

The Board of County Commissioners, in and for the County of Otero, State of New Mexico, met in a Special Budget Work Session at the Otero County Courthouse in Alamogordo, County and State aforesaid. Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 8:30 a.m., April 26, 1999; and he announced that reasonable notice for this meeting was given to the Alamogordo Daily News, Mountain Monthly, and to Radio Stations, KPSA, KINN and KYEE.

Present:

Richard Zierlein	Vice-Chairman
Tim McGinn	Member
Ruth Hooser	County Manager
Virginia Fletcher	Assistant County Administrator
Kim Chavez	Deputy Clerk

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- I. The Board discussed the following budgets for the 1999/2000 budget year:
 - A) P.I.L.T. - Commissioner Zierlein instructed staff to lower P.I.L.T to \$900,000.
 - B) Interest On Investments - Commissioner Zierlein asked that this be lowered to \$200,000.00.
 - C) Commission - Mrs. Hooser asked the Commission if she would be allowed to put all the County phone bills under one bill? Commissioner McGinn stated that would be okay. The Commission suggested to put \$100,000.00 in the Commission budget for telephone.
 - D) Administration - Commissioner Zierlein stated that the one additional

person that is being requested will save the County a lot of time and money. Mrs. Hooser stated that the Capital outlay requested is for two file cabinets, a computer and a printer.

E) Data Processing - Commissioner Zierlein asked why the maintenance contracts have increased so much? Mrs. Hooser informed him that it is because of the new imaging system in the Clerk's office. Commissioner Zierlein asked that the mileage line item be lowered to \$1000.00. Commissioner Zierlein asked that the supplies be lowered to \$15,000.00. The only other thing Data Processing has gone up in is the Capital Outlay. Commissioner Zierlein asked Ray Backstrom, Data Processing Manager if the software requested in the Capital Outlay line item could be purchased over a three year time period? Mr. Backstrom feels that if the County chooses it could probably go to a five year purchase plan. Commissioner Zierlein stated he would not want to go any more than three years so that it would not tie up another Commission. The Board directed Mr. Backstrom to check into the three year purchase plan.

F) Purchasing - Commissioner Zierlein asked why the Printing & Publishing Line item is at \$6,697.00 for last year and for this year they have requested \$7,000.00 and they have only used \$1,885.00. Mrs. Hooser informed the Commission that she has to publish everything that goes out for bid and the costs go up and down from year to year. Commissioner Zierlein asked the printing and publishing be lowered to \$6,000.00 and equipment rental down to \$4,000.00.

G) Building & Grounds - The Building & Grounds Department is requesting two additional full time positions and four part time positions. Commissioner Zierlein stated the part time is to help with remodeling. Mrs. Hooser stated that she has complaint after complaint because County offices are not cleaned and the reason is that Tony never has enough help

because the Commission is always pulling Tony's workers off their normal jobs to do other jobs. Commissioner Zierlein asked that the maintenance contracts be lowered to \$3,000.00 and equipment rental be lowered to \$3,000.00. Commissioner Zierlein requested the Heating/Gas line item be lowered to \$15,000.00. Commissioner Zierlein requested that the Building Repair & Maintenance be lowered to \$100,000.00, equipment repair lowered to \$13,000.00 and waste disposal lowered to \$10,000.00. The Commission also requested that \$300,000.00 be moved to Capital Improvement Fund. Mrs. Hooser warned Commissioner Zierlein not to take too much because if something happens to the boiler then the budget may get into trouble.

H) Probate Judge - Everything is fine.

I) Recording & Filing - Everything is fine.

Bureau of Elections - Commissioner Zierlein stated he really wants to try and purchase the absentee voting machine.

J) Property Assessments - Commissioner Zierlein stated that pay roll for this department went up \$31,000.00.

K) Collections - Commissioner Zierlein asked why they have line items that they do not use? Mrs. Hooser stated that she is getting ready to use some of the printing & publishing because the second half of taxes are due.

L) Law Enforcement - Commissioner Zierlein requested that \$150,000.00 be left in the capital outlay line item to purchase five cars, take \$100,000.00 from the Dare Program and take the \$2,000.00 from accounts payable. Commissioner Zierlein requested \$630,000.00 be taken out of capital outlay and other and move \$125,000.00 to capital improvements fund. The Commission requested that the radios and light bars be taken out of the budget. The Commission also

agreed to give the Sheriff two new deputies and two promotions.

M) G.I.S. - The budget is done by a grant so there is nothing that can be done with this.

N) H.I.D.T.A - The budget is done by a grant so there is nothing that can be done with this.

O) Fairgrounds - The Commission requested that the Capital Outlay in this budget be pulled.

