

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
BOARD OF LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
July 15, 2019

Chairman Connelly called the meeting to order at 5:00.p.m. Others in attendance included the following: Commissioners Harmon and King; County Clerk, April Brunski; County Attorney, Spencer Allred (via video conference) and Commissioner's Secretary, Corey Roberts.

Consent items: **1. Commissioner Harmon** moved to approve the agenda. Motion was adopted. **2. Commissioner Harmon** moved to close the public hearing at 5:17 p.m. Motion was adopted.

Discussion items: **1. Chairman Connelly** opened the public hearing for the budget at 5:01 p.m. **2. Commissioner King** commented that the budgeting session has been tricky because Rocky Mountain Power will present their plan to the Public Service Commission on August 1st which leaves them with no idea how it might affect the County this year or the years that follow. **3. Chairman Connelly** commented that the County just went through 6 months of not knowing whether Westmoreland would pay their property taxes and securing the agreement with them made a big difference on how they were able to budget. He added that there is some extra revenue from the assessed valuation being up 51 million and an additional \$650,000 coming in for housing the state prisoners. He also commented that they have to deal with unfunded mandates from the state that are passed on to the County but noted that they haven't passed them on to the employees. **4. Jerry Greenfield, County Treasurer**, addressed the salary line items in the Treasurer's Office budget. He requested the \$15,000 he had last year in his part time line item be added to his full time salary budget plus an additional \$5,000 to add a full time employee to his office due to being short staffed and to allow for cross training. **5. Nancy Stafford, Veteran's Service Officer**, discussed possible legislation for a federal bill being passed for veteran's services and presented the Commissioners with the contact information. **6. Commissioner Harmon** thanked everyone for coming out and stated that Lincoln County is blessed with wonderful people and appreciates everyone very much. **7. Commissioner King** added that he knows how hard everyone works and it is appreciated. **8. Chairman Connelly** commented that he knows the employees are under stress, there are lots of rumors going around and budgeting is not an easy task. He explained that Rocky Mountain Power will have a huge effect on how they will proceed in this County and that they are being cautious with budgeting. **9. Commissioner King** also added that coal sales are down and next year the County will be even more restricted in revenue. He commented that it's unknown if unit 3 at the Power Plant will every go back to coal and it's looking like a 2-3 million dollar reduction next year in the County budget.

Any amendments or corrections to these minutes will be shown in the next meeting minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Attest:

April Brunski, County Clerk

Kent Connelly, Chairman