MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CHURCHILL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

155 N. Taylor St., Fallon, NV 89406
March 28, 2024

Call to Order:

The special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was called to order at 5:18 PM on March 28, 2024.

PRESENT:	Commissioner Myles Getto Commissioner Harry Scharmann Commissioner Justin Heath County Manager Jim R. Barbee Comptroller Sherry Wideman Deputy District Attorney Joseph Sanford Deputy Clerk to the Board Pamela D. Moore Asst. Co. Manager/HR Director Chris Spross Sheriff Richard Hickox Social Services Director Shannon Ernst Chief Deputy District Attorney Lane Mills Matt Hyde
ABSENT:	Linda Rothery, Clerk/Treasurer

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the board and public.

Public Comment:

Chairman Getto asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Verification of the Posting of the Agenda:

It was verified by Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board, that the Agenda for this meeting was posted on the 22nd day of March, 2024, between the hours of 1:00 and 5:00 PM at all of the locations listed on the Agenda, in accordance with NRS 241.

Consideration and possible action re: Approval of Agenda as submitted or revised:

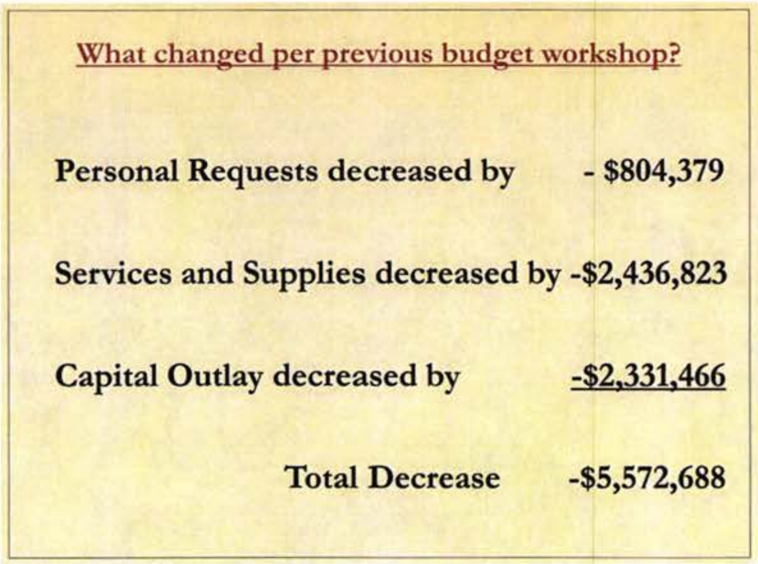
Commissioner Justin Heath made a motion to approve the Agenda as revised. Commissioner Harry Scharmann seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Appointments:

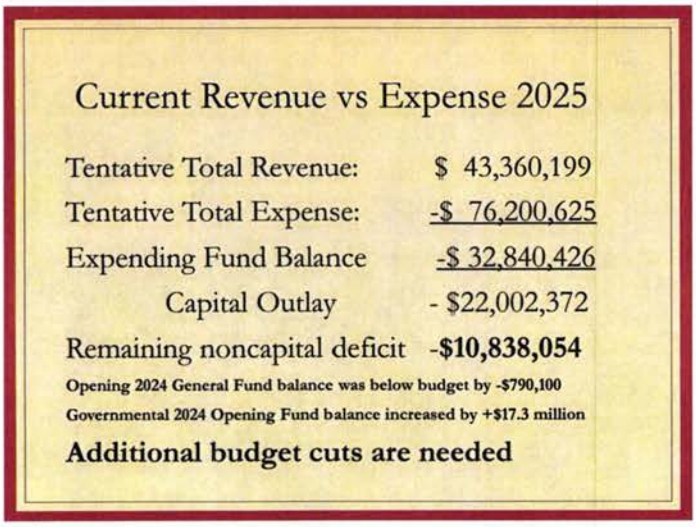
4:30 PM A- Consideration and possible action re: Presentation and discussion on the Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and possible input and direction from the Board of County Commissioners to the Comptroller regarding changes to departmental budget requests since the budget hearings held on February 22, 2024.

