

FISCAL YEAR 2007 BUDGET HEARINGS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2006 – 2:30 P.M.

ROOM 201 – COURTHOUSE ANNEX

The Preliminary Budget Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget was opened at 2:30 p.m. by Chairman Carey. Also present were Commissioner Curtiss, Chief Financial Officer Dale Bickell, and Chief Administrative Officer Ann Mary Dussault. Commissioner Evans was on vacation.

Dale Bickell presented a general overview of the financial condition of the County. A handout with budget information for Fiscal Year 2006 was available.

FY 2006 Financial Highlights

Development Park - Land sales totaled over \$2,100,000.

Fair – Final Ice Rink Project expenditures totaled \$356,917.

C&R fees - Were approximately \$200,000 below budget in FY05, but appear to have recovered and are expected to return to historical levels.

Partnership Health Center – PHC’s preliminary financial statement shows positive cash flow of \$508,000 which eliminates the operating deficit several years ahead of schedule.

Technology Increment District – In December, the BCC created the Missoula County Technology Increment District in the Missoula County Development Park. First tenant of the District will be DIRECTV.

Capital Improvement – FY2006 projects:

Completed Clerk of Court remodel (\$226,227)

Completed Courthouse/Annex ADA access ramp (\$149,797)

Started the Courthouse landscaping project (\$10,853)

Continued ADA compliance work relative to the US Dept of Justice settlement agreement (\$48,285)

Started the upgrade to the Old Courthouse ventilation system (\$11,520). Total project = \$350,000

Technology Program – FY2006 projects include:

Continued implementation of the new criminal justice records management system (\$63,082)

Installed spam monitoring system (\$8,505)

Installed new jail management system (\$37,491)

Installed new court administration system (Full Court) in Justice Court

Health Insurance

The County’s self-insured health plan continues to be financially stable heading into FY2007. For FY2006, preliminary financial statements show net income for the Plan totaling \$1,381,000 and trust reserves of approximately \$3.1 million. No premium increase is required in FY 07 and certain benefit components have been enhanced.

FY 2007 Issues and Challenges

Office of Planning and Grants

FY06 was the first year of operations under the new interlocal agreement. This agreement specifies that the County and City contributions to the Current Planning section be allocated on a pro rata basis, based on level of service for each jurisdiction. The actual numbers vary substantially from original estimates and the preliminary budget does not yet reflect the change in allocation.

District Court Fund

The 2005 Legislature provided for state assumption of the county public defender system and was effective July 1, 2006. Although this bill specified that Missoula County’s entitlement share would be reduced by \$172,600 to pay for costs the State is assuming, the bill also provided that this number may be adjusted in the future. The BCC has reserved \$40,000 for unanticipated costs relative to public defender assumption.

Building Codes Division

The County's Building Codes Program started this spring with permit costs set at the same level as those of the City of Missoula. Once a revenue trend is established fees will be adjusted in order to ensure the program is self-sufficient. It should be noted that the County does not allocate any overhead expenses to the Building Codes Program.

Public Works

An analysis of the County Road fund for the past five fiscal years showed that a structural imbalance has existed in this fund, even prior to the date of the analysis. This means that ongoing expenditures have exceeded ongoing revenues every year. The analysis concluded that the average deficit totaled \$112,500, and the BCC approved an enhancement request to increase the Road fund levy by 1.4 mills to correct the imbalance.

Public Safety

The preliminary budget for the Sheriff's Office was submitted with a structural imbalance of approximately \$178,000. The deficit was largely due to an increase in out-of-county prisoner costs, increases in energy costs, and increases in fuel costs. The BCC has agreed to create a \$178,000 contingency in the General Fund that the Sheriff can access if Public Safety cash reserves fall below budget parameters. It is expected that the Sheriff's budget will be able to absorb these costs in FY08 when the Montana Department of Corrections is required to pay the actual costs of housing state prisoners in the Missoula County Detention Center.

