of its residents”. He added that there will be three areas of review of the County’s budget as follows: the overall structural condition of the county; the day to day operational budget; and the status of cash flow to make the payment of accounts receivable and payroll in a timely manner.

He gave a history of the budget since the County’s inception, noting that since only 5.2% of the land is privately owned, it has historically been “burdened with financial limitations and lack of surplus funds”.

He discussed at great length events and circumstances that plagued the county over the years, and the action by the Board in current years to soften those effects for the taxpayer as well as county employees.

County Administrator Field stated that with the continued State cost shifts that impact the county, the increased costs of health care and retirement contributions; there has been no growth; and asked department heads to budget accordingly.

He stated that the department heads will be getting a tentative schedule; and the following Monday, on May 9, there will be a budget orientation in which they will be given an excel spreadsheet to input budget numbers, requesting that care be given to indicate accurate personnel costs.

He discussed in further detail how the departments would handle certain elements of the budget process.

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County Administrator mentioned plans for the new fiscal year, including efforts to seek formation of nonprofit status for the Golf Course, and updating county records retention and disposal.

Chairman Irwin stated in attending Small Counties meetings she learned that other counties were experiencing much of the same problems.

Supervisor Clapperton asked that County Administrator Field expound on the state's shifting of funds such as from Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF).

County Administrator Field reiterated the issues involved with the shift of HURF funds.

He expressed appreciation at the efforts of employees at providing the many needed services at the level the County does.

As there was no further business to discuss, Chairman Irwin adjourned the worksession at 1:52 p.m.

APPROVED:

Holly Irwin, Chairman

ATTEST:

Dan Field, Clerk of the Board