Comptroller Wideman will make a presentation on the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and request input and direction from the Board of County Commissioners regarding changes to departmental budget requests since the budget hearings held on February 22, 2024.
FISCAL IMPACT: N/A
EXPLANATION OF IMPACT: N/A
FUNDING SOURCE: N/A
ACTION REQUESTED: Accept

Comptroller Wideman had the following PowerPoint presentation:



A lot of the decreases for services and supplies and capital outlay involved removing the grant funded projects so that it is not over-inflated. They will be augmented when we get the expenditure and the grant in the right fiscal year.



Our opening fund balance for FY24 was below the budget by $790,100, so we started lower than expected. That means that we will not be able to augment for greater than anticipated opening fund balance in the current fiscal year. It should also be noted that the overall fund balance was up $17.3 million, which was due to the Navy money and the COVID money. That money had been moved out of the General Fund and other funds and put into the Capital Projects Fund to build District Court.

Commissioner Scharmann said, with regard to the $76 million, was that the budget before we started cutting? Ms. Wideman said that is the budget after we did these cuts on the first page. County Manager Barbee said it is of the enhancements. That is above the base of 2024. That is with the enhancements for FY25. Ms. Wideman said it also includes capital projects, which has $15 million for the courthouse.

Suggested Additional Budget Cuts

1. **Remove 3% General Adjustment for 2025**
2. **See Revised 2025 Wish List for:**
   - **Removal of Supplemental Personnel Requests**
   - **Removal of Supplemental Services and Supplies**
   - **Removal of Capital Outlay**
3. **Remove various unfilled positions**
4. **Delay/gap hiring unfilled positions**
5. **Request 2025 budget cuts in services and supplies by 15%**
6. **Request 2024 targeted unspent budgets of 10% in services and supplies and capital outlay.**
7. **Reinstate CC Comm transfer**

Unfortunately, we need to cut budget. The suggestions I came up with are listed above. I created a new wish list. The summary is on the first page but, if you go to each page, they are still color coded and the ones that are highlighted will remain and everything that is not highlighted we are requesting to remove. You will see the columns of the removals that were requested at the last meeting on February 22nd and then the next column are the additional items that are being requested to be removed from budget. That goes all the way through services and supplies. The yellow is for capital outlay and pink is the community support. We can go through those line by line when I finish this part.

We are also requesting to remove some unfilled positions and to delay or gap some of the unfilled positions that are sitting out there right now. We will ask departments to decrease their remaining FY24 budget for services and supplies by 10% and then ask them to decrease their FY25 budget by 15%. All of this stuff was on top of the budget from last year, so we are getting rid of that and also asking them to cut from the current year, which was also increased from the previous year. County Manager Barbee said, in this last quarter, we would reduce the FY24 by 10% to create the FY24 base budget and then the FY25 base budget is based on FY24 and we would have 15% above that. Cumulative over two years you are talking about 25%. Ms. Wideman said, in this last quarter, they have 25% of their expenditures left and we are going to ask them to reduce that by 10%. From that, the budget that they did spend is what they are going to be asked to decrease another 15% in FY25. We are going to see if we can reinstate CC Communications transfer to the county in FY25 to the $845,000. Commissioner Scharmann said is that PILT? Comptroller Wideman said, no, they are paying the PILT, which is $500,000. County Manager Barbee said this was the amount that was cut in FY24 because of their projects. Ms. Wideman said we will be asking to have that reinstated.

Results of Supplement Budget Cuts
Revenue vs Expense 2025

Tentative Total Revenue:	$ 43,203,034
Tentative Total Expense:	-$ 61,199,043
Expending Fund Balance	-$ 17,996,009
Capital Outlay	- $10,513,872
Remaining noncapital deficit	**- $ 7,482,137**

Additional budget cuts are needed, 15% in Services and Supplies

If we do all of this, except for 5 and 6, since we haven't estimated those amounts yet, this is what the results would be. We are expecting our revenues to be $43 million, the tentative expenditures would be $61 million, leaving an fund balance of -$17.9 million. From that, $10.5 million involves capital outlay. That still leaves us with a deficit of $7.4 million but we will have the decreases in the budget of 25% to help cover that. County Manager Barbee said that, along with gapping positions and then taking the positions before the Position Review Committee.

