

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF DODGE)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2017-13 C.O.W.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole August 8, 2017, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Government Services Building, Mantorville, MN, at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Chair Tim Tjosaas opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present:

Those Present

Members present:	John Allen	District #1
	Tim Tjosaas	District #2
	Rodney Peterson	District #3
	Rhonda Toquam	District #4
	David Kenworthy	District #5
Members absent:	None	
Also present:	Jim Elmquist	County Administrator

County Administrator Jim Elmquist and Finance Director Lisa Kramer discussed with the Board the 2018 budget.

2018 Budget
Discussion

Included in the Board packet was a draft of the 2018 budget. It was pointed out this budget may significantly change before the September 30th preliminary certification date, the intent is for the Board to review departmental requests to see the significant drivers of the annual budget and to determine the Board's goal rate for a preliminary levy and ultimately a final levy by December 26, 2017.

The budget's cover pages are budget and levy summary pages. It summarizes the totals of the pages of overall expenditures, revenues and fund balance usage of various accounts. It was pointed out this budget includes a 12.1% additional levy request; however this proposal is not within fiscal reality. Also noted was there will be more submittals prior to overall certification.

Items of note in this budget were listed as follows:

1. The CPA amount is \$798,773. This is state funding for general operations to counties that is paid in two installments each year. CPA in 2017 was \$712,165, a minor increase. This is not reflected on the budget yet, so it will be a direct reduction off the bottom line levy responsibility.
2. The County Board budget (page 2) includes outside agency funding reflecting overall requests of each individual group. The only outside agency funding that is mandated is SELCO, but it is only required at the previous year's funding level.

3. Wages for non-union and union staff include a 2.75% increase along with cafeteria plan increases of 15%. Wage increases are reflected in bargaining unit contracts and what is planned for the upcoming year. Non-union staff raises are determined at the end of November but the overall goal is to have the increase commensurate with the settled contracts. Insurance premium increases are anticipated but are unknown until late August. The county could foresee some relief to the budget in this area when we receive notice of the insurance premium but until then, Mr. Elmquist and Ms. Kramer have left the working assumption within the calculation. At this point, this is a major driver within this budget.
4. Court Administration reflects a significant increase directly linked to increased attorney cost experience in 2017.
5. MNPrairie reflects a significant increase at this time due to weaning off fund balance use.

2018 Budget
Discussion -
Continued

The Board thanked the County Administrator and Finance Director for the information.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:16 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

**TIM TJOSAAS
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD**

**JIM ELMQUIST
CLERK**

DATED: