

**Kiowa County Commissioners Special Meeting  
Courthouse Lower Level Conference Room  
July 27, 2016**

John Unruh, Bert Lowery, Ron Freeman, Kristi Cooper, Jay Schmidt, Chris Tedder, Karen Butler, Brenda Osborne, Matt Christenson, Kyler Ludwig, Wayne Keeton, Mitzi Hesser, Theresa Dasenbrock and Lisa Axman attended the meeting.

John called the special meeting to order at 9:00 to go over the 2017 County budget requests with our Auditors, Theresa Dasenbrock and Lisa Axman from Lewis, Hooper & Dick and LLC.

Before the budget process began Theresa shared comparison graphs for population, totals milled levied last year, assessed tangible valuations, total levies that was compared to surrounding counties and cities. And then went into the audit process and explained some observations and recommendations such as minutes missing resolution numbers, quarterly statements showing balances of County funds, Cemetery Districts not filing their annual reports with the Commissioners, Extension Council reporting interest on financial reports, Library to upgrade to use financial software and typing their board minutes instead of being hand written.

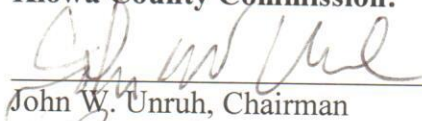
Next they moved into the budget process. Theresa informed them that with budgets that were presented and with the changes they made on the meeting of July 14th they would be looking at a 16.487 mill increase making it a total of 81 mills to fund the requests that were submitted. Also she added the cuts from the pre-budget workshop which was in the amount of \$163,305 tax dollars.

John called to break for lunch at 11:56 and at 1:00 the meeting resumed.

After much more review of the requests and changes they reduced the total budget requests to only \$377,357 from the 2016 tax dollars. John expressed he would like to cut another \$377,357 to make it where the County would get the exact tax dollars from last year and Bert mentioned they could not make any more changes without affecting the operation of the County and so Bert moved to approve to set the 2017 mill levy as 73.002 and Ron seconded, motion carried 2-1 (John opposed) Theresa added that the increase would be 8.562 mills from last year.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:35

**Kiowa County Commission:**

  
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John W. Unruh, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bert Lowery, Vice Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Freeman, Commissioner

Attest:

  
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Kristi Cooper, County Clerk

They next Commissioner meeting will be held on July 29, 2016 in the basement conference room.