Robertson County Budget Committee
Minutes of July 22, 2025 Meeting

The Budget Committee met at 4:00 P.M. with the following members present: Bobby Couts, Faye Stubblefield, Eric Roberts, Bob Stroud, and Billy Ray Dorris. Mayor Billy Vogle and Jody Stewart were also present.

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

The Budget Committee minutes of July 15, 2025 were approved as presented.
Bobby Couts asked if the Public had any comments about the agenda, there were no Public Comments at this time.

Jody informed the Committee if they wanted to approve the first FY2026 budget amendment for the Highway Department there would not be any need for an August 5, 2025 budget committee meeting.

1. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to recommend a resolution to approve budget amendment #1 in the amount $314,000 to improve five (5) roads to the County Commission. This amendment is for the Highway Department for five (5) roads, it also increases the revenues by $508,200 and this increases fund balance by $194,200. All voted yea.

Jody Stewart presented the final Statement of Estimated Fund Balance documents for all funds for the FY2026 budget and she informed the Committee that the County's fiscal year was closed on Friday, July 18, 2025. Jody said that basically all funds as presented at the July 15, 2025 meeting stayed the same except the General Fund. She stated the following items: $23,000 for the Drone in the EMA Department, $15,050 for the Library, and $30,500 for the elderly and veterans tax relief program were already included in the previous numbers for the General Fund. Jody said the expenses increased in the General Fund by the items approved at last week's meeting. The following items were approved: $361,146 for the EMS Department, $49,000 for a new employee in the Assessor's Office, $451,536 to accommodate $600 per call for the Volunteer Fire Departments, $1,276,000 for a four (4) percent pay increase for County employees, $24,000 for consulting services to maintain the new emergency radio system in the Mayor's budget, also the call backpay for General Sessions Department and an inequity for two (2) Youth Service Officers in the Juvenile Department were added and other lines items were decreased for a net effect of zero on the budget. The General Fund proposed budget is $1,142,000 more expense than revenue and the estimated ending fund balance on June 30, 2026 is $21,919,844.

2. It was moved by Faye Stubblefield and seconded by Bob Stroud to recommend a resolution to the County Commission to approve all funds budgets for the County's FY2026 operational budget as presented by Jody Stewart at the August 18, 2025 regular County Commission meeting. Note that there is a proposed four (4) percent pay rate increase for all County employees included in the FY2026 budget. All voted yea.

3. It was moved by Billy Ray Dorris and seconded by Eric Roberts to recommend a tax rate resolution setting the property tax rate for the County FY2026 operational budget at $1.80 to the County Commission for their approval at the August 18, 2025 regular County Commission meeting. The property tax rate distribution as set by the Budget Committee in the amount of $1.80 will be distributed as follows: General Fund 101 at $.97, for the Solid Waste Fund 116 at $.02, the School Fund 141 at $.59, and Debt Service Fund 151 at $.22. The value of the penny is estimated to be $330,000 for total estimated property tax revenues of $59,400,000. All voted yea.

Jody informed the Committee that the Public Hearing will be held on August 12, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. in the Juvenile Courtroom. She verified the directive about the need for the Sheriff Department's retirement bridge program amount of $440,000 for a potential budget amendment at the August 18, 2025 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 P.M.

Bobby Couts, Chairman

Jody Stewart, Finance Director