Robertson County Budget Committee
Minutes of June 9, 2026 Meeting

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

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

The Budget Committee minutes of June 2, 2026 were approved as presented.
Bobby Couts 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 to the County Commission approval of balanced budget amendment #52 in the amount of $10,000. The amendment supports nonprofit agencies addressing the opioid crisis, the 2-1-1 Helpline, and VITA free tax preparation services, as presented by Ace Timmerman, United Way Representative. Documentation for the use of funds will be maintained. All voted yea.

2. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to recommend to the County Commission approval of balanced budget amendment #53 in the amount of $16,150. The amendment reflects Rescue Squad Grant funds received in advance. Blake Pierce, EMA Director, will ensure the funds are expensed and reported to the State. All voted yea.

3. It was moved by Bob Stroud and seconded by Faye Stubblefield to recommend to the County Commission approval of balanced budget amendment #51 in the amount of $17,400. The amendment provides Summer Learning Grant funds and miscellaneous housekeeping adjustments for the School System. All voted yea.

Dr. Danny Weeks, School Director, presented the School Board-Approved FY2026-2027 budget for the School Fund 141 to the Budget Committee.

Danny said Revenues are projected at $140,994,455, an increase of approximately $500,000 from the prior year, and Expenditures are projected at $150,770,293, a 4.13% decrease primarily due to the conclusion of several multi-year state grants. (4.13% is listed on last page of School Expense Budget Doc.)

The School Fund 141 budget includes:

- Limited staffing additions for class-size requirements (2 positions on hold for potential PTR needs),
- Special education needs (2 special education teaching positions),
- 5 Special education assistant positions,
- 5 Career/technical teachers (positions previously grant-funded, ISM Grants to Middle School),
- District Behavior Therapist,
- District Athletic Coordinator,
- Building and grounds restructuring (partial funding),
- E-Rate required match (6 times increase),
- $750 increase for full-time positions,
- Retirement 8.9%, Medical Insurance 12% increases,
- Regular and/or Contractual Increases/cost Adjustments.

The Board also noted future funding needs for student computers required for online TCAP testing, replacement of buses due to state requirements, and HVAC projects where continued repairs are no longer cost-effective. Per Danny the School Board approved the budget by a 5-0 vote, with one member absent.

The Committee discussed funding history for the Governor's Early Literacy Foundation/Imagination Library program and noted that County and school system funds had supported the program in prior years. The Committee agreed to revisit the matter later in the budget process.

The Committee reviewed the Stokes Brown Public Library's FY2027 funding request and discussed revisiting insurance options with the Mayor-elect and library representatives at a later date.

4. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to approve $25,000 for the Stokes Brown Public Library's FY2027 budget request. The original request was $45,270. All voted yea.

The Committee discussed Circuit Court Clerk Kristie Chowning's request for an additional employee at an estimated cost of $73,808, including the employer's cost for medical insurance. The Committee also discussed a potential title change for the new employee related to cost collections, with no immediate salary increase requested.

5. It was moved by Faye Stubblefield and seconded by Eric Roberts to approve adding a new employee in the amount of $73,808 to the Circuit Court Clerk's departmental budget. All voted yea.

The Committee discussed creating a County Human Resources (HR) position. Members noted that the County currently uses outside HR consulting services and agreed that a dedicated HR position is needed. Following discussion, the Committee agreed to allocate $150,000 to begin the process.

6. It was moved by Bob Stroud and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to allocate $150,000 to fund the County Human Resources position. This position will be added to the County Mayor's budget. All voted yea.

The Committee discussed proposed employee raises for the FY2027 budget. The proposal included a 3% increase for County employees at an estimated cost of $987,000, along with a 5% increase for the EMS Director and EMA Director to begin addressing salary inequities.

7. It was moved by Eric Roberts and seconded by Billy Ray Dorris to approve a 3% pay raise increase for all County employees and a 5% pay raise for the EMS Director and EMA Director. All voted yea.

Under old business, the Committee discussed Animal Control's request for two new trucks. Members agreed to request additional information and have Randy present further details at the next meeting before taking action. The Committee also noted that outside agency and grant requests will be reviewed at the next meeting.

The Committee also received an update that the Archives air-conditioning unit had been installed and was operating efficiently and effectively.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 P.M.

Bobby Couts, Chairman

Jody Stewart, Finance Director