

## County commissioners ask officials to make cuts

Written by Deb Egenberger  
Thursday, 13 September 2012 13:45 -

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DAWSON COUNTY BUDGET			
	2012-12	2011-12	Difference
Valuation.....	\$2,063,319,344	\$1,946,738,696	5.99%
Expenses.....	\$26,474,567	\$26,398,872	0.29%
Revenue.....	\$19,345,965	\$20,025,917	-2.40%
Tax asking.....	\$8,460,593	\$7,870,056	7.50%
Levy.....	.41005	.40427	1.43%

### Departments make changes to hold the line

LEXINGTON—Counties have a five-cent limit on how much they can raise the property tax levy from one year to the next.

Most of the initial requests that came from Dawson County departments for the 2012-13 budget would have fit under that five-cent lid.

“But the commissioners refused to raise the levy a nickel,” said county clerk Karla Zlatkovsky.

So departments were asked to find areas to cut.

Some found sizeable chunks to take out. Others did what they could with smaller bites.

In the end, Zlatkovsky said the county board will consider a minimal increase in expenses and a slight raise in levy when they vote on the budget during their regular bimonthly board meeting that begins at 8:30 a.m. on Friday.

Overall, the county holds the line on spending with an increase of only \$87,685 in budget expenditures, or .33%.

That’s after the roads department took out big bucks intended for road repairs and the sheriff’s department agreed to wait for a new roof on the 20-year-old jail.

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## REVENUES

**Property taxes**  
The county will set property tax rates at 2012 or higher in order to pay 2012 property values. The rate for 2012 is 2011 plus 1.0 percent.

**County offices**  
County offices in the county collect fees for various services. The county has various income tax and registration programs for vehicles and personal property. The fee of the department is for permit and registration.

**Salaries & Benefits**  
The department of the county's employee pays for the employees' salaries and benefits for the county's employees. The department is responsible for the health insurance at roughly \$200,000 in premiums.

of the county's total revenues. The total amount is \$1.2 million, but the department's expenses are the cost of running these offices.

**Law Enforcement**  
The sheriff's department directs a wide array of law enforcement services throughout the county. The department of law enforcement receives the reimbursement for the contract services from other agencies and jurisdictions.

County law enforcement is expected to bring in \$1.2 million, an amount that is less than the department's budget for the county.

**Bonds**  
The county has issued bonds for various projects and to cover the county's debt. The county's debt is expected to be \$1.2 million in 2012, with a total of \$200,000 in 2013. The county's debt is expected to be \$1.2 million in 2012, with a total of \$200,000 in 2013.

## EXPENSES

Department of public safety is expected to bring in \$1.2 million, an amount that is less than the department's budget for the county.

**Salaries & Benefits**  
The department of the county's employee pays for the employees' salaries and benefits for the county's employees. The department is responsible for the health insurance at roughly \$200,000 in premiums.

for the job and dispatch center. The total cost for law enforcement is expected to be \$1.2 million, with a total of \$200,000 in 2013.

**Political subdivisions**  
The department of political subdivisions is responsible for the health insurance at roughly \$200,000 in premiums.

for the job and dispatch center. The total cost for law enforcement is expected to be \$1.2 million, with a total of \$200,000 in 2013.