

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARINGS  
May 13, 2022, Minutes**

On Friday, May 13, 2022, the Board of Madison County Commissioners conducted Preliminary Budget Hearings beginning at 10:15 a.m. in the Second Floor Courtroom of the Madison County Administrative Office Building in Virginia City, Montana, with Commissioners Dan Allhands, Chairman, John Heckler, and Ron Nye present. Jane Bacon, Commissioner's Clerk, was present to take minutes.

Those people in attendance at the hearings were Susan Vonasek, Esther Lince, Jennifer Meacham, and Vicki Tilstra.

**Victim's Advocate Preliminary Budget Hearing:** Susan Vonasek, Victim/Witness Advocate and Investigator, met with the Board to review the preliminary budget for the Victims Advocate Program. Susan said there is no change to the budget for the coming year. Reviewing revenue, she noted that the State grant was approved again for just over \$40,000, and the County Attorney's office contributes \$8,000 per year.

**DUI Task Force Preliminary Budget Hearing:** Esther Lince, DUI Task Force, presented the Board with the preliminary budget for the DUI Task Force. Jennifer Meacham, DUI Task Force, and Vicki Tilstra, Finance Officer, were present for this hearing. Esther discussed several of the programs, events, and activities conducted by the Task Force noting those that work well and those that will be revised. Southwest Prevention is a collaborator on most events and matches and/or contributes extra funds to these efforts. She reviewed actual expenses for the past year pointing out that advertising makes up a large portion of their costs, and a successful prosecution training class for attorneys and law enforcement personnel was held with SW Prevention paying for 80% of the cost. She reviewed revenue, including reinstatement fees received and expected, funds expected from the State, and possible grants. Esther presented and reviewed planned expenses for the coming year include helping law enforcement with overtime costs for high visibility enforcement and compliance checks. She discussed the Task Force's negative perception and that their purpose is not to tell people not to drink alcohol but to encourage and teach them how to be more responsible when they do, as well as help alcohol servers and businesses with compliance and successful serving. John provided Esther with a list of alcohol vendors that might be receptive to future donations. Overall, including shifting funds between line items, the budget remained about the same with expected expenditures of \$15,000.

With no further business, the hearings concluded at 10:56 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan W. Allhands, Chairman  
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: May 17, 2022

Minutes prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jane Bacon, Commissioner's Clerk

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Paula McKenzie, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County