

Budget Work Session

April 18, 2006

The Board of County Commissioners, in and for the County of Otero, State of New Mexico, met in a 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 18, 2006; and he announced that reasonable notice for this meeting was given to the Alamogordo Daily News, and to Radio Stations, KPSA, KINN and KYEE.

Present:

Doug Moore	Chairman
Clarissa McGinn	Vice-Chair person
Michael Nivison	Member
Dr. Martin Moore	County Manager
Dan Bryant	County Attorney
Ray Backstrom	Assistant County Manager
Sue Ellen Cox	Executive Secretary
Lynn Estrada	Deputy Clerk

DRAFT

Commissioner Moore gave the invocation. Commissioner McGinn led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

Martin Moore, County Manager, would like to start with the revised budget re-capp sheet. The total budgeted revenues are 17,807,423.82, the total salary and operating expenses with cuts reflected from the last meeting are 16,492,497.87. Mr. Moore went through the staff recommendations for each department. The Board reviewed capital outlay and line items for each department and made further cuts.

The time being 9:00 a.m. the Chairman recessed the Budget Work Session and called the Work Session to order.

The time being 11:35 a.m. the Chairman called the Budget Work Session back to order.

Marty Moore, County Manager, and the Board continued to review the line items in each department.

The Board discussed merit and promotions. The Board decided that instead of a merit increase they would rather use the unappropriated revenues for a higher cola increase. With the cost of living increases, the employees at the bottom end of the pay scale are struggling. Commissioner Moore stated that he would like each Department Head to submit one name from their department of their most meritorious person for potential recognition. This gives everybody the ability to acknowledge exemplary work habits for one of their employees.

Commissioner McGinn stated that since we aren't going to do merit requests, we won't have to go through every department to review the merit. We can have a Budget Work Session the first week of May and another one for the Community Services review. On this day we can look at the totals and decide what we want to appropriate for any cola. The Board agreed and scheduled another Work Session for the 3rd of May. There being no further business before the Board the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

APPROVED:

Doug Moore, Chairman

ATTEST:

Robyn Silva, Otero County Clerk

Budget Work Session April 18, 2006