



Rob Oquist - Commissioner Dist. 1
Tim Knabenshue - Commissioner Dist. 2
Jim Baldwin - Commissioner Dist. 3
Kaysie Schmidt - County Administrator
Rose Pugliese – Interim County Attorney

Otero County Board of Commissioners

2026 Budget Hearing Agenda December 15, 2026

1. Opening Prayer
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Call to Order
4. Presentation of Proposed Budget
 - a. Kaysie Schmidt, Otero County Administrator
5. Public Hearing
 - a. Public Comment (limit of 3 minutes)
6. Board Discussion
7. Board Action Items
 - a. Consider approval of the 2026 County Budget Message.
 - b. Consider approval of Resolution 2025-20 – Resolution to Adopt the County Budget for 2026.
 - c. Consider approval of Resolution 2025-21 – Resolution to Set Mill Levies for 2026.
 - d. Consider approval of Resolution 2025-22 – Resolution to Appropriate Sums of Money for 2026.
 - e. Consider approval of Resolution 2025-23 – Resolution to Adopt Government Accounting Standards.
 - f. Consider approval of Resolution 2025-24 – Resolution to Affirm the Appropriations of Funds for the Courthouse Lease.
8. Adjournment



2026 Budget Message

Introduction

The Otero County Board of Commissioners has decided to maintain a cautious budget plan for 2026. All county departments were instructed to keep their budgets at the same levels as in 2025. This balanced budget ensures that projected expenditure do not exceed anticipated revenues **and** available fund balances.

Revenue Highlights

Projected Property Tax

Property tax remains the primary source of revenue for the County’s General Fund. The taxes collected are distributed to other entities such as school districts, municipalities, and special districts. The Otero County Assessor submits the assessed values to the Commissioners’ Office by August 25th each year. These values are subject to change until they are approved by the State Board of Equalization by December 10th.

The County’s voter-approved operating mill levy is 21.948 mills, plus a temporary mill levy of 0.213 mills for a total temporary mill levy of 22.161. In 2025, the final assessed value was \$177,621,570, reflecting a 8.84% increase from 2025. The 22.161 mills will generate \$4,284,066. Pursuant to statutory requirements, the 22.161 mills will be utilized as planned. For 2025, the mill levy distribution is as follows:

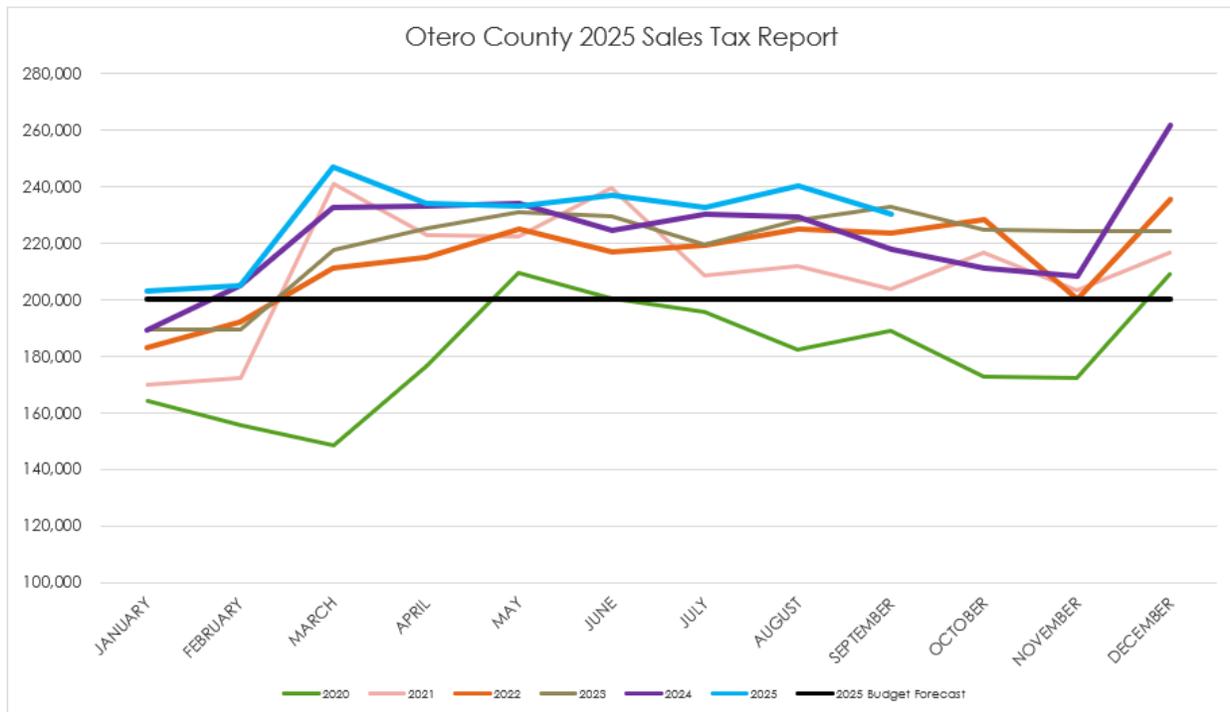
- General Fund: 11.207 mills
- Capital Improvement Fund: 2.250 mills
- Road & Bridge Fund: 3.354 mills
- Insurance Fund: 2.100 mills
- Social Services Fund: 3.250 mills