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Results of Supplement Budget Cuts Expense 2025

Budget Worksheet for FY2025

For Fiscal: 2023-2024 Period Ending: 03/31/2024

Fund Summary

Fund	2021-2022 Total Budget	2021-2022 Total Activity	2022-2023 Total Budget	2022-2023 Total Activity	2023-2024 Total Budget	2023-2024 YTD Activity	Defined Budgets 2024-2025 Dept Request	2024-2025 Tentative Budget
100 - GENERAL FUND	36,298,278.00	33,708,123.38	41,827,567.00	38,768,017.62	30,808,957.00	19,655,770.64	35,157,524.00	31,601,580.00
101 - STABILIZATION OF OPERATN	0.00	0.00	500,000.00	500,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
201 - FORFEITURES-SEIZED ASSET	52,000.00	0.00	52,000.00	3,909.17	52,000.00	34,737.68	52,000.00	52,000.00
210 - ROAD FUND	2,468,814.00	2,140,068.68	2,803,866.00	2,511,416.60	2,737,593.00	1,628,073.44	2,812,516.00	2,673,845.00
211 - ROAD IMPACT FUND	800,000.00	538,420.37	300,000.00	0.00	300,000.00	3,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00
220 - SOCIAL SERVICES	5,419,923.00	3,777,372.11	3,998,237.00	3,217,603.58	3,495,324.00	2,918,005.41	7,068,279.00	3,035,976.00
230 - COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	210,052.00	141,834.27	162,559.00	115,493.70	172,502.00	79,330.17	176,998.00	172,833.00
240 - PUBLIC LIBRARY	770,882.00	758,676.46	797,256.00	761,541.62	831,190.00	554,081.85	840,774.00	794,055.00
245 - PARKS AND RECREATION	2,183,797.00	2,037,374.69	2,141,011.00	2,138,001.53	2,234,419.00	1,676,897.77	2,529,648.00	2,309,976.00
246 - RESIDENT CONST TAX-PARKS	285,000.00	200,822.92	105,000.00	57,372.71	105,000.00	44,771.22	105,000.00	105,000.00
260 - INDIGENT DONATIONS/GIFTS	16,530.00	1,352.42	13,750.00	0.00	13,700.00	240.06	13,700.00	13,700.00
285 - AB 65 COURT FEE FUND	90,210.00	0.00	90,210.00	1,014.50	690,210.00	85,000.00	90,210.00	590,210.00
270 - LAW LIBRARY	15,810.00	6,738.19	50,000.00	41,001.35	10,000.00	5,200.48	10,000.00	10,000.00
280 - REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION	872,000.00	500,000.00	2,200,000.00	1,500,000.00	2,100,000.00	1,500,000.00	900,000.00	900,000.00
310 - TECHNOLOGY FEE	225,426.00	174,818.23	218,784.00	162,057.10	295,672.00	106,321.52	283,843.00	283,843.00
311 - E-911 SYSTEM FUND	140,000.00	38,745.63	153,000.00	123,613.17	353,000.00	53,850.90	375,000.00	253,000.00
320 - LIBRARY GIFT FUND	35,000.00	10,245.38	40,000.00	7,148.85	35,000.00	0.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
330 - RISK MANAGEMENT	350,000.00	49,417.79	350,000.00	36,868.76	350,000.00	27,821.46	350,000.00	350,000.00
340 - COMPENSATED ABSENCES	518,000.00	304,912.99	518,000.00	338,110.98	518,000.00	326,398.84	518,000.00	518,000.00
350 - UNEMPLOYMNT COMPENSATION	31,000.00	1,835.00	31,000.00	3,151.54	45,000.00	8,212.00	45,000.00	45,000.00
365 - RESTITUTION/GRAFFITI FND	118,000.00	48,313.30	118,000.00	52,010.31	118,000.00	111,093.49	118,000.00	118,000.00
367 - DISTRICT COURT SECURITY	27,900.00	14,695.48	9,000.00	8,757.79	9,000.00	7,108.34	14,000.00	5,000.00
370 - ADMIN ASSESSMENT FUND	50,000.00	50,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	25,000.00
380 - WATER RESOURCE FUND	2,231,686.00	1,995,031.57	2,292,036.00	1,057,802.37	2,219,250.00	1,383,936.95	2,753,250.00	2,753,250.00
385 - INFRASTRUCTURE TAX FUND	340,000.00	284,618.00	340,000.00	299,450.00	340,000.00	100,000.00	340,000.00	340,000.00
387 - OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,300.00	275,000.00	275,000.00
390 - RECREATION DONATIONS	25,500.00	18,477.91	25,500.00	12,507.90	25,500.00	7,638.27	25,500.00	25,500.00
393 - INDIG HOSPITAL CARE-MVA	155,000.00	117,853.35	155,000.00	127,258.63	155,000.00	92,852.29	155,000.00	130,000.00
394 - INDIGENT SERVICES	863,973.00	668,431.08	863,973.00	662,238.04	908,306.00	567,952.81	908,306.00	908,306.00
395 - PUBLIC TRANSIT	1,025,000.00	811,279.55	1,700,000.00	1,100,000.00	1,600,000.00	1,175,000.00	900,000.00	900,000.00
396 - SR CIT AD VALOREM LEVY	1,132,680.00	1,018,268.18	1,610,247.00	1,150,219.17	1,519,692.00	933,656.85	1,439,669.00	1,339,134.00
397 - ONE CENT FUEL EXCISE TAX	85,000.00	32,344.94	85,000.00	44,008.94	85,000.00	38,547.88	85,000.00	85,000.00
399 - CENTRAL NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,325,131.00	1,349,578.57	3,839,472.00	3,781,368.00
400 - COUNTY DEBT SERVICE	10,344,943.00	10,344,942.31	1,280,443.00	1,280,442.00	1,280,771.00	927,368.50	1,279,888.00	1,279,888.00
510 - BUILDING RESERVE	625,000.00	525,997.30	2,655,606.00	2,597,844.97	1,755,000.00	1,632,840.98	1,619,997.00	1,269,997.00
515 - CAPITAL PROJECTS TX LEVY	298,000.00	174,726.99	1,798,000.00	1,171,218.53	2,100,000.00	642,146.31	15,300,000.00	5,300,000.00
520 - EXTRA ORDINARY REPAIR	168,000.00	114,495.25	178,000.00	123,698.58	253,000.00	66,473.45	253,000.00	253,000.00
525 - FIRE EQUIPMENT APPARATUS	1,600,000.00	720,000.00	2,068,000.00	0.00	1,400,000.00	1,406,441.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
550 - ROAD EQUIPT REPLACEMENT	350,000.00	62,813.51	500,000.00	195,317.73	390,000.00	214,416.34	450,000.00	450,000.00

