

COMMISSIONER MEETING

515 Broadway, Townsend, MT 59644

March 27, 2019

Commissioner Mike Delger called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Bill Jarocki was there to present the Broadwater County Public Safety Budget Analysis. He introduced himself and then got started with his report and findings.

Mr. Jarocki passed out the Report of Findings to the Commissioners.

Mr. Jarocki stated that every Sheriff's Office should have a mission. So first off, what's the mission of the Sheriff's Office? The Broadwater County Sheriff Department's mission is to take a proactive community policing approach to develop citizen trust and support. This high-visibility mission approach is designed to create better rapport with citizens, heighten community quality of life, less fear of crime and generally a greater sense of safety.

Currently there is no policing within the schools which is something the Sheriff's Office wants to offer eventually.

The Sheriff's Office has gone from 3,000 emergency calls annually to 20,000 calls annually.

Mr. Jarocki stated that the county will want their Sheriff's Office to be staffed and trained.

Mr. Jarocki also mentioned that the budget usually relies on the 90/10 rule. This means that most of what we need to do (say 90 % of what we need to do) is the same from year to year. The remaining 10 % might be new things we need to do. It is important to do a good job calculating what the 10 % of new things will cost because both the 90 % of existing things and the 10 % of new things are risks to our need for revenue. Mr. Jarocki mentioned that counties get into trouble because of that 10 % because they don't budget for it. Mr. Jarocki recommended that the county budget for that 10 %.

Mr. Jarocki stated that if the county continues on the same trend of their Public Safety budget, they are going to be in trouble.

Strategic Budgeting

Strategic Budgeting can be difficult to do, but it is necessary-especially when resources are tight.

The strategic budgeting approach is how to manage this complicated budget. The Detention Center should be ok for the rest of this fiscal year and up to March of 2020. When Lewis & Clark open their Detention Center in March of 2020, that's when Broadwater County is going to lose a substantial amount of money.

Mr. Jarocki mentioned that the county needs to immediately focus on the revenue budget. Marginal decreases in program expenditures and/or seeking new pots of funding will not come close to offsetting the expected downturn of fee for service revenue expected in fiscal year 2021.

Mr. Jarocki said to start making a plan now and after the plan is made to have some listening sessions. The county should meet with the School Board now about reestablishing a School Resource Officer within the schools. The county should ask the Board to pay for the School Resource Officer. He suggested that the county talk to other districts about what their plans are. This should be done within this fiscal year.

Fiscal 2019-2020

Mr. Jarocki recommended having a department wide budget analysis. Use that data to construct the budget that comes afterward.

Mr. Jarocki recommendation for the Detention Center is to have secured funds for the jail and then reevaluate a year after Lewis & Clark Detention Center opens. There are a couple different options for the Detention Center. First, the county finds secured revenue to fund the Detention Center. Second, the county shuts down the Detention Center and just has a 911 center with Dispatch and deputies.

The full report is filed in the commissioners' office.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Mike Delger, Chairman

Attest:

Ann Rauser, Deputy Clerk and Recorder