General Revenues

Property Taxes – Growth in property tax revenue has been unpredictable in the past several fiscal years making it difficult to make accurate projections. The Montana Dept of Revenue is expected to provide FY2007 certified valuations by the end of July. Growth from new construction in the preliminary budget totals 3.7% based on historical averages.

Budget Parameters

Prior to each budget, the Board of County Commissioners sets Budget Parameters to guide the budget process. The following parameters have been adopted by the Board for FY 07:

Cash Reserves – General Fund reserves are set at 12% of total revenues, Public Safety Fund reserves at 8%, CBO fund reserves (which are all pass-through) at 3%, and all other special funds at 5%.

Salary Increase – Base salary increase for county employees is set at 4% at an approximate cost of \$1,155,000.

Property Taxes – Additional tax revenues from the inflationary allowance (1.424%) and the reduction in personal property tax reimbursements allowed in MCA 15-10-420 was approved.

Permissive Medical Levy – Tax revenues from a permissive medical levy was provided for by the 2001 and 2003 legislatures. The levy is based on the increase in health insurance costs (net of benefit reductions) of tax funded employees. For FY07, this levy is expected to **decrease** due to decrease in number of employees (public defender assumption) and because there is no insurance premium increase.

Missoula County voters approved three ballot initiatives in June that will be levied for the FY07 budget as follows:

Library Levy – voters approved an additional \$995,000 annually. Net of the decrease in the library levy that expired in 2006, the Library levy will increase 2.05 mills, or \$8.74 annually on a house with an assessed value of \$200,000.

Search & Rescue – voters approved \$87,500 annually or 0.49 mills. This will cost \$2.09 annually on a house with an assessed value of \$200,000.

Aging – voters approved up to \$350,000 annually. However, the Missoula Aging Services board has determined their FY07 requirements to be an additional \$255,770 or an additional 1.44 mills. This will cost \$6.15 annually on a house with an assessed value of \$200,000.

Budget Enhancements

The BCC has given preliminary approval to the following significant enhancement requests:

Missoula Art Museum – increase support by \$61,425 annually;

County Attorney – provides tax funding to replace lost grant funding (\$32,385); increase intern pay (\$26,365);

Clerk & Recorder – upgrade the recording system (\$111,109);

Fair – architect services for master plan (\$40,000); building and bathroom repairs (\$26,267); continue facilitator contract (\$16,000);

Local Government Study Commission –operations funding (\$25,191);

Animal Control – Spay/neuter clinic (\$10,000);

Financial Administration – Special criminal justice assistant to the admin team (\$94,195); Ongoing funding for admin aide (\$34,613); Legislative initiative (\$18,317); MCDC ongoing support (\$10,000);

Facilities Management – increase in utility costs (\$54,500); asphalt sealing of parking lots \$12,975; construction plans and bid documents – Public Safety Center (\$678,000); renovations of the 3rd floor of the Old Courthouse (\$635,500); space needs study (\$75,000); License and source code for DIACS system (\$25,000);

Health Department – decay ordinance – fund clean-up expenses (\$10,000);

Human Resources – establish longevity plan for personnel plan employees (\$42,000);

Information Services – countywide file management system (\$350,000); upgrade training room (\$10,000);

Office of Emergency Services – on-call time (\$31,250 quarter money); interoperable voice radio project (\$60,000 quarter money); Add five FTE 9-1-1 dispatchers (\$163,376 general fund, \$65,351 quarter money);

Rural Initiatives – Add 2 FTE planners (\$105,156 - \$23,025 general fund); Add .5 FTE assoc planner to (\$22,864); add 1 FTE office manager (\$38,477); continue open space initiative (\$13,500);

Public Works – perform inspection and maintenance on the Orchard Homes Levee (\$100,000); provide funding to remedy ongoing shortfall (\$112,500); Surveyor equipment (\$51,000);

Public Safety – fund contingency for Sheriff's Office shortfall (\$178,806); Add 1 FTE registered nurse to medical contract (\$71,564 - \$45,279 in new levy authority); contract increase for Missoula Correctional Services (\$66,259);

Treasurer's Office – increase in postage costs (\$12,000).

