



NORCOR

CORRECTIONS FACILITIES

Wasco-Gilliam-Hood River-Sherman
201 Webber Street
The Dalles, OR 97058
541-298-1576
Fax 541-298-1082



NORCOR

NORCOR Budget Meeting Minutes

May 21st, 2020 9:00 a.m.

Budget Committee Members: Steve Kaseberg- Sherman County Representative; Deirdre Kaseberger- Hood River Representative; Teresa Hepker- Wasco County Representative, Amber DeGrange- Budget Committee Chair.

Board Members: Bob Benton- Hood River County Commissioner, NORCOR Board Chairman, NORCOR Board Vice-Chairman, Tom McCoy- Sherman County Commissioner, Amber DeGrange- Sherman County Juvenile Director; Sherrie Wilkins- Gilliam County Commissioner Sheriff Gary Bettencourt- Proxy for Wasco County Sheriff- NORCOR Board Secretary Lane Magill.

Oversight: Sheriff overseeing Adult Corrections Facility- Brad Lohrey Sherman County Sheriff. Juvenile Director Overseeing Detention Facility: Molly Rogers- Wasco County Youth Services Director.

Others attending via phone and video: Jail Commander Dan Lindhorst, Juvenile Director Jeff Justesen, Lieutenant Joyce Orendorff, Robbie Johnson, Bill Boyden, Dale Whipple, Kathleen Green, Jennifer Coleman, Rebecca Beitel, Mel Brown, Connie Krumrich, Steve Kaseberg, Amy Nation.

May 21st 2020 at 9:08 a.m. The NORCOR Budget Hearing was called to order by Budget Committee Chair Amber DeGrange. Quorum determined.

Amber DeGrange recommended continuing on with the budget changes which were discussed in the last meeting. Molly Rogers began her presentation by picking up from last budget meeting. Referring to the Budget packet, she stated they are still operating from the perspective of the board principals, even with changes made to this budget; they continued using those as their guiding light. We anticipate a beginning fund balance of \$700,000.00, but this budget that they now have made some short amendments to continues to maintain core services, and we will be able to have an ending fund balance for the end of 2021 to move forward. We have so reduced this budget that the budget being presented today does not increase or bring back the positions that were removed from the budget. At the last meeting the budget committee requested budget adjustments which would include a cost of living for non-represented employees. In order to do that we increased revenue in the US Marshal Contract. It was increased by just under 3 beds, 2.8 yearly average to bring us to the \$105,000 that we needed to balance this budget.



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Sheriff Lohrey shared that after reviewing the US Marshall contract data and having conversations, he and Jail Commander Dan Lindhorst decided that by increasing the US Marshall beds to three (3), they felt very confident that the US Marshall numbers will remain steady even through Covid or this budget year.

Molly Rogers presented adjustments to cost of living and referred to the packet totals, Adult division; the total increase cost and benefits \$19,416.00. Administrative Division increase in salary and benefits is \$13,495.00. Juvenile Division the increase in salary and benefits \$8,259.00, so total increase in personnel is \$41,170.00. Materials and services-we received a rough estimate from insurance following the initial posting of the budget, an increase of \$20,000.00. At the request of the committee last time we put back into the budget a capital improvement for the phone system an estimate of \$44,500.00. That brings the total increase in expenditures up to \$105,720.00. You will notice that this is not an exact amount of \$105,000.00, but we were able to adjust the budget within \$720.00 numbers, they felt that the remainder over the \$105,000 was manageable. Those were the changes you received in the amended budget that was sent out to the budget committee and posted on the website. Molly Rogers emailed everyone an option for a motion to approve or a motion to approve with changes if anyone was interested.

Bob Benton thanked the management team; he also stated he is definitely more comfortable with the new additions, and feeling like able to get through the year without the unexpected issue of the phone system crashing. He inquired how the expenses for the current fiscal year are being impacted due to Covid-19, are we seeing an increase beyond what we had previously budgeted or are we coming close? Bob also inquired about other opportunity revenues, for example Saif. He inquired if we are assuming that at the end of the year that we will be pretty close to what we budgeted for the current fiscal year.

