

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 1:30 p.m., May 18, 2004; 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:

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|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Michael Nivison | Chairman |
| Clarissa McGinn | Vice-Chair person |
| Doug Moore | Member |
| Ruth Hooser | County Manager |
| Ray Backstrom | Assistant County Manager |
| Donna Brandon | Senior Computer Programmer |
| Lynn Estrada | Deputy Clerk |

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Commissioner Nivison gave the invocation and Commissioner Moore led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the Flag of the State of New Mexico.

Commissioner Moore stated that their goal was to cut seven hundred thirty two thousand dollars out of a flat budget. So far with the plus and minuses we have cut two hundred and fifty thousand, we are still short five hundred thousand to come to a balanced budget. The following Departments came forward to address their budgets:

1. Probate Judge – Yvonne Boyle stated that she has 3 schools to attend and would like enough

money in her travel budget for her and 1 clerk. Commissioner McGinn cut mileage to \$250.00. Commissioner Moore would like to have all County Employees use the County Vehicles and not their own cars for trips. Per Diem was set at \$1200. Overall budget was reduced \$1285.00.

2. Convenience Center – Randy Horn, Convenience Manager, approached the Board to discuss the reductions that were made in his budget. He wasn't present for his initial budget reductions and had a few questions on the capital outlay cuts.

The Commission discussed the revenues, property taxes and gross receipts. Cathe Prather, Treasurer, stated that we hit 93% of the tax roll by June 30th and 95% by the time the next tax statements go out. Gonzalo Estrada, Chief Deputy Assessor, inquired of the Commission if they received the preliminary abstract that he had submitted to Ruth that showed the net taxable value. The abstract showed an increase in the projected revenues from property tax. Commissioner Moore stated that they incorporated these figures into the budget from the abstract.

The Board continued to discuss deficit spending and revenues.

Commissioner Moore made a motion to send the tentative 04/05 Budget to DFA in Santa Fe. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGinn. A vote was taken and the motion passed 2-1 with Commissioner Moore voting no.

There being no further business before the Board the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

Michael Nivison, Chairman

ATTEST:

Mary D. Quintana, County Clerk

Budget Work Session May 18, 2004