

Custer County Commissioner Public Hearing  
Custer County 2023 Budget  
August 31, 2022

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:23 PM. Those present were Commissioner Chairman Wayne Butts, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Steve Smith, Clerk Lura Baker, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, Assessor Jacquiel Bruno, Tracy Barrett and Mike Newmyer.

Discussion was held on the high quality of employees that the county has been able to attract. There were some departments that received wage increases this year, it was very difficult to find the funding. Our rural county doesn't have the tax base to keep up with larger neighboring counties wage scale. Funds have been placed in the building & grounds budget for getting the courthouse into ADA compliance. Civil Defense is a big job with limited hours, so changes have been incorporated. Cyber security is an ever-increasing cost for us in a quickly changing atmosphere, so an increase was made. Election funding has been changed by the State Controller's Office, so budgeting has had to change to comply. The Indigent fund will be moved back into "current expense" by statute, but the accounts will remain for now. Land Use Planning is a huge job and now has another part time employee, which is being paid for with the P&Z fees generated. Road & Bridge has funding from the State that comes from fuel taxes. Rodeo Grounds has received an increase due to the grants that they have procured. Weeds has also gathered more grants, but the cost of chemicals has gone out of sight. South Custer Ambulance was unable to utilize their new ambulance grant funds, as there are none available at this time in the supply chain. The grant funds will be rolled over into next year's budget.

Total Custer County Budget is \$14,240,359.00. The carryover amount is \$2,370,220.00. Total revenue \$6,232,000.00, Other revenue is \$2,528,826.00, Taxes for the general fund \$1,423,919.00. The Total Custer County Levy amount is \$1,913,978.00 for General Fund, District Court, County Fair, Health, Revaluation, Tort and Weeds. Battleground Mosquito Abatement District total revenue is \$33,600.00 with cash forward of \$10,247.00 and other revenue of \$2,067.00, and taxes to receive of \$21,286.00. South Custer Ambulance has total revenue of \$387,340.00 with cash forward of \$218,356.00 other revenue of \$116,350.00 and estimated taxes of \$52,634.00 all pending state approval.

Commissioner Smith inquired about the P&Z fees and how they can be used? Assessor Jacquiel inquired about the Data Processing amount and if there was enough to cover IT coverage? Lura explained that we are looking into a partnership with Power County for IT coverage, and it has been addressed and also finding a local IT person could be in the future. It is a problem that all local organizations face. The School Dist. has an IT service contract that is covered locally by Lance Moss. Tracy Barrett inquired about the Building and Grounds increase? Chairman Butts responded that the million-dollar increase is funds transferred from PILT, to cover ADA compliance, and/or the proposed court annex.

The hearing was closed at 6:53 pm.

Attest:



Lura Baker

Lura Baker, Clerk

Wayne F. Butts

Wayne F. Butts, Chairman