



Y2022 BUDGET HEARING
December 14, 2021

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Rio Blanco County

The Board met at 6:01 pm in Meeker at the County Courthouse, 555 Main St., Meeker, CO. Chairman Gary Moyer, Commissioner Ty Gates, Commissioner Jeff Rector, Board Assistant Vicky Edwards, Finance Director Janae Stanworth and Clerk to the Board Boots M. Campbell were present. County department heads, elected officials and several members of the public were also present. Road & Bridge Director Scott Marsh was present via teleconference.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – none

Commissioner Rector moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye.

HEARING PROCEDURE

Chairman Moyer opened the hearing and outlined the procedures to be followed.

- Please hold your questions or comments until the conclusion of the presentations.
- Questions must pertain to the budget only.
- Please come to the front podium and state your name and address for the record.
- Please limit your questions or comments to three minutes per member or five minutes per group.
- This meeting is being recorded. For a copy of the recording, please contact the Rio Blanco County Clerk and Recorder.

Presentation of the Proposed Y2022 Budget Finance Director Janae Stanworth presented the proposed Y2022 Budget, outlining the statutory requirements in planning a governmental budget. A copy of her budget presentation and a copy of the adopted 2022 Budget is available by contacting the Clerk & Recorder's office. The 2022 Budget is also available on the County website.

Colorado Budget Law dictates that total expenditures must be less than total revenue plus projected fund balance. This budget will project the lowest possible ending fund balance. In order to change the budget, new unanticipated revenue must offset expenditures or a reclass between accounts/departments/funds happens within the adopted appropriations. This budget will change. Total assessed valuation decreased 8.7% (or \$606,641) from the 2020 valuation. Oil/Gas and Industrial classifications make up 68% of the total County valuation (which is a decrease of 17% and 7% from the previous year). Assessed valuation has been decreasing since 2016. The County mill levy remains at 9.050 which is allocated to five funds (General, Road & Bridge, Human Services, Public Health and Capital Expenditure) based on the amount of working capital needed. Total County revenue increased \$0.9 million from the 2021 budget, but that is due to an increase in the Food Assistance program within the Human Service Fund. If you exclude the Food Assistance increase, total revenue decreased \$0.4 million from the 2021 budget. Total revenue for 2022 is: \$21.9 million for operating funds and \$3.7 million for non-operating funds (for a combined total of \$25.6 million). Total County expenditures are budgeted at \$37.8 million (operating \$27.8 million, non-operating \$10.0 million). Three revenue sources are not budgeted for each year (Federal Mineral Lease, Payment In-Lieu of Taxes, and Severance Taxes) because it is unknown the amount, if any. These funds are receipted in the year received and reallocated in the following years operating expenditures. When you look at the six main County functions: General Fund, Road & Bridge, Human Services, Public Health, Use Tax and Capital Expenditure, you can determine if revenue covers budgeted expenditure. In order to figure this total out, you need to add in the previous year Federal Mineral Lease, PILT and Severance Tax amounts, add in any fund balance reserves assigned for specific projects, take out contingency, carryover items and grant funds. The 2022 budget includes a 1% increase of health insurance and two different wage adjustments. The total FTE is budgeted to be 6.20 less than 2021. There were a few projects

included in the budget that were "additional requests" categorized in the proposed budget. The County is utilizing reserves and/or pulling grant funds to cover the capital project requests. This is a short-term solution and will not be sustainable on a long-term basis. Total fund balance listed in the 2022 adopted budget includes non-spendable (inventory, fixed assets, etc.), assigned, committed, restricted and unassigned funds. In order to determine how much cash is available in each fund, you must look at the working capital listed in the fund balance section as well as the amount listed under available funds for appropriation.

In conclusion, once adopted, the budget is a legal document that serves many purposes. It embodies the priorities and objectives of government. It defines not only financial aspects of government, but government organization and operations as well. The budget contains vast amounts of information that gives citizens insight into government activities.

HUTF Proposed Spending for Y2021

Road & Bridge Supervisor Scott Marsh presented the proposed Y2022 spending of HUTF (Highway User Tax Fund) funds collected through fuel tax and motor vehicle registrations.

Highway User Tax Funds are collected primarily through fuel tax and vehicle registrations. The way the state calculates the county's portion of these funds is very complex, but is based on the number of maintained miles, the surface type, the type of terrain, the county's population and other factors.