Ms. Wideman said we need to keep a fund balance for the Department of Taxation. I had asked that we remove that COVID PILT money at the last Commissioners' meeting of $3.4 million and I am now requesting that we leave that in the General Fund to keep a fund balance there while we try to true up the General Fund's expenditures. However, we will still earmark it for Capital Projects in the future. Mr. Barbee said, in other words, it is a holding spot. It is not meant to bleed into. If we absolutely had to, we could, but that is not the intent. The intent is to build up that forward moving money and that reserve over the next two years and then be able to shift that over into Capital Projects. Additionally, we will continue to pursue the Bureau of Reclamation funding as an earmark, which is almost $5.47 million, which would then all be one shot money that would go towards the Courthouse/Capital Improvement Project. This is a summary of what the expenses look like now, with everything except for the 25% budget cuts we are requesting.

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Results of Supplement Budget Cuts Revenue 2025

Budget Worksheet for FY2025

For Fiscal: 2023-2024 Period Ending: 03/31/2024

Fund Summary

Fund	2021-2022 Total Budget	2021-2022 Total Activity	2022-2023 Total Budget	2022-2023 Total Activity	2023-2024 Total Budget	2023-2024 YTD Activity	Defined Budgets 2024-2025 Dept Request	2024-2025 Tentative Budget
100 - GENERAL FUND	30,319,227.00	36,581,159.39	31,361,780.00	34,019,056.17	25,840,424.00	19,753,730.92	23,915,200.00	26,358,600.00
101 - STABILIZATION OF OPERATN	10,000.00	-169.37	2,000.00	6,754.77	8,000.00	29,857.92	20,000.00	20,000.00
201 - FORFEITURES-SEIZED ASSET	47,000.00	-39.29	47,000.00	24,390.81	47,000.00	16,514.94	48,000.00	48,000.00
210 - ROAD FUND	1,982,500.00	2,106,220.85	2,523,500.00	2,338,967.63	2,237,500.00	1,140,414.57	2,252,500.00	2,252,500.00
211 - ROAD IMPACT FUND	103,000.00	71,412.71	126,500.00	67,598.49	111,500.00	72,766.39	117,000.00	117,000.00
220 - SOCIAL SERVICES	4,580,686.00	3,819,140.17	4,785,096.00	3,033,356.30	1,991,233.00	2,883,706.19	2,877,429.00	2,430,579.00
230 - COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	155,200.00	136,051.22	81,215.00	88,711.20	105,300.00	112,425.65	101,315.00	137,000.00
240 - PUBLIC LIBRARY	619,900.00	908,090.45	843,650.00	808,466.04	649,700.00	520,337.27	611,700.00	586,700.00
245 - PARKS AND RECREATION	1,548,500.00	1,745,250.06	2,071,000.00	2,097,957.05	2,002,000.00	898,017.12	2,049,000.00	1,504,000.00
246 - RESIDENT CONST TAX-PARKS	51,000.00	28,776.45	70,500.00	27,846.76	65,800.00	27,431.88	32,000.00	32,000.00
260 - INDIGENT DONATIONS/GIFTS	2,600.00	-5.51	2,050.00	1,132.59	2,100.00	10,227.74	2,500.00	2,500.00
265 - AB 65 COURT FEE FUND	79,000.00	72,554.22	75,000.00	71,404.30	75,000.00	70,150.40	84,000.00	84,000.00
270 - LAW LIBRARY	10,500.00	10,227.66	10,100.00	44,246.39	10,200.00	9,266.69	11,000.00	11,000.00
