

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET PRESENTATION – MAY 8, 2017**

ASSEMBLY

The McDowell County Board of Commissioners met in a special session on Monday, May 8, 2017, at 4:00 p.m., at the County Administration Building, 60 E Court Street, Marion, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David N. Walker, Chair; Barry McPeters, Vice-Chair; Tony Brown; Matthew Crawford; and Lynn Greene

OTHERS PRESENT

Ashley Wooten, County Manager; Cheryl Mitchell, Clerk to the Board; Theresa Strickland, Public Information Technician (Filming); Alison Morgan, Finance Officer.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Walker called the meeting to order.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

The County Manager presented an overview of the budget process. He noted he and Ms. Morgan had met with the department heads and several external agencies over the last few months to develop the proposed budget.

Mr. Wooten gave an overview of the accomplishments over the last year.

Mr. Wooten noted the proposed budget would decrease \$286,345. or 0.70%. He noted that he was not recommending a property tax increase. He also reviewed the fund balance history over the last several years, and also discussed how McDowell County fares when compared to other counties in similar size in regards to budget size, employee count, etc.

The fund balance for 2016 was 24.10%, and available fund balance was \$9,865,278.

Mr. Wooten added the property taxes remain the largest single source of revenue, and human services the largest expenditure, followed by public safety and education.

Mr. Wooten noted several budget impacts, including a one step salary adjustment for county staff (approximately 1.25%) in July, and proposed a second increase in January, 2018 of 1.25%, Human Resources part time to full time; Recreation part time to full time; and communications one new position. The largest new expenditure impact was for foster care at \$250,000.

Mr. Wooten added the debt service percentage was .17%.

Chair Walker noted the Board would review the budget recommendation and would schedule follow-up budget meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to transact at this time, upon motion by Commissioner Crawford and a second by Commissioner Brown, the meeting was adjourned.

DAVID N. WALKER
CHAIRMAN

CHERYL L. MITCHELL
CLERK TO THE BOARD