A portion of the Road and Bridge mill levy revenues will be shared with the six cities and towns in the County.

	Actual 2024		Adopted Budget 2025		Budget 2026		Increase (Decrease) Comparing 2025 to 2026
	Levy	Amount	Levy	Amount	Levy	Amount	
	Assessed Valuation:	21.948	\$ 174,359,098	21.948	\$ 177,621,570	22.161	\$ 193,315,545
Funds:							
General	11.693	\$ 2,038,781	10.994	\$ 1,952,772	11.207	\$ 2,166,487	\$ 213,716
Capital Impr.	2.250	\$ 392,308	2.250	\$ 399,649	2.250	\$ 434,960	\$ 35,311
Road & Bridge	3.354	\$ 584,800	3.354	\$ 595,743	3.354	\$ 648,380	\$ 52,638
Insurance	2.100	\$ 366,154	2.100	\$ 373,005	2.100	\$ 405,963	\$ 32,957
Social Services	3.000	\$ 523,077	3.250	\$ 577,270	3.250	\$ 628,276	\$ 51,005
TOTAL	22.397	\$ 3,905,121	21.948	\$ 3,898,438	22.161	\$ 4,284,066	\$ 385,628

Sales Tax

The sales tax, based on a 1% tax on goods sold in Otero County, is projected to generate \$2,400,000 in 2026, indicating stability in the budget. These funds support the General Fund and various departments, including General Government, Public Safety, Public Works, Public Health & Welfare, Culture and Recreation, Conservation, Economic Development, Intergovernmental Services, and the Health Department.

