Robertson County Budget Committee
Minutes of December 3, 2024 Meeting

The Budget Committee met at 4:30 P.M. with the following members present: Bobby Couts, Eric Roberts, Billy Ray Dorris, and Bob Stroud were present. Mayor Billy Vogle and Jody Stewart were also present. Faye Stubblefield was absent.

Mr. Bobby Couts called the meeting to order and following main discussions and actions took place during the meeting:

The Budget Committee minutes of November 5, 2024 were approved as presented.
Bobby asked if the Public had any comments about the agenda, there were no Public Comments at this time.

1. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Bob Stroud to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #17 in the amount of $13,220 for an employee's payout to the County Commission. All voted yea.

2. It was moved by Bob Stroud and seconded by Eric Roberts to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #18 in the amount of $10,000 to the County Commission. These are opioid settlement funds disbursed at the Mayor's discretion and these funds will help pay for a half-way house. Grace Baptist Church plans to partner with Long Hollow Baptist Church to eradicate substance abuse in Robertson County and form a ministry entitled Recovery Refuge. All voted yea.

3. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to approve John West's request about job duties being changed in the Register of Deeds Department because a twenty-year employee is retiring. John explained that he received guidance concerning these changes from Charlotte Jensen, Robertson County's Human Resources Consultant. All voted yea.

4. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Bob Stroud to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #19 in the amount $75,346 for the annual Tennessee Highway Safety Officer Grant to the County Commission. All voted yea.

5. It was moved by Billy Ray Dorris and seconded by Eric Roberts to recommend balanced budget amendment #20 in the amount of $23,040 for additional radio equipment items needed with reference to the County's original Motorola Emergency Radio Contract dated in September 2022 to the County Commission. All voted yea.

6. It was moved by Bob Stroud and seconded by Eric Roberts to recommend balanced budget amendment #21 in the amount of $377,155 for a Front-End Loader Truck Needed in the Recycling Department to the County Commission. Korey Drake-Stewart applied for a State grant and she has received the State's application award letter. She said the original grant award was for a 50% contribution by the State and she received an email last week that stated the State will reimburse the County for 60% of the $377,155. The budget amendment will be adjusted to use Solid Waste's Committed/Reserve Funds; therefore, this budget amendment requires only one reading. All voted yea.

Near the end of the meeting, Korey asked about issuing a purchase order for the Front-End Loader Truck prior to the County Commission vote on December 16, 2024. There was a brief discussion and all agreed that it will be best to wait until the State grant has been signed by the Mayor before the purchase order is issued for the Frond-End Loader Truck.

7. It was moved by Bob Stroud and seconded by Eric Roberts to approve the Finance Department making payment to the Tennessee Department of Agriculture/Forestry for the third and fourth quarter payments now. Jody stated the Finance Department will issue this check for $1,000 within the next week. All voted yea.

8. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Bob Stroud to recommend a resolution to approve balanced budget amendment #22 in the amount of $11,135 for an additional pay increase for Cathy Hamsley, Administrator of Elections with reference to TCA 2-12-208 and TCA 2-12-209. There was a lengthy discussion between Cathy Hamsley and the Committee concerning the details about her request. Bobby stated the County has always paid Cathy's salary based upon the State mandate amount related to our County's population. Although there is concern about the Election's Department overall FY 2025 budget, Cathy stated that she had a full-time employee retire and the new employee is currently part-time. Cathy also stated her budget will have enough funds for the increase needed for her salary line item; therefore, this budget amendment will require only one reading. All voted yea.

The Mayor informed the Committee that a boutique owner on the square is requesting help from the County. She claims her business has suffered due to the road closure in front of the Courthouse during the roof repair. She will present her request for assistance from the County at the next Budget Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 P.M.

Bobby Couts, Chairman

Jody Stewart, Finance Director