

## PRESS RELEASE

### LARAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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#### **Laramie County Commissioners approve FY 2017 budget, express concern over future state budget cuts**

CHEYENNE—The Laramie County Board of Commissioners approved a \$112,319,811 budget for FY 2017 on Monday, but commissioners expressed concern about the effects of future state funding cuts on the county.

In approving the budget, Commissioners reluctantly agreed to make up for more than \$200,000 in state and city budget cuts to the DUI/Drug Court program, the Clerk of District Court, and the City-County Department of Health. The board allocated an additional \$200,326 to support the three programs -- \$81,553 to the DUI/Drug Court, \$62,182 to the Clerk of District Court, and \$56,591 to the Department of Health. DUI/Drug Court and Clerk of District Court suffered state budget cuts, while the Department of Health's budget was impacted by city cuts.

The board issued the following statement:

“We do not want to see services cut to Laramie County citizens, and so we agreed, with reservation, to fund the shortfalls these agencies were experiencing as a result of state and city budget cuts. Because of conservative and careful budgeting last year, we could assist these programs this time, but we are very concerned about the future. State budget cuts put the county in the difficult position of deciding what programs and services need to be maintained and at what level. We're where the rubber meets the road.”

Commissioners credited county department heads for being fiscally responsible and conservative in executing their budgets. They also acknowledged the work of the county clerk's office in preparing the \$112.3 million budget.

The approved budget is a 3.5 percent increase from the previous year. The FY2017 budget is posted on the Laramie County website at <http://www.laramiecountyclerk.com/budget.asp>