Molly Rogers responded that we are confident that we are not exceeding expenditures in the areas of overtime and additional staff time due to Covid. That could change on a dime; however staff have done an amazing job of protecting themselves as well as in custodies. Dan and Jeff have been diligent in documenting Covid expenses, so when there is an opportunity for reimbursement we will have access to that. We have been pre-approved by Saif for up to \$6500.00 in reimbursement for Covid related items such as cleaning supplies, masks, gloves and those types of things. This team, Dan and Jeff huge kudos to them for watching the bottom line, we feel very confident that \$700,000.00 will be our beginning fund balance.

Sheriff Lohrey stated that on the adult side we have experienced no increase, potentially next year, in the next budget season we will have to be working through the potential increase in people that haven't come to jail will be coming to jail, but we are confident within this budget we can work within it. We have approximately 200 people that have been sighted and released and have not come to jail, that's where the numbers are at today, as this goes on, by the end of next month there will probably be around 400 waiting to be processed here at NORCOR, but again we believe that with this budget and a plan he and Dan Lindhorst are coming up with, we will be able to manage it.



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Amber DeGrange asked if any of the 2-400 coming back due to court delay, waiting to serve sentences, are those local people or are they people that will bring in additional money. Sheriff Lohrey responded that they are folks that committed a crime, could be local or from out of the area, but they are people that will be sentenced by our courts. They will not bring more money with them beyond what the counties already pay. They are folks that may have received a DUI, as an example, and instead of coming to jail they were given a ticket and a court date to appear and must go through the court process.

Amber DeGrange inquired if Benton County is not sending people but may send more people and maybe send more money? Sheriff Lohrey responded that we budgeted for 22 because that's what we are guaranteed. They are sending roughly 13-14 average right now; they are below the 22 however they still pay for 22.

Bob Benton inquired about what Benton Counties long term intentions are, if they are still interested in maintaining the 22 bed level. Sheriff Lohrey answered that it is guaranteed for another 3 years at the 22 level. Sheriff Lohrey responded that we have not had any discussions with Benton County whether they want more beds or not. They have not requested to reduce the 22. It could potentially increase, however they have not requested to do that.

Steve Kaseberg- He thought the first budget meeting he remembered Sheriff Lohrey mentioning that the cost for insurance expense would be lower because of the great job of management, but he sees a \$20,000 increase however he did not see it in any of the information sent to him, and was curious why there was an adjustment of \$20,000 more. Molly Rogers responded that this is a different type of insurance; the \$20,000 is general liability insurance. Saif insurance went down, and general liability insurance went up.

Tom McCoy wanted to verify that if revenues & expenditures come in as predicted and we don't use any of our contingency reserves, we will end the next fiscal year with a \$700,000.00 ending fund? Molly Rogers affirmed his inquiry.

Amber opened the floor for public testimony.

Molly stated that she had checked with Jail Commander Dan Lindhorst prior to the meeting to confirm there were no emails sent to the Management Team nor to the general inquiry email at NORCOR, there may have been questions from the general public, none that wanted or needed to be put on the record.

Bob Benton made a motion that the NORCOR Budget Committee approve the 2020/2021 fiscal year budget as presented in the amount of \$9,447,488.00 this approved budget we presented to the NORCOR Board of Directors June 18th, 2020 regular Board meeting and budget public meeting.

Motion seconded by Tom McCoy, Tom McCoy corrected the original motion made by Bob Benton

All parties in favor



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It was voted and unanimously passed with the recommendation for adoption by the Board of Directors at the next public hearing June 18th 2020.

Molly Rogers shared that the Management team would like to express their appreciation to the Board Members & Budget Committee for their patience on video conferencing and all their input.

Amber DeGrange echoed that and expressed her appreciation that the admin team has done working on a budget.

Meeting adjourned.

Date

Amber DeGrange, NORCOR Budget Committee Chair

Date

Rebecca Beitel, NORCOR

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Beitel
NORCOR