

Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting
Courthouse Lower Level Conference Room
July 20, 2011

Present: Ron Freeman, Don Richards, John Unruh, Carmen Renfrow, Theresa Dasenbrock & her assistant Lisa.

8:00: Chairman Ron Freeman opened the meeting. Several department heads were present (see attached sign-in sheet).

Theresa explained the budget process and our current financial situation. Chad Pore, EMS Director, suggested involving the citizens and stated that the County's job is to provide essential services.

Eric Peters, Landfill Supervisor, stated that during the Haviland Clean-up Days it cost them over \$5,000 to dispose of the tires that were brought in.

Chad Pore said they could consider raising their EMS rates.

Ron asked the other Commissioners what their goal was for this meeting. Ron would like the mil levy to be at 59, Don said 58, and John said he wanted it to stay the same as 2011.

Chad suggested that EMS use the Road & Bridge source for fuel.

It was also suggested that the County offices consolidate the purchase of office supplies.

Marilyn requested her pay be raised to the same as the Clerk's pay. The Commission denied her request.

John asked if employees should pay more towards their benefits; no action was taken.

Matt Christenson reminded the Commission that the estimated cost of the utilities for the Kiowa County Commons is \$30,000 yearly.

The Commission wants to look into reducing or eliminating benefits for the County Attorney.

Ray Stegman and Matt Christenson suggested that they could take over the duties of the IT people we now contract with. They also suggested eliminating the T1 line and putting in two DSL lines to save costs and boost computer speeds.

Debi Schmidt said that Judge Love would look over the District Court's proposed budget and determine if there could be any more cuts made.

12:00 noon – Lunch Break

1:10: It was suggested to separate the Commons cost out of the General Fund to track their costs.

So far with suggested cuts the mil levy has been lowered to 59.570. The Commission will look at the benefits package we currently have for more cuts when our benefits representative is available. John suggests a hiring freeze and a travel and mileage expense freeze for all County departments. He includes cutting the miles used by the Sheriff's department's patrol cars.

Ron moved and Don seconded to set and publish the levy at 59.570, a raise from 2011 of 8.481. The motion includes a hiring freeze as of Aug. 1, 2011 and travel and mileage for employees to be discussed with the Commissioners as of the same date, motion carried.

Ron moved and Don seconded to sign Resolution 2011-10, motion carried. John moved and Don seconded to sign Resolution 2011-11, motion carried. These resolutions refer to raising tax levies and are required by the State.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 pm.

Kiowa County Commission:

Ron Freeman
Ron Freeman, Chairman

Don Richards
Don Richards, Commissioner

John Urruh
John Urruh, Commissioner

Attest:
Carmen Renfrow
Carmen Renfrow, County Clerk

Sign In Sheet
Kiowa County Commissioners Meeting

Date: 7/20/2011 2nd Budget Meeting

Please Print
Name:

Affiliation
Department

Bruce Foster	Nixians West
Eric Peterson	Solid Waste
Leon Spanham	EMS
Ray Steger	E.M.
[Signature]	EMS
Brenda Osborne	Treasurer
Marilyn Dour	ROD
Nebi Cole Schmidt	District Court
Matt Christensen	LTR

1000?

1:00 Roy - Brenda - Eric - others left
Chad - Marilyn - Debbie Schmidt