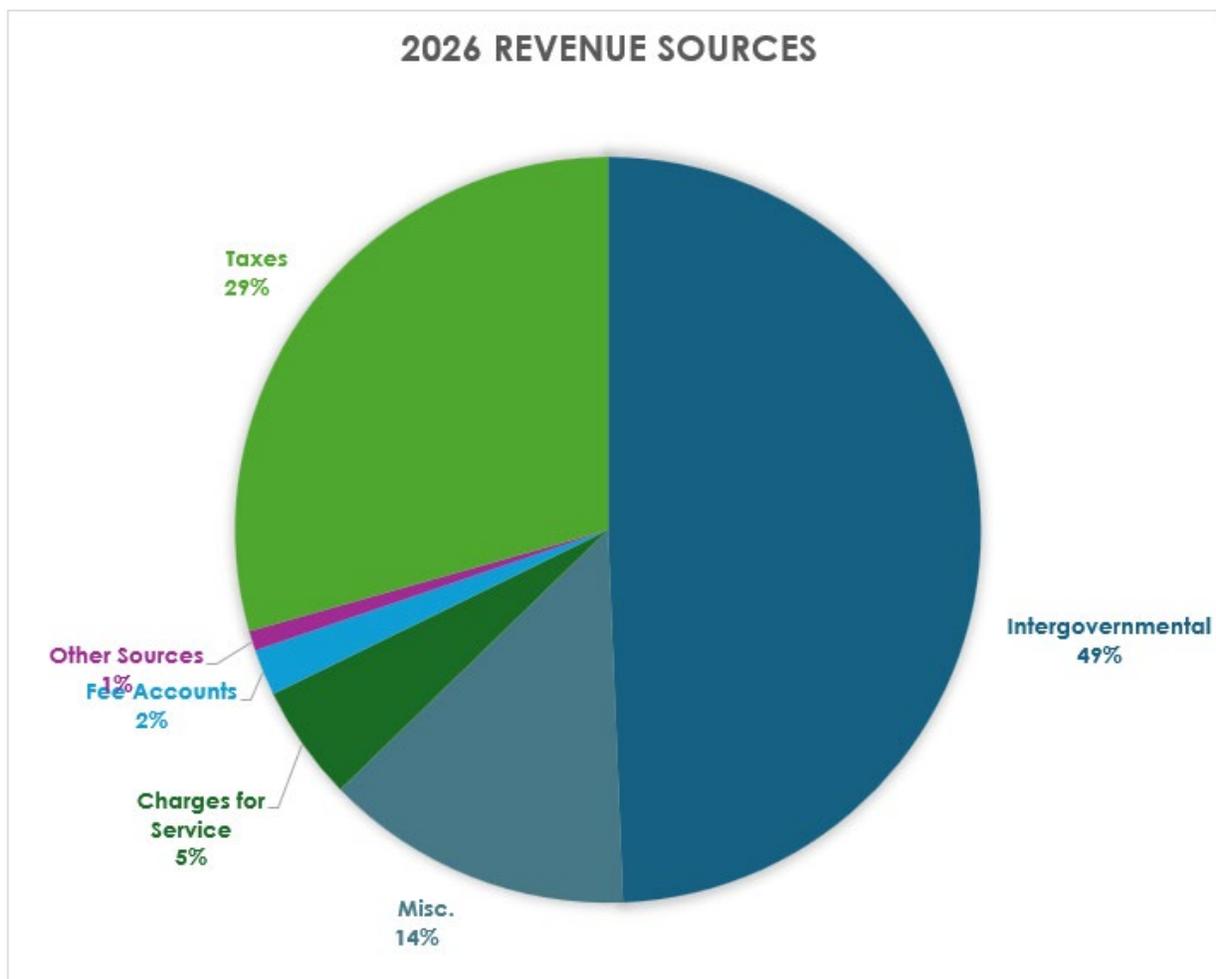


Intergovernmental Revenue

The County will continue to manage several state and federal grants in 2026 including Courthouse Security, Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), Underfunded Courthouse Commission, and Colorado Office of Emergency Management (EMPG).

Consolidated Revenue Sources

Intergovernmental	\$	12,609,939	49.36%
Misc.	\$	3,421,002	13.39%
Charges for Service	\$	1,279,342	5.01%
Fee Accounts	\$	511,900	2.00%
Other Sources	\$	219,593	0.86%
Taxes	\$	7,506,936	29.38%
TOTAL		\$	25,548,712



Expenditure Highlights

Staffing

Staffing is a significant portion of the expenditure budget, but it is also the most crucial factor in meeting the needs of the county's citizens. The County plans to allocate additional resources towards hiring and retaining qualified personnel across various departments. This includes competitive salaries and benefits to attract top talent and ongoing training programs to ensure staff members are well-equipped to handle their responsibilities.

The County will focus on fostering a positive work environment to boost employee morale and productivity. Efforts will be made to recognize and reward outstanding performance, encourage teamwork, and promote a healthy work-life balance.

By prioritizing staffing and resources, Otero County is committed to ensuring that its citizens receive the highest level of service and support.

Capital Improvement

Otero County remains committed to strategic investments that enhance public safety, preserve historic assets, and support operational efficiency. In recent years, the County has completed several significant projects, including the construction of the Sheriff's administrative offices in 2024 and the completion of the new detention center in spring of 2025. Additionally, the County continues to successfully rehabilitating the historic Masonic Lodge through funding provided by History Colorado, ensuring the preservation of an important cultural landmark.

Looking ahead to 2026, Otero County will continue its focus on infrastructure improvements. Planned projects include the reconstruction of a shop and office facility that was destroyed by fire in 2025 and the construction of a new sand and equipment storage building. Both facilities will be located on county-owned land in Fowler and are essential to maintaining efficient operations and supporting the delivery of critical services to residents.

These capital improvements reflect the County's long-term commitment to responsible asset management, operational resilience, and readiness for future needs.