280 - REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION	1,040,000.00	1,447,668.60	1,294,000.00	1,356,352.50	1,356,000.00	740,413.17	1,430,000.00	1,430,000.00
310 - TECHNOLOGY FEE	134,500.00	146,119.81	154,600.00	136,798.82	150,000.00	120,981.97	141,000.00	141,000.00
311 - E-911 SYSTEM FUND	76,000.00	76,988.25	78,300.00	81,047.76	78,847.00	58,191.15	84,000.00	84,000.00
320 - LIBRARY GIFT FUND	6,500.00	3,401.44	4,600.00	247.87	5,000.00	1,440.67	5,500.00	5,500.00
330 - RISK MANAGEMENT	55,000.00	49,786.12	50,500.00	50,901.82	51,000.00	14,803.20	60,000.00	60,000.00
340 - COMPENSATED ABSENCES	244,000.00	239,487.37	242,500.00	240,023.06	243,000.00	40,842.47	245,000.00	245,000.00
350 - UNEMPLOYMNT COMPENSATION	2,000.00	-27.37	300.00	434.58	1,000.00	5,747.91	3,000.00	3,000.00
365 - RESTITUTION/GRAFFITI FND	121,000.00	46,066.14	141,000.00	50,009.17	149,000.00	110,709.55	149,500.00	149,500.00
367 - DISTRICT COURT SECURITY	15,100.00	13,612.18	15,100.00	13,344.32	14,100.00	9,592.50	14,100.00	14,100.00
370 - ADMIN ASSESSMENT FUND	40,000.00	39,627.81	40,000.00	28,434.21	40,000.00	15,999.50	30,000.00	30,000.00
380 - WATER RESOURCE FUND	1,849,030.00	2,046,108.23	2,027,500.00	927,123.61	1,818,140.00	943,574.34	1,991,145.00	2,341,145.00
385 - INFRASTRUCTURE TAX FUND	337,000.00	438,107.01	343,000.00	440,697.52	410,000.00	288,022.77	430,000.00	430,000.00
387 - OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,218.29	0.00	0.00
390 - RECREATION DONATIONS	5,500.00	11,830.39	5,500.00	13,872.34	6,500.00	7,574.92	6,500.00	6,500.00
393 - INDIG HOSPITAL CARE-MVA	160,650.00	117,910.21	119,550.00	127,472.04	119,630.00	121,190.54	119,630.00	119,630.00
394 - INDIGENT SERVICES	455,250.00	858,339.77	463,750.00	755,363.17	472,250.00	632,131.26	477,250.00	492,250.00
395 - PUBLIC TRANSIT	660,000.00	1,095,815.78	675,000.00	1,093,039.98	679,000.00	608,977.69	700,000.00	700,000.00
396 - SR CIT AD VALOREM LEVY	1,026,930.00	990,695.80	1,713,010.00	1,592,325.91	1,399,974.00	852,884.37	1,099,948.00	1,113,948.00
397 - ONE CENT FUEL EXCISE TAX	60,500.00	74,382.50	65,500.00	62,750.80	75,000.00	38,849.66	2,000.00	77,000.00
399 - CENTRAL NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,346,805.00	900,889.48	3,914,883.00	3,914,883.00
400 - COUNTY DEBT SERVICE	1,210,000.00	1,221,666.50	1,210,000.00	1,265,655.83	1,215,000.00	543,443.61	1,230,000.00	1,230,000.00
510 - BUILDING RESERVE	965,000.00	1,526,725.30	560,000.00	979,787.08	360,000.00	640,886.55	400,000.00	400,000.00
515 - CAPITAL PROJECTS TX LEVY	372,200.00	392,979.92	8,690,905.00	24,268,931.90	399,100.00	975,717.08	1,004,200.00	1,004,200.00
520 - EXTRA ORDINARY REPAIR	150,000.00	286,194.79	127,000.00	269,387.30	130,000.00	231,399.06	130,000.00	105,000.00
525 - FIRE EQUIPMENT APPARATUS	226,200.00	248,971.24	231,100.00	271,609.36	254,100.00	316,453.44	266,100.00	266,100.00
530 - ROAD EQUIPT REPLACEMENT	198,327.00	296,118.79	31,000.00	145,165.83	34,600.00	36,300.82	41,300.00	41,300.00