MISSOULA COUNTY**PROPERTY TAX SUMMARY - FY2007**

	Countywide		Unincorporated	
		Mills		Mills
Taxes levied - FY2006	22,272,681	129.11	2,513,249	31.83
New property	585,233	(0.27)	50,861	0.18
Floating Mills	296,246	1.67	33,284	0.42
Permissive Medical Levy	(28,065)	(0.16)	-	-
Public Works	-	-	112,500	1.40
Tax Requirements - FY07	23,126,095	130.35	2,709,894	33.83
Tax increase (decrease)	213,472	1.24	157,893	2.00
Est. cost - house assessed @ \$200,000		5.28		8.54
Voter Approved Initiatives				
Library	995,000	5.61		
Expiring Library Levy	(631,676)	(3.56)		
Library, net	363,324	2.05		
Search & Rescue	87,500	0.49		
Aging	255,770	1.44		
Total voter approved	706,594	3.98		
Est. cost to a house assessed @ \$200,000		17.01		

Bottom Line

The FY2007 budget as presented, including the enhancements that have been preliminarily approved by the Board of County Commissioners, could result in a net tax increase of approximately \$213,472 or 1.24 mills countywide (which represents a 1.0% increase over the prior year) and an additional \$157,893 or 2.00 mills in the area outside the city limits (which represents a 6.3% increase over the prior year).

Voter approved initiatives will add an additional 3.98 mills or \$706,594 to the tax rolls. Final results depend largely on the certified taxable value and the amount of newly taxable property in the County. We caution everyone to remember that enhancement approvals are NOT final and are contingent on final budget adoption.

Elsie Hansen Row: I live in the Manor and I've always been kind of a goer. I like to go! I don't like to sit in my room all the time. So I use the busses a lot. I'm here because I was drafted! And Marcia Hall, the social worker at the Manor says, please say thank you to the County Commissioners for providing funds for the transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. Tell them in your own words what it means to you to be able to go where you need to go. Well it's very very important to me and the fact is most of us are on restricted budgets and the fact that this is only \$1.00 a ride, that's not too bad. I appreciate it very much and I'm speaking for the people in the Manor. Thank you.

Laurie Churine: I have been using the Para-transit system for two years. I would like to thank the County Commissioners for their financial support of this wonderful public facility that we have, or service that we have. About two years ago I was really sick and I only used the service to take me to the doctor. Now that I'm much better I use the service to actually take me to a job. As you probably know people with disabilities aren't disabled people and we are viable members of this community and we can actually do things. With the transportation system now, as it is the Para-transit system makes it so much easier to get out of your house and go and participate in the community. Again, thank you for your continued support.

Sheila James: I'm a peer advocate with Summit Independent Living Center. When I don't have my own personal driver, a lot of times when I have to go by myself I use the Para-transit and I wish that you would keep support of the Para-transit because it's the only thing that a lot of us can use because taxi service is not viable for some of us. So, I ask that you keep your support. Thank you.

Commissioner Carey: Thank you, Sheila.

Andrea Dahl: I serve on the Special Transit Advisory Committee along with Sheila. I'm here just to ask that you continue to support the special transit services. Although I do not use them myself, I work with people who are applying and who are going through renewing their service. It has been a wonderful asset to our community. So many of these people who use cannot get to locations around the community, otherwise, so I ask that you please support continuing the service. Thank you.

Steve Earl: I'm not sure that I can add a whole lot to what's been said. I'm the general manager of Mountain Lion and I do need to thank you for your support. I think it's important to note that the funds that the Commissioners allocate to the Missoula Urban Transportation District are matched in state funds at a 50/50 rate which allows us an opportunity to increase service further. The other thing that's important to note is that initially we predicted we would add 150-200 rides a month using the funds that you have provided us and we've actually added 600-700 rides a month which is cost effect, but unfortunately it illustrates that the need is escalating and it continues to escalate. I'm sure you hear this from other programs that are related to senior citizens and people with disabilities here in Missoula County and that is being the medical center that we are, the need for these services continues to grow. I think the mil levy that was passed by the Missoula Aging Services clearly illustrates that, not only is the need growing, but the public supports overwhelmingly funding these needs. I do thank you for your support. I hope that you'll continue to do it. I'm going to throw in another sense that says I predict that we're going to have to come back and ask for more funds in order to add service. We did double our request to the State of Montana for trans aid funds that we receive which you may know are a tax – a 25 cent fee – that's added on to license fees and we increased that request from \$20,000 annually to \$40,000 annually this year. We haven't heard on that request yet, but we hope we get it. What these funds do is allow us to provide services outside of what's required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. In other words, some of the services that we provide are restricted to people who are considered ADA eligible or meet a set criteria that allows them to use this service. The funds that the County gives us, or allocates towards us, are used to provide additional services outside of that criteria, so an individual who may be able to use fixed route service for one thing but can't use it for another thing can still get a ride at certain times during the day when maybe we're less busy. That generally falls – a senior citizen falls into that category quite often, so might a person who is fairly mobile but just can't get from say Target to Super Wal-mart and that's where they need to do shopping. What I brought with me is a copy of a thank you letter that I did forward to the Commissioners a couple weeks ago, but I think it's important for everyone here to understand that the reason this individual sent the thank you letter is because they can take fixed route, but our fixed route service doesn't go to Super Wal-Mart – for a lot of reasons, most of which you can imagine what it would be like trying to get a 35 foot bus in and out of Wal-Mart at certain times during the day, as you see what's happened to the traffic out there. Anyhow, this individual's on a fixed income and that's where they can do the most cost effective shopping and through the use of the funds that the County allocates to Mountain Lion we're able to give this person a ride on certain days of the week and certain times of the month. He really really appreciated it and he sent a letter that says – I'm thankful for the thoughtful, kind and caring things you do. Thank you very much for all of your hard work and precious time spent regarding my appeal – and he did appeal for this service and we were able to grant it to him using those funds – you truly have made a positive impact on my life. That's from Jared Cukendahl who's a long time Mountain Line user. So I think that illustrates what the funding is doing and if you ever have any questions regarding it, feel free to give me a call. Thanks.

Marsha Hauck: I'm the service coordinator at Missoula Manor and I would just like to second what Steve has said about the funding. First of all thank you very very much for the funding that you have provided and the people that I represent – many of them fall into that category of folks who don't always qualify for ADA transportation, but need the extra transportation in order to almost do anything. They can occasionally ride the fixed route if it goes exactly from point A to the point B that they need to go to, but they are not necessarily capable of walking more than a block or two to get where they need to go and they could never conceivably cross streets like Broadway or any of the big streets in town and really make it in time before being threatened by oncoming traffic. There are just so many situations where they would not be able to go. Like Elsie said,

they're used to going all their lives and they would be just stuck. Being able to go can often make the difference between being in the lower cost housing and perhaps having to not make it and moving on down the road to assisted living or a nursing home. I mean it's just very cost effective that you are supporting the transportation. Thank you very much.

Chris Holmes: I'm the programs manager at the YWCA, Missoula. I would like to thank you very much for your support in the last years of our Pathways Domestic Violence Program. I'd like to ask for continued support for the next year. County funding helps us the comprehensive services that we do provide to victims of domestic violence and their children. Comprehensive services include our emergency shelter program, our 24 hour crisis hotline, our rape and sexual assault services, our children's program, our walk-in counseling program, our support groups for both adults and children and our community outreach education and advocacy. The need for our services continues to be evident and in fact, in FY05 we had a significant increase in our numbers, or the numbers that we served. We served 598 victims of domestic violence compared to 406 in FY04. We served 78 children who were victims of child sexual abuse compared to 33 in FY04 and finally we provided services to 231 children who were victims of domestic violence, compared to 150 in FY04. So we can't thank you enough for your support in helping us provide those services to those folks and we ask that you'll continue to support our programs. Thank you.

