

**RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BUDGET MEETING  
Wednesday, July 25, 2018 8:00am**

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met on July 24 & 25, 2018 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Rollie Ehler, Dan Thompson, Tim Campbell, Sid Berg and Nathan Berseth. Also present were Administration Personnel Hage and Oland.

**Assessor - Sandy Fossum**

Increase in expenses reflected by increase in 1 additional staff person.

Dues - Association increased

Telephone - New employee cell phone

Consulting - Vangaard- \$10,000 2019. Use for commercial appraisals.

Education - increase for Melissa and Nancy

Capital Outlay - \$10,000 2019 Laptop computers/dock, chairs

CHS of Mooreton is coming off exemption 4.5million = \$22,500 tax. In 2020 Minn Dak exemption reduced from 100% to 50% for expansion.

Revenue is down, Hankinson is not contracting with county.

**Administration - Leslie Hage**

Admin. minus GIS salary expenses. Put in his own line item.

Salaries are down due to Treasurer not in place for two months and lower pay for new employees.

Travel - 2019 new employees' training.

Dues - Higher in 2018.

Capital Outlay - 2018 - 2 Computers, Scanner for desktop depositing; 2019 - 2 to 3 computers; laptop/printer, possible furniture, Auditor's office.

Tax Acquired Property - \$2,500 2019 to take down house in Fairmount.

Auditor, Leslie Hage, discussed appointing a Deputy Auditor to cover in the absence of Auditor. Will address Commissioners on August 7, 2018

**Joint Powers** - Revenue \$100,000; Expense \$168,000 (\$18,000 to Engineering firm approved by Commsion) 2019 \$150,000; 2020 \$150,000

**County Park**- Same as last year

**Weed Board** - over on Salary - Increased officer salary by \$2.00/hour. Discussed income source and amounts. Leslie will discuss with Weed Board Secretary. Discussed pay back to farmers who spray Leafy Spurge and if is mandated. County pays them 80% of cost to spray.

**Mills = .5**

**States Attorney - Megan Kummer**

Capital expense increase - Upgrading office furniture and 2 stand up desks. Assistant States Attorney Ron McBeth was paid out annual leave from 2018 budget.

Travel - 2 people to Bismarck for training.

**Drug Court - Megan Kummer**

Nick visited with Leslie and referenced that grant should continue till approximately February 2020. Asked about additional funding sources. Was advised to look for grants and visit with the Judge.

Salaries are driven by the grant.

Travel - Drives to clients home to check compliancy. 8-10 clients at this time. Feel with staff can only handle 15.

Discussed difference between this and 24/7 program which runs out of the Jail. Person purchases a Scram bracelet if ordered by Judge and reports to Jail for bracelet to be downloaded to test for substances. (This is an out of pocket expense by client.)

**SEMCA - Jason Weber**

Presented overview of program. In the past program was funded by Bryne Jag Grant (Salaries) and the ND Lottery (Operating) which has lasted 8 years. Freeze has been put on the grant for 2019. SEMCA has 4 agents, 1 RCSD; 1 WPD and 2 that are funded thru the program. SEMCA is requesting that 1 agent be picked up by RCSD. This agent would be under the direction of Sheriff Larry Leshovsky. Operating costs will be shared by counties/entities that contribute to SEMCA with a 35% hard money match required for the ND Lottery fund.

Using monies allocated ten years ago. Does not increase each year.

Revenue 2018 Federal \$44,503; Lottery \$56,180 Match \$35,239

2019 Revenue \$36,000 Lottery

Vehicles - 5 vehicles Operating cost, Lease agreement with Laser Enterprise/ maintenance/oil Insurance - County currently paying \$4,300 in 2018 plus any adjustments. Will look at as vehicle insurance should go with operating costs.

Drug talks in schools/employees/ businesses.

Assist RCSD/WPD when needed/requested.

MOU with all ND agencies between Task Force, not MN. They would have to request assistance.

Asset forfeiture money is used for equipment (computers/printers etc) not salaries.

No support staff - Provided by Jason Weber

2018 agencies and funding: Wahpeton/Richland Co. \$54,700 each; Sargent Co. \$10,000; Traverse \$3,000/Wheaton \$3,000; Breckenridge \$2,500, Ransom Co \$6,000.; Lisbon \$4,000; Forman/Gwinner/Milnor \$3,000.

**Job Development**

Look to increase mills to 3.

Loan fund self-generated - 7-10 years revenue returned, loan paid off.

**Special Assessments** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Project 1.5 mills. 1 time levy

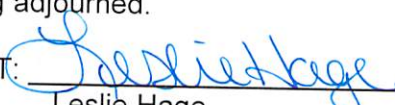
**Payroll** - 2018 moved chart .13 at grade 1 step 1 (base) formulated throughout the fields

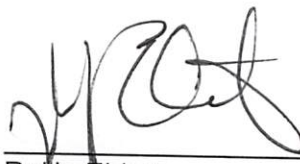
Discussed options. Move midpoint to 9 with no increase in base.

Projected health insurance increase 17% for 2019/2020. Increase in health insurance - 17% worst case scenario per NDACo.

Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

  
Leslie Hage  
Auditor/Administrator

  
Rollie Ehlert  
CHAIRPERSON  
Board of Richland County Commissioners