These are the revenues, which are different than what was sent out with the budget packet because it now includes the decreases.

Department of Taxation Rules

During the fiscal year budgets can only be augmented if there are under-budgeted grants, greater than anticipated revenue, or greater than budgeted opening fund balance.

Therefore, revenues are budgeted as low as possible, and expenses are budgeted higher than expected, while meeting the required minimum fund balances.

In addition, revenues must be at or below the Department of Taxation's forecasted revenues which were distributed March 25th.

Per NRS 354.470

These are the rules from the Department of Taxation. We can go through the wish list if you like and you can ask questions about the proposal and I would be happy to answer what I can.

County Manager Barbee said one general philosophy statement, as you look through those though, is we tried to keep the idea that the county has to continue to move forward and has to continue to provide services and do all those things. One example is utilities. We have 22% inflation from 2019 to 2024. Utilities reflect that inflation, so those are areas we know we will have expenditures and increased costs that we have to deal with, so we left those in there.

With regard to the example of the 5 year replacement on computers, that left us with 72 computers that needed replacement in FY25. Rather than just cutting that completely, we had Colin print off a list of the aged computers and we are taking 25 of the most aged computers to fund that. You basically save $75,000 from the budget. It is above the FY24 budget. Although we don't know where it is going to fall, maybe all of those computers are at the Sheriff's Office or maybe they are Social Services. I have no idea where they are – it just identifies the age, so we will replace the oldest 25 computers and look at those that are coming off of service. I think the oldest was 12 years and then that got into some of the 6 year old computers. Obviously, some of those newer ones we will re-evaluate and put those into storage in case we have computer failure and need them to get us through. Next year, we will try to do the same thing. This will enable us to stay in a replacement phase so that they are operating but maybe it isn't a 5 year replacement but closer to a 6 or 7 year by the time we are out of a 3 year cycle on that. Those were some of the philosophies we were using as we studied this budget.

Commissioner Scharmann said, with regard to the Public Defender mandates, is that being funded by the state? Comptroller Wideman said some of it is. We have $500,000 within budget that we supposed to pay. Mr. Barbee interrupted and said that is the base expense when they came in to say that they would support the Public Defender's Office, so everything above that they are saying is reimbursable. Ms. Wideman said I put the revenue at $1.4 million to cover the additional expenses above the $500,000. Mr. Barbee said, obviously, some of those projects, like the L-shaped building are already in motion and those projects will be finished out in terms of capital improvement projects. We will continue to pursue the development of the Courthouse and will continue with the jail remodel to the evidence and those components, so that we can show that we are continuing to move forward to address the ADA and safety concerns in the existing Courthouse. We will take the Courthouse construction project itself, which is not unreasonable in terms of the time it takes us to fix the jail, move the Sheriff out of the old bank building, and demolish the bank building to have a place to build the Courthouse, which will probably take a year anyway. Then we would be able to evaluate, again, in a year from now, as we go through budget process, where we are on construction. We will also have a better idea of the money that we will have in the Capital Outlay Fund, such as whether we received the $4.7 million to make up some of the gap on the reserve for the General Fund and move some of that COVID one shot money into the Courthouse construction.