Public Safety

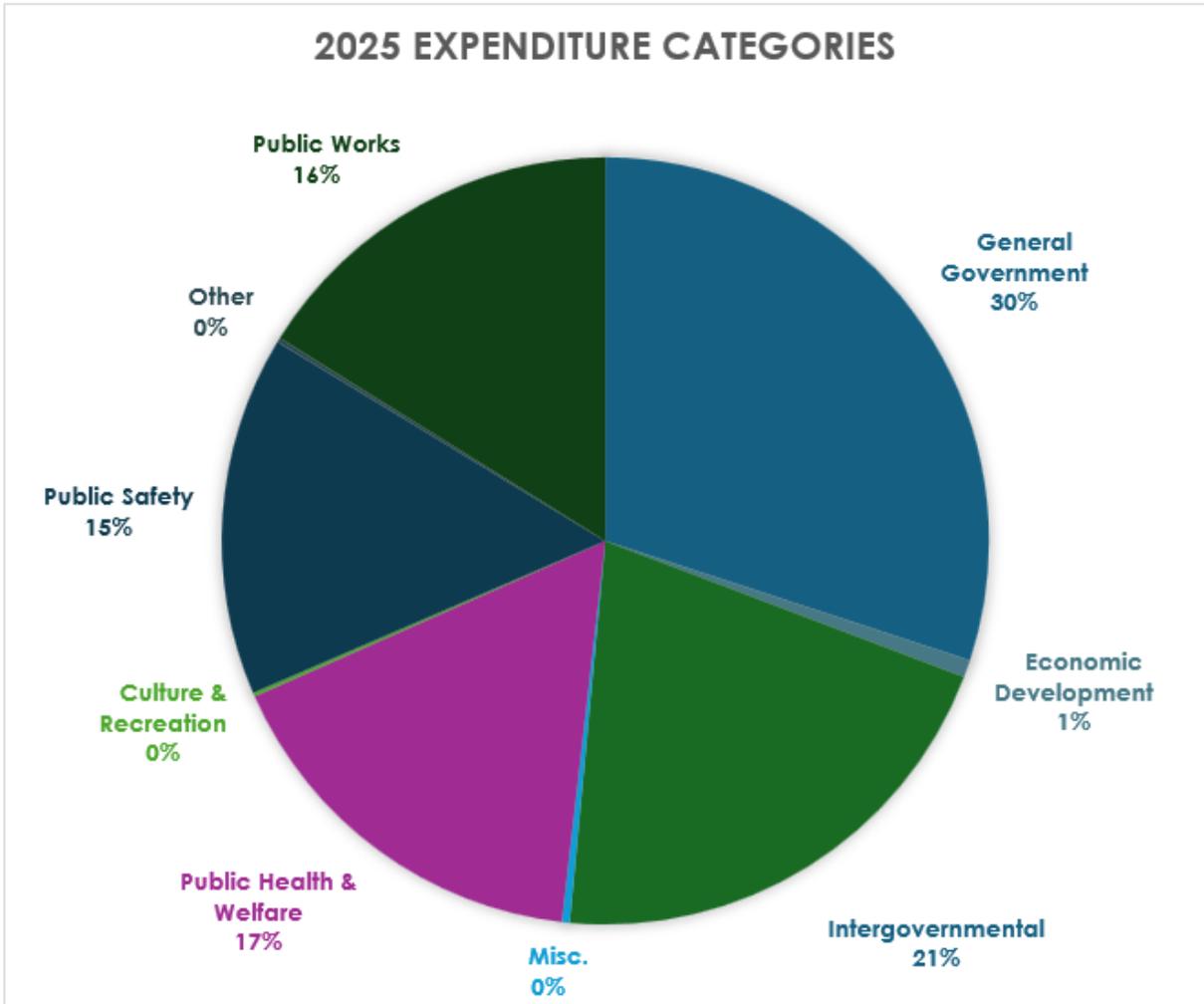
Otero County remains committed to ensuring the safety and security of its residents through robust law enforcement and emergency preparedness. The Sheriff's Department continues to provide essential services, supported by the new detention center, which accommodates up to 60 detainees and enhances the County's ability to manage public safety effectively.

In 2026, the County has allocated funding for the addition of two patrol officers to strengthen law enforcement coverage and improve response times throughout the County. This investment reflects a proactive approach to addressing community needs and maintaining a strong public safety presence.

Additionally, resources have been directed to the District Attorney's Office to ensure efficient legal proceedings and uphold justice. The Emergency Manager remains actively engaged with local agencies to advance disaster preparedness and response capabilities, reinforcing the County's commitment to resilience and public protection.

