

DISCUSSION TOPIC #1: JUMPING INTO THE PROCESS

As a newly elected commissioner, you are joining your County as the budget process is gearing up.

What information do you need so you can hit the ground running and actively engage in the budget process?

DISCUSSION TOPIC #2: Providing Input

How can a 5 to 9-member board help shape the budget recommendation to move goals and priorities forward?

What processes, meetings, communications, plans, etc. would be helpful?

DISCUSSION TOPIC #3: Finalizing the Budget

The Board of Commissioners held a public hearing on the recommended budget. The public comments were focused on:

- The budget did not include enough funding for the school system to support teacher salary supplements.
- Non-profits who requested increases in their funding are not happy with the recommended appropriation.
- While not in attendance at the public hearing, you receive a letter from the Sheriff that he is unhappy the pay raises recommended for staff and wants to meet with the commissioners

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS #3: Finalizing the Budget

What are your thoughts on how to address the three primary issues raised about the budget?

If you want to increase funding in any area, it requires reducing other amounts in the County Manager's recommending budget or finding additional revenue sources. Where do you start?

How do you handle the Sheriff's request for a meeting?