Ms. Wideman said it should be noted that some of these that remain are considered grant funded, so any kind of increases are supposed to be only just for the grants that can be reimbursed. It shouldn't be any type of cost to the county. Mr. Barbee said anything that hits the

General Fund will fall under the 15% and 10% budget cuts. Obviously, we do not want to reduce services that other outside entities can provide to support the county.

Commissioner Scharmann asked Shannon Ernst how this will affect her department. Ms. Ernst said I haven't comprehended it all, yet. I need to talk to Sherry because a lot of this involves grants that are being cut. One of the merit increases is for a grant position. I am just worried about some of our rehab or construction projects. Ms. Wideman said all of the current construction projects are taken off but they will be augmented for any kind of grant money that comes in. Ms. Ernst said they are not 100% grant funded. Mr. Barbee said we will have to address those as we deal with them. We will be able to do one-offs and make those decisions as we move forward. Commissioner Heath said your new building is grant funded, right? Ms. Ernst said not at 100%. The lab is 100%. The one side for Social Services is not. Mr. Barbee said but that is a project that is already underway and will be done by the time we get into the fiscal year, so that will continue. Those projects that we are in the middle of will continue as we have to finish those projects. Projects that have gone through design will probably be put on a shelf and looked at in the future. Things like CAPS and those kind of projects will have to be set aside and look at other alternatives. CAPS will have some need that we will probably have to address but, instead of a new CAPS building, we may have to put those plans on the shelf but we may invest a little more money in working on a well for them in the short term. The intent is that we keep everything moving forward. We made the adjustments in two days and we clearly will make some mistakes along the way. We recognize that we will have to have folks come back to the table to piecemeal some of this stuff up as we move forward. Commissioner Heath said the hope is that inflation goes down. Mr. Barbee said inflation goes down and tax revenue goes up.

Mr. Barbee said I would preface this with a couple of things. We are not in a bad position. With this budget, we have somewhere around $20 million in standing one shot kind of money. We have big projects out there but we haven't pulled the trigger on those projects, so we can control our destiny and our future for where we are at. We have development that is continuing to move forward in the county, at least 3 significant projects that I am aware of, which I think could impact revenue in a positive way moving forward. Additionally, I feel confident that we will get some level of SNPLMA funding that will be extremely significant, in the millions. Spreading that in the community over a 3 year period will have direct impacts on sales tax and those kinds of things. I do not want to portray this as a doom and gloom because it is not, but I think it is a fiscal tightening of the belt and being responsible. We do not want to burn one shot money. We are trying to get the ship where we are not burning one shot money. We do not have a huge debt service commitment, so that is good. All of those things add into this. In my mind, it is much better to have a little pain right now and over the next 6 months than it is to keep putting it off to have a whole hell of a lot of pain. None of this that we are proposing involves layoffs or reductions in current salary rates or anything like that. There are parts of the county that are going to get pay increases in FY25 and there are parts of the county that will not, but we will all be employed.

