

GREAT FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING 4
MARCH 17, 2011

Members Present: George Campanella Bob England Shelly Fagenstrom
Jeff Gray Debbie Holman Kelly Maki
BJ McCracken Donnie McVee Mike Picking
Vincent Purpura Janet Smith Alicia Thompson
Maria Valandra Aaron Weissman

GFPS Cabinet Present: Cheryl Crawley Tom Moore Ruth Uecker
Ernie Jean Tammy Lacey Sharon Lindstrom
Sally Mathers Chris Olszewski Jeff Patterson

Members Absent: Gary Schoenthal Nancy Waldenberg Susan Quinn

At 5:15, Cheryl Crawley, Great Falls Public Schools Superintendent, called the meeting to order. Aaron Weissman moved, and B.J. McCracken seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the 10 March 2011 meeting.

Cheryl Crawley reviewed the needs, revenues and reserves of the district. The cabinet followed with a review of the decision unit packages and the committee provided input on their prioritization. Following the determination of the decision unit package prioritization by the committee, there was time allowed for questions from the audience.

There was a break at 6:25

Following the break, Tammy Lacey described the Rate Stabilization Reserves. A discussion regarding the district insurance followed.

The committee then crafted their budget recommendation (see attached) and developed their communication messages

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Great Falls Public Schools
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
March 17, 2011

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

At the Budget Committee Meeting on March 17, committee members achieved consensus in identifying the following parameters for establishing the GFPS Budget for fiscal year 2012:

Assuming the \$63 million to \$65 million budget and revenue estimate remains reasonably accurate, the Budget Committee recommends:

- A levy of under \$1 million (or 10 mills)
- Program cuts of 2% as presented to the Budget Committee
- Latitude given to the administration to take the difference from district reserves as discussed at the Budget Committee.

The committee also approves making minor adjustments in the content of the 2% cut from the decision units to ensure appropriate balance.