Aaron Braach: I'm with Missoula Food Bank. Thank you so much for your support, not just this year, but in the past as well. In 2005 1 in 8 Missoula County residents came through our doors for help. You played a big role in our ability to help them. Thanks.

Kristi Goff: I'm with the Word Family Basics Program and I also wanted to thank the County Commissioners for assistance with our basic needs assistance program last year which provided rent stabilization and security deposit assistance to homeless and at risk families. We were able to help 65 families last year. We have changed our program a little for the coming year to be a families-in-transition program which we hope will provide some ongoing stability to the families that we serve this coming year to make sure they don't fall back into that cycle of chronic homelessness or meet those barriers that led to homelessness reoccurring in their lives. So I just wanted to say thank you and I need to go to the camp that we do for homeless and at risk kids right now. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer. Thank you.

Sherry Taylor: I'm with Montana Legal Services and I'm here representing the Family Law Advice Clinic. It's a pro se clinic that enables low income people who need divorces and parenting plans to access the legal justice system. We don't charge anything for our services. We walk them through the process, helping them to represent themselves in court. We do not give them attorney's, they actually do the work themselves. You have supported us in the past and we've been very thankful for that. The Missoula County low income people who use our services – it empowers them and allows them access to the justice system and the legal system where otherwise they wouldn't have any other options. It also legitimizes them and helps them to participate as citizens in the society. For some reason low income people seem to have more legal issues than other income people. They did a study in the State of Montana there's 3.4 legal issues per low income person on an average each year. So any support we can give is – to them – is crucial and any support you can give to us is very valuable and appreciated. Do you have any questions about our program?

Commissioner Carey: I don't think so, but thank you for the work that you do.

Sherry Taylor: Thank you.

Kate Ybarra: I'm with the Human Resource Council. I'm the program coordinator for the interim assistance program. I wanted to come today and thank you for your ongoing support of the interim assistance program. It's such a great program and we've really enjoyed the support over the years of county dollars. Missoula continues to have one of the largest pools of individuals who are applying for SSI and SSDI and a lot of these folks are without housing while they're in the process. So this program really helps people to have a form of support until they can get on federal disability and that's very helpful. I want to thank you for the support and also for the support that you give to all of the programs that are helping individuals who are lower income and have disabilities in the community. Thanks.

Major Ed Patterson: With the Salvation Army. I am one of those agencies that she was just speaking about and I want to thank you also for your support. The Salvation Army in many respects of this County is at the ground entry level of helping people with their basic needs. So when they have come to us for help, sometimes those dollars that you provide us are very crucial. I thank you all for that help.

Naomi Kimball: I'm the Executive Director of the Poverello Center and I am here to thank you for your ongoing support of our services. In FY05 we served over 100,000 meals to Missoula's hungry and homeless families and we provided over 15,000 nights of shelter to homeless adults. County support is really important for us to be able to maintain that level of service so I just wanted to thank you for that.