Consolidated Expenditure Categories

General Government	\$	9,491,225	37.94%
Economic Development	\$	228,591	0.91%
Intergovernmental	\$	6,542,350	26.15%
Misc.	\$	106,273	0.42%
Public Health & Welfare	\$	5,227,426	20.90%
Culture & Recreation	\$	49,800	0.20%
Public Safety	\$	4,793,528	19.16%
Other	\$	58,193	0.23%
Public Works	\$	5,094,286	20.36%
TOTAL \$		31,591,672	



2025 Consolidated Budget Summary

Fund Name	2025 Estimated Ending Balance	2026 Budgeted Revenues	2026 Total Available	2026 Budgeted Expenditures	2026 Estimated Ending Balance
General Fund	\$ 6,261,662	\$ 7,150,508	\$ 13,412,170	\$ 8,775,813	\$ 4,636,357
Small Business Dev. Fund	\$ 1,000,886	\$ 200,100	\$ 1,200,986	\$ 105,800	\$ 1,095,186
Capital Improvement Fund	\$ 217,494	\$ 505,630	\$ 723,124	\$ 1,517,000	\$ (793,876)
Road & Bridge Fund	\$ 2,017,535	\$ 2,716,380	\$ 4,733,915	\$ 3,490,773	\$ 1,243,142
Medical Trust Fund	\$ 936,705	\$ 2,570,000	\$ 3,506,705	\$ 2,739,534	\$ 767,171
Contingent Fund	\$ 282,659	\$ -	\$ 282,659	\$ 250,000	\$ 32,659
AAA Fund	\$ (361,411)	\$ 1,389,915	\$ 1,028,504	\$ 1,721,994	\$ (693,490)
Insurance Fund	\$ 1,044,273	\$ 715,363	\$ 1,759,636	\$ 1,225,001	\$ 534,635
Internal Services Fund	\$ 1,175,591	\$ 207,005	\$ 1,382,596	\$ 399,500	\$ 983,096
General Human Services Fund	\$ 477,879	\$ 2,265,333	\$ 2,743,212	\$ 1,701,776	\$ 1,041,436
Health Fund	\$ 3,321,569	\$ 1,911,254	\$ 5,232,823	\$ 2,214,215	\$ 3,018,608
Conservation Trust Fund	\$ 665,741	\$ 71,500	\$ 737,241	\$ 368,569	\$ 368,672
Social Services Fund	\$ 1,315,317	\$ 5,180,224	\$ 6,495,541	\$ 5,273,160	\$ 1,222,381
Clerk Hire Fund	\$ 625,944	\$ 180,000	\$ 805,944	\$ 235,243	\$ 570,701
Otero County Land Trust Fund	\$ 64,770	\$ 500	\$ 65,270	\$ 1,700	\$ 63,570
Detention Development	\$ 942,317	\$ -	\$ 942,317	\$ 949,375	\$ (7,058)
E - 911	\$ 1,103,507	\$ 485,000	\$ 1,588,507	\$ 627,219	\$ 961,288
TOTAL	\$ 21,092,438	\$ 25,548,712	\$ 46,641,150	\$ 31,596,672	\$ 15,044,478

Fund Services Recap

General Fund

The General Fund includes resources for traditional government functions not legally or financially required to be in another fund. This encompasses General Government functions such as finance, human resources, tax collection, recording, elections, GIS/IT services, building inspection, planning, engineering, and maintenance. Public Safety services include law enforcement, jail operation, transport, coroner, animal control, predator control, and related grants. Public Works functions include extension services, landfill support, and veteran's services. Public Health & Welfare allocations support ambulance services, regional drug and alcohol centers, nutrition programs, indigent care, hospice, and domestic violence facilities. Culture & Recreation includes senior centers, library support, the Arkansas Valley Fair, the Historic Preservation Board, and Kid's Rodeo. Economic development supports business and community growth. Intergovernmental Services provide support to various agencies like Colorado Counties and district attorneys. The General Fund also supports the County Health Department.

Capital Improvement Fund

This fund is designated for significant projects or assets the County opts to purchase.

Road & Bridge Fund

This fund covers the construction and maintenance of county roads and bridges, equipment maintenance, gravel crushing, snow removal, and weed control.

Medical Trust Fund

This fund manages the County's self-funded health insurance program, using premiums to pay claims, purchase stop-loss coverage, and cover administrative costs.

Contingent Fund

This fund is for unplanned or emergency expenditures, serving as a financial reserve.

Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Fund

AAA supports programs for the elderly in Southeast Colorado, providing funds for nutrition programs, legal services, advocacy, and programs such as Veteran Directed Care and Aging and Disability Resources for Colorado.

Insurance Fund

This fund pays premiums for the County's casualty and property coverage, as well as other liability or property management costs.

Social Services Fund

Social Services functions include welfare case management, child and elder abuse investigations, foster care, old age pensions, day care, and client employment placement.

Internal Services Fund

This fund purchases equipment costing over \$1,000 for various departments, with costs amortized as rental fees to ensure funds for replacements.

General Human Services (GHS) Fund

GHS includes Single-Entry Point and Community Services Block Grant programs.

Health Fund

Health Department programs include public health nursing, immunizations, WIC, environmental services, anti-smoking campaigns, and emergency response.

Conservation Trust Fund

This fund develops and maintains recreational facilities, including Holbrook Lake improvements and upkeep of Arkansas Valley Fairgrounds by 4-H youth.

Clerk Hire Fund

This fund provides staffing and support for Clerk & Recorder operations, including vehicle licensing, document recording, and title transactions.

Otero County Land Trust Fund

This fund supports the County's conservation easement program.

Detention Development Fund

This new fund manages proceeds from Certificates of Participation for developing a detention center and Sheriff's administrative offices.

Component Units

Small Business Development RLF

This fund provides loans to small businesses.

E-911 Fund

The 911 Otero County Emergency Telephone Service Authority Board manages 911 emergency phone services in Otero County.

Financial Reporting

Otero County uses the modified accrual method of accounting. Detailed financial reports are available for public review, and the County received a clean opinion on its FY2024 audit.

Expectations for 2026

Fighting to Keep Agricultural Water

The County is examining agricultural water sales to municipalities, aiming to understand their impact on the local economy while respecting the property rights of constituents. This effort seeks to maintain economic stability and support the agricultural sector.

Employee Retention and Recruitment

The County continues to focus on retaining and recruiting talented staff to ensure high-quality services for all residents. This effort is supported by the recently approved \$75 per month general increase for each employee and potential performance adjustments of up to \$96 per month. Additionally, the County received a grant related to workforce training to further enhance our staff's abilities. This grant will support various training programs aimed at developing new skills and improving existing competencies. Classes planned include management, CDL training, law enforcement training, conversational Spanish, customer service, and more.

Furthermore, the County has introduced a weekly wellness program met with great enthusiasm. This program offers a range of activities, including nutritional workshops, promoting the overall health and well-being of our employees.

The County is fortunate to have an active Staff Engagement Committee who help develop programs and activities to better the work environment at Otero County.

Financial Responsibility

Fiscal prudence remains a key objective, with projects and expenditures carefully evaluated to maximize the use of available resources and ensure long-term sustainability. However, we face the challenging task of balancing the budget while maintaining high-quality services for the community, especially given that we do not see the increase in property taxes that other areas of the state experience.

Increased Website Accessibility

Otero County is dedicated to making its website accessible. We are continually improving its accessibility and usability, ensuring it conforms to all guidelines and regulations.

Asset Enhancement

Otero County is dedicated to enhancing its assets, including significant capital improvements such as the new Sheriff's administrative offices and detention center.

Improvement of Building Energy Efficiency

The County is committed to increasing the energy efficiency of its buildings, which will lead to cost savings and a reduced environmental impact.

**OTERO COUNTY
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY2026 BUDGET**

#2025-020

A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZING EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES FOR EACH FUND AND ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF OTERO, COLORADO, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 2026, AND ENDING ON THE LAST DAY OF DECEMBER, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Otero County has appointed Tina Mascarenas, Otero County Budget Officer, to prepare and submit a proposed budget to said governing body at the proper time, and;

WHEREAS, Tina Mascarenas, Otero County Budget Officer, has submitted a preliminary budget to this governing body on October 13, 2025, for its consideration, and;

WHEREAS, upon due and proper notice, published or posted in accordance with the law, said proposed budget was open for inspection by the public at a designated place, a public hearing was held on December 15, 2025, and interested taxpayers were given the opportunity to file or register any objections to said proposed budget, and;

WHEREAS, whatever increases may have been made in the expenditures, like increases were added to the revenues or planned to be expended from the reserves / fund balances so that the budget remains in balance, as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF OTERO, COLORADO:

Section 1. That the estimated expenditures for each fund are as follows:

