Unofficial Minutes
Morrow County School District
Budget Committee
May 5, 2014

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors & Budget Committee meeting of Monday, May 5, 2014 held at Heppner Elementary School in Heppner, OR

BOARD & BUDGET MEMBERS PRESENT: Thad Killingbeck, Bill Kuhn, Becky Kindle, Brian Kollman, Rhonda Hamby, Barney Lindsay, Mark Pratt, Tom Wolff, Jill Parker, Melissa Lindsay and Janet Dezellem

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None
BUDGET COMMITTEE ABSENT: Venessa Navarro, Rita VanSchoiack

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dirk Dirksen, George Mendoza, Andy Fletcher.
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OTHERS PRESENT: n/a

Call to Order

At 7:00 pm Thad Killingbeck called the Budget Committee meeting to order; Superintendent Dirksen established a quorum.

Election of Officers

Motion:	Brian Kollman made a motion to nominate Melissa Lindsay as Budget Committee Chairman; Bill Kuhn seconded the motion
Ayes:	Kuhn, Killingbeck, Kindle, Kollman, Hamby, Pratt, Lindsay,Wolff, Parker, and Dezellem
Noes:	
Motion Passed	

Establish Meeting Procedures – The Chairman asked Mr. Dirksen what the plan was for the meeting procedures and Mr. Dirksen responded that it would be the same as prior years. The meeting procedures will include an overview of the budget message and a brief overview of the budget document with any questions or concerns from the Budget Committee or Board being addressed.

Budget Message & Overview of the Document -- Mr. Dirksen discussed the overall budget for 2014-15 and stated there were only a few changes to staffing and the majority of the budget stayed flat. The district was planning to receive nearly $672,000 more in state school funding and the majority of that was going to salaries, benefits, and to hire a counselor. However, the largest increases came from PERS and a COLA increase. The budget was based on a $6.55B state budget and the district budgeted for 3% increase in PERS to help offset future expenditures from the bond. Mr. Dirksen also summarized the significant changes in the budget which were mainly due to salary and benefit increases. There were also changes in transfers and textbook adoption – both decreased significantly over prior years. The maintenance plan was also discussed with the top priority being new HVAC controls in the schools and security doors.

Questions from the Budget Committee -- Questions were then addressed by Mr. Dirksen that included why a counselor was being added instead of a teacher and he explained that it benefited more students directly. Eastern Promise worked and the online option with Greenways – it was explained that the district budgeted 9 college or CTE credits for every student which the district would "reimburse" $10 a credit. The committee wanted to know how the PERS account would be used in the future and it was explained that the PERS bond account will be approximately $900k in 2022 and this account will help offset the increase in expenditures The committee wanted to know about key maintenance projects and it was explained that HVAC controls and ventilators in the classroom were the number one priority. The committee wanted to ensure that the ending fund balance was appropriate to meet the district's cash flow needs going into the following school year. There was also a discussion on textbook needs versus technology and it was explained that the district is expecting to move towards more technology; however, there are concerns from the teachers about training and necessary resources to ensure that the district can meet technology replacement needs in the future.

Approval of the 2014-15 Budget

Motion:	A motion was made by Tom Wolff and seconded by Brian Kuhn for the budget to be presented to the board.
Ayes:	Kuhn, Killingbeck, Kindle, Kollman, Hamby, Pratt, Lindsay,Wolff, Parker, and Dezellem
Noes:	
Motion Passed	

The Budget Committee stated that there was no need for an additional meeting.

Adjourned at 7:55 pm

Respectfully submitted:

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Andy Fletcher, Business Manager   Melissa Lindsay, Budget Committee Chairman

Date Approved:_____