Chris Volinkaty: I am the Executive Director of CDC the Child Development. The Child Development Center is a regional center that provides services to children with developmental disabilities and their families. We start at age 0 and go to age 22. We serve seven counties in Western Montana. We have two major offices they are in Missoula – that's where all our financial things are situated, etcetera – and we also have quite a large office in Kalispell. CDC was incorporated in 1975 and it was an offshoot of mental health. It was formed by County Commissioners and there was one County Commissioner just like the Mental Health Board from each of seven counties. That's how the whole articles of incorporation were run. You had to do some financial participation and provide a dedicated board member. Patti Tressler is our board member right now and he would be here with me today, except he had his own budget hearing. He said theirs were much harder than yours. Hahaha. From 1975 to 1998 Missoula County was very instrumental in starting child and family services and our major mission is to strengthen families, keep kids with mental disabilities at home with their families and provide families with the support they need to work with those children until they move on to a different service. We serve about 300 and some individual families and kids per month in a variety of different services. From 1975 to 1998 we had board and fiscal support from Missoula County. Like I said before, our bylaws require that fiscal – you have to be a fiscal participant to be board member. In 1998 Missoula County, under the leadership of Fern Hart who was on our board, decided to quite supporting the Child Development Center fiscally. The reason was very sound – it was because we were in very sound financial shape and Missoula County was in need of resources. Well, it's now 2006 and things have really changed. We have what we – first of all we'd like to have you on our board. Libby was, or Lincoln County was gone for a while and just joined again. But we really feel that Missoula County needs some representation. That's one of the reasons. We also want you to help us with some of the coming problems that we have going on right now. CDC is still financially sound. We have no debt. This year's budget was \$85,000 in the hole. Now we're hoping we're going to be able to catch that up and save what we have line item budgeted. In addition to that, the state has started what they call the Medicaid redesign process and it's a requirement and a lot of the problems they ask for themselves – that's my own opinion – but that's how our division has changed. We no longer have the lifetime career people that have always operated in developmental disabilities. We have managers that don't know our programs and don't know what we do. They offered us half of what we need for cost to operate our services. Now we're in the process of trying to negotiate that. We've done vast date collection etcetera. Our annual budget is about 3.1 million and it is a home based program, so we travel to people's homes and we keep families together. The last 10 years, CDC has been in the top 3% of child and family services, nationally. As reviewed by the Council on Accreditation. I believe we provide cutting edge services that really work. We actually, in the last year statewide, you cannot put children in institutions if they have mental retardation, that doesn't happen in Montana anymore. We had five kids that were living in group homes and out of all the kids that are served statewide, there are about 2000 – there were only five in group homes, the rest were served in natural homes or in foster homes. So I think we've done really a lot to keep families and kids together. I want to tell you just a little bit about Missoula County. What we're requesting from you is a \$9,000.00 annual fee and a dedicated board member. We feel like we have a big fight ahead of us in the legislature and we need your political support to help us get this through and convince the legislatures that the avenue the department is taking is not going to support what we've had up and running nationwide. We had the first waiver in the nation. Missoula County had the first child and family program and we also have the biggest. Missoula County is 35% of the population of the seven counties that we serve and we are growing so fast in Western Montana, we have huge waiting lists. 32% of the clients served last year were from Missoula, so I think that this is a nominal fee. But what we really need is, not only that nominal fee, but your involvement in our services in order to continue what we've been able to accomplish. Are there any questions? I think you know our program. I think you know what we do. So, if you can find \$9,000.00 in this good year that you're having and a dedicated board member, we would certainly appreciate it. Thank you.

John Richards: I'm a taxpayer. I'd like to commend the Commissioners on their hard work and their dedication. I see Jean up and down in meetings all up and down the County, I know she spends a lot of time and it's appreciated. Thank you. I have a couple of questions for Dale, and maybe it's just in how it's presented but one suggestion I'd like to make is on the budget itself you have the Public Works Department? Combine all those items together so that they show up all together. The Public Works runs the Building Department, the Roads and I think the bridge. Maybe put Public Works and show those items all together so they're easy to track. I just have a couple specific questions on those.

Commissioner Curtiss: In our printed budget that's the way they do show up.

John Richards: Oh, okay. What is the County tax increment?

Dale Bickell: The County tax increment districts – for FY07 there's going to be two districts. It's the area – it's the Development Park near the airport where the County has the Development Park. An increment district is a taxing area where the property taxes generated in that district aren't allocated to all of the jurisdictions, they're kept in that geographic district and used for the construction of infrastructure in those areas.