As Road Supervisor, I am required to disclose how the Highway User Tax Funds will be spent in Rio Blanco County.

Of the estimated \$3,044,655 in Highway Users Taxes that we budgeted to receive in 2022, we will spend it all for general road and bridge maintenance.

The balance of the Road and Bridge revenue will come from: Property taxes estimated at \$3,063,588, Permits \$50,000, Motor Vehicle Fees and Specific Ownership Tax \$155,470, Interfund Charges \$46,500, State Bridge Grants \$185,642, Other Charges and Misc. Revenue \$3,700. The total amounts of these NON-HUTF funds available for Road and Bridge spending will be \$3,504,900.

We will **NOT** spend any amount of Highway Users Taxes for Administration (Even though state law allows us to spend 5% of HUT Funds for this purpose.)

PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS – Meeker citizens Carol Parr and Sharon Day were present and wanted additional information regarding the changes in the jail, the costs of a fully equipped patrol vehicle, safety of the officers who would be taking prisoners to jail in Moffatt County on winter roads and also had other concerns. Sheriff Mazzola spoke regarding changes to the jail and Fleet Manager Dave Overton spoke regarding costs and trade-in cycles involving County vehicles. (This portion of the meeting can be listened to and seen on the www.RBC.US website You Tube channel or listened to on the audio recording available from the Clerk & Recorder's office.)

Comment from Chairman Moyer

In order to meet the state deadlines for budget adoption and tax levy, we will adopt the 2022 budget tonight. However, any objection that is registered here tonight will be given due consideration. If any change in the 2022 budget is determined to be in the best interest of the citizens of Rio Blanco County, a 2022 supplemental will be initiated to make such change.

No increase in expenditures will be considered in such supplemental unless a decrease of the same amount is made to a different expenditure or an adequate amount of unanticipated revenue to offset, as defined in Colorado Statutes, will be recognized.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT BUDGET

Commissioner Rector moved to adopt Resolution #2021-27, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO, SUMMARIZING EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES FOR EACH FUND AND ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 2022, AND ENDING ON THE LAST DAY OF DECEMBER, 2022. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Gates-Aye.

RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE MONEY

Commissioner Gates moved to adopt Resolution #2020-28, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO, APPROPRIATING SUMS OF MONEY TO THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND SPENDING AGENCIES, IN THE AMOUNT OF **THIRTY- SEVEN MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY- SIX DOLLARS (\$37,761,226)** AND FOR THE PURPOSE AS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT A, FOR RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO, FOR THE 2022 BUDGET YEAR. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Gates-Aye, Rector-Aye.

RESOLUTIONS TO CERTIFY MILL LEVIES

Commissioner Rector moved to adopt Resolution #2020-29, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO, LEVYING GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021, TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF RIO BLANCO, COLORADO, FOR THE 2022 BUDGET YEAR. THE MILL LEVY SO CERTIFIED IS **NINE AND FIVE HUNDREDTHS MILLS (9.050 MILLS) AND WILL GENERATE SIX MILLION THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THREE DOLLARS (\$6,373,673)** WHEN APPLIED TO THE 2021 VALUATION. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Rector-Aye, Moyer-Aye.

Commissioner Gates moved to adopt Resolution #2020-30, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO, LEVYING GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021, TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF PICEANCE CREEK PEST CONTROL DISTRICT FOR THE COUNTY OF RIO BLANCO, COLORADO, FOR THE 2022 BUDGET YEAR. **THE MILL LEVY SO CERTIFIED IS TWO MILLS (2.000 MILLS) AND WILL GENERATE EIGHTY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINE DOLLARS (\$86,959)** WHEN APPLIED TO THE 2021 VALUATION. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Gates-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to adopt Resolution #2020-31, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO, LEVYING GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021, TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF LOWER WHITE RIVER PEST CONTROL DISTRICT FOR THE COUNTY OF RIO BLANCO, COLORADO, FOR THE 2022 BUDGET YEAR. THE MILL LEVY SO CERTIFIED IS **TWO MILLS (2.000 MILLS) AND WILL GENERATE SEVENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-THREE DOLLARS (\$78,573)** WHEN APPLIED TO THE 2021 VALUATION. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Gates-Aye, Rector-Aye.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Attest:


Boots M. Campbell, Clerk to the Board


Gary Moyer, Chairman