Commissioner Scharmann asked Sheriff Hickox how this will affect his department. I don't see a lot of cuts for your department, except maybe personnel. Sheriff Hickox said the cuts to personnel will be hard. Some of those positions will drop our patrol down to levels below where they were when I started. Commissioner Heath said are you filling positions right now? Sheriff Hickox said we are actively trying to fill them. County Manager Barbee said, with this proposed budget, you would go from 55.96 FTE to 51 FTE, with the caveat that, like the position that is retiring now, we will look at gapping that position and then trying to figure it out. When we break everything out, inflation has risen 22%, our tax revenue has risen within a half of a percent of that, so those things are right in line. The COLA for non-union staff has 19.5% over that same 2019-2024 period. Some of those other areas are significantly greater than that. That is where some of that money has gone. Commissioner Heath said, later on, we can look at filling some of these positions if we need to? Mr. Barbee said, basically, as we loosen up, the process will be what the county has always gone to, which is, as things get better, like they did in 2018 and 2019, the Sheriff and other departments will be able to come forward and make requests to increase those. I will say that at least we are, in terms of FTEs in the Sheriff's Office, above what we were in 2018. I think it was 47 FTEs in 2018. Sheriff Hickox said yes, we came in significantly understaffed for the size of the jail. Before, it only involved 2 steps from one area of the jail to get into population whereas, now, with the new facility, it involves multiple steps to get from one area to another. It involves more people for those things, which is why we have been asking for more people. We have had several people who either retired or left from the patrol side of the office and it takes about one year, once we get somebody hired, to get them into the facility after going through POST and get them trained. It takes a long time. We are trying to work through the process but, in the meantime, with this happening, we will be significantly understaffed on the patrol side. Mr. Barbee said all of that is accurate and I wouldn't argue with any of it. The problem that we have on this side is that we are around that 22% mark with everything else and the COLA that we have spent. We have tried to push money towards the Sheriff's Office to support them and get more staff hired up to be able to compete with wages for Washoe County and other surrounding areas but their COLA is 27.75% over that same period as matched with other staff at 19%. With services and supplies, again, we are trying to catch up, just like the Sheriff is suggesting. Over that same time period, that is 33%. The problem is, when you look at it, there are two places where the money exists, which means there are really two places that we can cut and that is in staffing and services and supplies. That is the math. Sheriff Hickox said we will have to look at the contracted services because some of those we do not have a choice on. Mr. Barbee said that is where we recognize that there are things that we may have missed in the last two day shuffle to get this. We totally acknowledge that and, as those one-offs come, we will start addressing them. We have to.

Chairman Getto said all of the departments will have that opportunity, which Mr. Barbee agreed to. Mr. Barbee said our plan to roll this out involves an early Department Head meeting next week to go through what we have and then they will have an opportunity to bring some of these things to us before the final budget is presented and approved the third week of May. We will have that bite at it and then we always have the opportunity, during the fiscal year, to say this issue arose or this thing came up so we have to address them. Those things will exist out there. Again, we are sitting on a good cash reserve. Obviously, it is targeted for a purpose but that means that we have a good cash reserve and we can make decisions as we move forward as we need to.

Commissioner Scharmann asked Chief Deputy DA Mills how this will affect his department or District Court. Mr. Mills said I can already tell you that what is listed for contracted services is insufficient, just based on last year's numbers that we had for contracted services. All of those contracts go up 6% every year. Some things we have to have, like our alarm system. Mr. Barbee said there are going to be a million of these one-offs and we acknowledge that. Commissioner Scharmann said I don't see a lot of cuts, except to personnel. Mr. Barbee said no, over two years, we are talking about 25% budgetary cuts to services and supplies. That is significant. Mr. Mills said the only other thing is that we just foresee expenses going up.

Sheriff Hickox said we can't foresee how many Coroner cases we will have. If we run into a situation where our Coroner budget is exceeded for autopsies and for supplies that we need, can we come forward to ask for more money throughout the year? Mr. Barbee said, if we are in a budget that is upside down, yes, definitely, but I think the point of cutting the budgets is looking for somewhere else we can squeeze that from and move around our services and supplies money to try to get to where we achieve. Ms. Wideman said there are areas that can be controlled and there are areas that can't be controlled. I would ask the Department Heads to focus on the areas that you can control and try to cut those things as much as possible rather than looking at things line by line but rather to consider this one will be up 6% but maybe we won't do this much or do this. Sheriff Hickox said I hope there is no disaster. Mr. Barbee said, if there is a disaster, all of our focus changes. I can promise that the county will not be building a weir this year, at least until they pay us for the one we built.

Chairman Getto asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Commissioner Justin Heath made a motion to approve the Tentative Budget for FY25 and to direct the Comptroller to provide it to the Department of Taxation as outlined in statutes. Commissioner Harry Scharmann seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

Public Comment:

Chairman Getto asked if there was any public comment but there was none.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Approved: ______________________
Myles Getto, Chairman

Approved: ______________________
Harry "Bus" Scharmann, Vice-Chairman

Approved: ______________________
Justin Heath, Commissioner

ATTEST:
Linda Rothery, Clerk/Treasurer

Pamela D. Moore

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Pamela D. Moore, Deputy Clerk to the Board