John Richards: Okay. You might put that on there just Airport Development Park or something. The other one is the Building Codes Division? You show a total expenditure of \$601,000 on the front of attachment A, on the back it shows in the last column beginning and ending cash revenue show a deficit. What is that deficit and how are you funding it?

Dale Bickell: That deficit represents the initial investment the County made on getting that building codes division up and running. What I mentioned during the process is we don't have a good history of our fee revenue yet well enough to know what our fee revenues are. So right now, as just a balancing figure, we're estimating that the revenues are going to equal our expenses. Once we get some history down in the building codes division, we're going to adjust fees to make sure we can pay that deficit to ourselves back.

John Richards: Okay, that deficit right now is being funded by the taxpayers, but you expect it to be funded by the fees?

Dale Bickell: It's funded by excess cash reserve that's been generated over time. So there's no new tax increase to fund it, but...

John Richards: Taxpayers paid that to start with.

Commissioner Curtiss: So basically we loaned it money to get it up and running, but by law it has to fund itself. So we'll pay ourselves back over time.

John Richards: So it's start up fees?

Commissioner Curtiss: Yes. And it took quite a while for the state to approve our program. We were hoping to up and going last fall and it was May.

John Richards: On planning and grants it shows total expenditures of 5.5 million and is that half or is that the County portion? And the City is paying another 5.5 million for planning and grants? Or is that the total planning and grants budget?

Dale Bickell: That's the total planning and grants budget.

John Richards: Okay, so half of it is the County and half is the City...well the 46 – 54 or whatever.

Dale Bickell: Well, it's a lot more complicated than that. That also, the grant side of it is mostly County grant and that's a significant part of that budget. Of the total 5.5 million, I would venture to say that 70% of it is probably county.

John Richards: Okay.

Commissioner Curtiss: Part of the reason it shows that way is all the employees are County employees and some of them do work for the city, so then the city puts money in the budget for that. The planning mil we split, but they all are on the County payroll. Just for simplicity.

John Richards: The City employees are on the County payroll?

Commissioner Curtiss: The Office of Planning and Grants employees are, but some of them do City work and we – that's what our interlocal covers, so that we give money...

John Richards: So that the City reimburses the County?

Commissioner Curtiss: Yes.

John Richards: Okay. On the second page, attachment B shows non-tax revenues and total in there is 6...7 and what are those non-tax revenues that are referred to there?

Dale Bickell: Most of those...it really varies by department. For example justice court, the \$574,000 that's fines and forfeitures from justice court, attorneys, it's charges for services or grants, financial services – those are internal charges, recording – those are clerk and recorder fees charged for services. Elections are fees charged to other jurisdictions for running elections. Records management – internal departmental charges, treasurer most of that are County Treasurer fees received on motor vehicle licensing – some of that is permitting. In facilities management, substantially all of that is the maintenance charged to the Detention facility.

John Richards: That's reimbursed?

Dale Bickell: That's reimbursed, yeah.

John Richards: Okay.

Dale Bickell: And PHC has a small portion of that, but most - \$300,000 of that is the Detention Center. Then the Office of Emergency Management – 3 million of that is a grant from the Department of Justice for a Western Montana regional technology/radio project that (inaudible). 9-1-1 that is quarter money allocation, so that's a passing from the state and the last one – oh the Surveyor's has charges, Certificate of Survey fees is the largest bulk of that. Financial Admin, those are mostly internal charges as well.

Commissioner Curtiss: And Superintendent of Schools – Mineral County contracts with our County elected Superintendent of Schools so that comes from them.

John Richards: Okay, I wasn't trying to grill ya, I was just asking questions.

Dale Bickell: That's fine, I'm happy to answer any questions.

John Richards: You did a great job at answering them. The Seeley Lake Refuge District – Jean's been working with them and I would commend her for her work and please get it done. We need to the issues resolved up there.

Commissioner Curtiss: Thank you.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Commissioners were in recess at 4:00 p.m. The preliminary budget hearing will reconvene at 7:00 p.m. on this same evening.