

County commissioners ask officials to make cuts

Written by Deb Egenberger
Thursday, 13 September 2012 13:45 -

DAWSON COUNTY BUDGET			
	2012-12	2011-12	Difference
Valuation.....	\$2,063,319,344	\$1,946,738,696	5.99%
Expenses.....	\$26,474,567	\$26,398,872	0.29%
Revenue.....	\$19,345,965	\$20,025,817	-2.40%
Tax asking.....	\$8,460,593	\$7,870,058	7.50%
Levy.....	.41005	.40427	1.43%

Departments make changes to hold the line

LEXINGTON—Counties have a five-cent limit on how much they can raise the property tax levy from one year to the next.

Most of the initial requests that came from Dawson County departments for the 2012-13 budget would have fit under that five-cent lid.

“But the commissioners refused to raise the levy a nickel,” said county clerk Karla Zlatkovsky.

So departments were asked to find areas to cut.

Some found sizeable chunks to take out. Others did what they could with smaller bites.

In the end, Zlatkovsky said the county board will consider a minimal increase in expenses and a slight raise in levy when they vote on the budget during their regular bimonthly board meeting that begins at 8:30 a.m. on Friday.

Overall, the county holds the line on spending with an increase of only \$87,685 in budget expenditures, or .33%.

That’s after the roads department took out big bucks intended for road repairs and the sheriff’s department agreed to wait for a new roof on the 20-year-old jail.

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REVENUES

II Property taxes
The county will set property tax rates at 0.0025 or roughly 0.25 cents per \$100 in property value. The rate for 2012-13 budget year is 0.0025.

III County offices
County offices in the county collect fees for various services. In addition, the county receives income from the sale of land and other property. The department of law enforcement revenue comes from enforcement fees, license contract income from other jurisdictions and other sources.

III Salaries & Benefits
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of development and transaction fees. The total amount will be \$2.5 million, but the department will receive the total of \$2.5 million from other sources.

III Law Enforcement
The department of law enforcement revenue comes from enforcement fees, license contract income from other jurisdictions and other sources.

County law enforcement is expected to bring in \$1.5 million, an amount that is less than the department's budget for the county.

III Grants
Grants for law enforcement programs will be received in the county year but will only be used to fund the department's budget. The county will receive grants from the state and other sources. Last year, grant revenue was estimated at \$200,000 and this year it drops more than to \$100,000.

EXPENSES

Department of law enforcement programs include salaries and benefits, equipment, and other expenses. The department of law enforcement revenue comes from enforcement fees, license contract income from other jurisdictions and other sources.

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for salaries for the job and dispatch center. The total cost for law enforcement is expected to be \$1.5 million, but the department will receive \$1.5 million from other sources.

III Political subdivisions
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