P) Emergency Services - No changes.

Q) County Attorney - No changes.

R) Rifle Range - No changes.

S) D.W.I. - Mrs. Hooser stated she needs to get with the coordinator because there is a \$300.00 difference but there should be no problem.

T) Property Valuation - No changes.

U) Tire Recycling Grant - This is closed out

V) Corrections Fund - Commissioner Zierlein stated that he has spoken with Mr. Vick and asked him how many additional full time employees he would need to run the Detention Center. Commissioner Zierlein suggested that the County budget for four full time employees and two promotions. Commissioner McGinn stated he agrees with the two promotions. Commissioner Zierlein stated that by adding the four full time employees would help from working the part timers to the max. Commissioner Zierlein stated that the population is continuing to grow but the Commission is also going to add more security cameras and that will help on the employees work load. Commissioner Zierlein requested that the Heating/Gas be raised up to \$6,000.00. Mrs.

Hooser stated that the Detention needs the stackable washer and dryer as requested in the capital outlay. Commissioner Zierlein requested that the capital outlay for the purchase of ashtrays be moved to \$500.00. Mrs. Hooser stated that the Detention could have the Administration's mini van. Commissioner Zierlein requested that the \$21,000.00 be taken out of capital outlay for the van and transfer the Administration mini van to the Detention Center.

W) Road Fund - Commissioner McGinn stated that the Road Department wants two new personnel. Commissioner McGinn stated he can understand this because two years ago he gave up two people. Commissioner Zierlein asked that the Survey and Engineering be taken down to \$20,000.00. Commissioner Zierlein allowed \$30,000.00 for a new vehicles and cut the dump truck out of the budget. Commissioner Zierlein request that the \$180,000.00 be left for the road grader.

X) Community Services & Projects

- 1) Regional Library Bookmobile - give a 5% increase.
- 2) Alamogordo Library - Alamogordo Library add \$5000.00 give 5% increase.
- 3) Agricultural Agent - give a 5% increase.
- 4) Boys & Girls Club - give a 5% increase.
- 5) Alcohol Abuse - give a 5% increase.
- 6) Counseling Center - give a 5% increase.
- 7) High Rolls Senior Center - no increase.
- 8) R.S.V.P. - give a 5% increase.
- 9) La Luz Homebound - give a 5% increase.

- 10) Tularosa Senior Center - give a 5% increase
- 11) Zia Therapy Center - give a 5% increase.
- 12) Cloudcroft Library - no increase.
- 13) Mescalero Senior Center - no request
- 14) Children In Need of Services - no increase.
- 15) C.O.P.E. - give a 5% increase
- 16) Counseling Center (Home Detention) -give a 5% increase
- 17) Sacramento Senior Center - give a 5% increase.
- 18) La Luz Senior/ Utilities - give a 5% increase.
- 19) Civil Air Patrol - give a 5% increase.
- 20) Search & Rescue - give a 5% increase.
- 21) Tularosa Recreation - give a 5% increase.
- 22) Kids Inc. Safehouse Program - give a 5% increase
- 23) Cloudcroft Transfer Station - The Commission directed staff

to see if this is a one time fee of \$10,000.00 to build the transfer station.

- 24) Big Brothers/Big Sisters - no increase.
- 25) Flickinger Center - give a 5% increase.
- 26) RC&D - give a 5% increase.
- 27) Soil & Water Conservation District -
- 28) Animal Damage - raise to \$7500.00
- 29) Mescalero Boys & Girls Club - give a 5% increase.
- 30) Noxious Weed - give a 5% increase.

- 31) Predator Control - no increase.
- 32) N.R.C.S. Secretary - give a 5% increase.
- 33) Promotions/Economic Development - no increase.
- 34) Otero County ARC - give a 5% increase.

Y) Farm & Range -

Z) Receptions

AA) Communications

BB) Hospital - The hospital will no longer piggy back on the County.

CC) County Indigent Fund - Commissioner Zierlein asked if it is really necessary to add a full-time position. Mrs. Hooser stated that it is important to hire the full time position. Commissioner Zierlein stated that at this point the Commission will leave the request for a full time employee alone.

DD) Environmental Convenient Center - Commissioner McGinn asked that part time salaries be lowered to \$8,000.00. Commissioner Zierlein asked that the equipment repair and maintenance be lowered to \$8500.00 and the capital outlay be lowered to \$9000.00.

EE) Emergency Reserve Fund - Commissioner Zierlein asked that this be lowered to \$500,000.00.

There being no further business before the Commission, the Vice-Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

APPROVED:

Chairman

ATTEST:

**Mary D. Quintana,
Otero County Clerk**