

**CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION
HELD ON APRIL 14, 2025**

Present at the work session: Crisp County Board of Commissioners Chairman James Dowdy, Larry Felton, James Nance (present by telephone), Sam Farrow, Mark Crenshaw, Interim County Administrator Mickey Dunnivant, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett and County Clerk, Monica Irwin.

Chairman Dowdy called the work session to order at 9:21 am in the Crisp County Board Room. Interim County Administrator, Mickey Dunnivant stated this is a budget work session.

Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett, stated the initial budget with no adjustments made at this time: The general fund is \$4 million dollars short and that's 3.5 mills of tax, the Special Service District is \$346,000 short, the Landfill is \$700,000 short. The E911 fund is balanced but it includes an \$815,000 contribution from the general fund. The city has not had an increase in the cost of service provided to them by E911 since 2018, this situation needs to be addressed and the county does not have a contract at this time with the City. The cost of services has increased and the county has been absorbing all of it. Mrs. Leverett also stated the Chamber, Health Department, Public Defender, and Superior Court Judge have asked for an increase. Mrs. Leverett recommends leaving all outside agencies at their current funding.

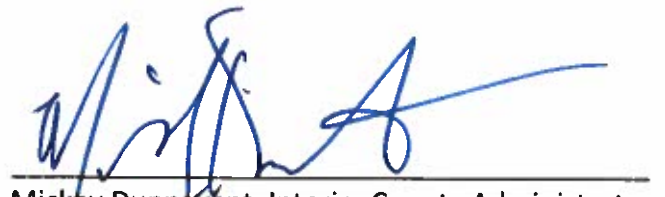
Detailed Budget Request: currently there is a 3% county wide COLA included for all employees, it's about \$345,000 salary portion. The Sheriff's Office has requested an additional 3% agency wide for employees which is an additional \$145,000 salary portion. Right now, Group Insurance is at a \$215,000 increase. Also, the Fire Department has requested 6 new firefighters. Three firefighters to staff the new station 7, which is not built yet, 3 firefighters to staff Hatley Fire Station and an additional request to renovate the training tower at a cost of \$30,000. The County has also received a Court Order from the Judges to change the Non-Chief Magistrate Judge from part-time to full-time effective July 1, 2025. This is an additional \$30,000 cost in salary for the County. Mrs. Leverett also requested to leave the Planning & Zoning salary in the budget for 6 months. The Clerk of Court has filled a part-time position that is also costing the county an additional \$15,000.

Mrs. Leverett stated the current county wide personnel service wages and benefits is \$19,961,840.00. Current average rate of personnel benefits is 46%.

There being no further business, **MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER FELTON** to adjourn the work session at 10:57 am, **SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FARROW, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**



James R. Dowdy, III, Chairman



Mickey Dunnivant, Interim County Administrator