FUND	EXPENDITURE
General Fund #10	\$ 8,775,813
Capital Improvement Fund #12	\$ 1,517,000
Road & Bridge Fund #20	\$ 3,490,773
Medical Trust Fund #25	\$ 2,739,534
Contingent Fund #30	\$ 250,000
Area Agency on Aging Fund #40	\$ 1,721,994
Insurance Fund #45	\$ 1,225,001
Detention Center Fund #50	\$ 949,375
Internal Services Fund #65	\$ 399,500
General Human Services Fund #70	\$ 1,701,776
Health Fund #80	\$ 2,214,215
Conservation Trust Fund #85	\$ 368,569
Social Services Fund #89	\$ 5,273,160
Clerk Hire Fund #90	\$ 235,243
Otero Land Trust Fund #100	\$ 1,700
TOTAL	\$ 30,863,653
Small Business Development RLF #11	\$ 254,800
E911 Fund #100 (Component Unit)	\$ 624,075

Section 2. That the estimated revenues for each fund are as follows:

	<i>Unapprop. Surplus</i>	<i>Revenue Other Than General Property Tax</i>	<i>Intergovt. Revenue</i>	<i>General Property Tax*</i>	<i>Total Available Revenue</i>
General Fund #10	\$ 8,065,985	\$ 4,257,471	\$ 726,550	\$ 2,166,487	\$ 15,216,493
Capital Improvement Fund #12	\$ 2,720,363	\$ 70,670	\$	\$ 434,960	\$ 3,225,993
Road & Bridge Fund #20	\$ 2,211,543	\$ 133,000	\$ 1,935,000	\$ 648,380	\$ 4,927,923
Medical Trust Fund #25	\$ 1,305,082	\$ 2,570,000	\$	\$	\$ 3,875,082
Contingent Fund #30	\$ 282,659	\$	\$	\$	\$ 282,659
Area Agency on Aging Fund #40	\$	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,388,915	\$	\$ 1,389,915
Insurance Fund #45	\$ 626,512	\$ 275,000	\$	\$ 440,363	\$ 1,341,875
Detention Center Fund #50	\$ 6,153,982	\$	\$	\$	\$ 6,153,982
Internal Services Fund #65	\$ 1,138,343	\$ 207,005	\$	\$	\$ 1,345,348
General Human Services Fund #70	\$	\$ 450	\$ 2,264,883	\$	\$ 2,265,333
Health Fund #80	\$ 3,875,497	\$ 296,311	\$ 1,614,943	\$	\$ 5,786,751
Conservation Trust Fund #85	\$ 631,343	\$ 1,500	\$ 70,000	\$	\$ 702,843
Social Services Fund #89	\$	\$ 110,000	\$ 4,441,948	\$ 628,276	\$ 5,180,224
Clerk Hire Fund #90	\$ 665,972	\$ 180,000	\$	\$	\$ 845,972
Otero Land Trust Fund #100	\$ 65,970	\$ 500	\$	\$	\$ 66,470
TOTAL	\$ 27,743,251	\$ 8,102,907	\$ 12,442,239	\$ 4,318,466	\$ 52,606,863
Small Business Dev. RLF #11	\$	\$ 32,400	\$ 167,700	\$	\$ 200,100
E911 Fund #95 (Component Unit)	\$ 742,609	\$ 485,000	\$	\$	\$ 1,227,609

Section 3. That the budget as submitted, amended and hereinabove summarized by fund, hereby is approved and adopted as the budget of Otero County for the year stated above.

Section 4. That the budget hereby approved and adopted shall be signed by the Board of County Commissioners and made a part of the public records of the County.

FY2026 Budget Adoption
December 15, 2025

ADOPTED this 15th day of December, A.D. 2025.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF OTERO, STATE OF COLORADO

Otero County Clerk & Recorder

Rob Oquist, Chairman

Tim Knabenshue

Jim Baldwin

**OTERO COUNTY
RESOLUTION TO SET FY2026 MILL LEVIES**

#2025-021

A RESOLUTION LEVYING GENERAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2026, TO HELP DEFRAY THE COSTS OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF OTERO, COLORADO, FOR THE FY2026 BUDGET YEAR, AND FOR THE MILL LEVY ON EACH DOLLAR'S WORTH OF PROPERTY AS PER THE ASSESSED VALUE THEREON, AS SHOWN BY THE ASSESSOR OF OTERO COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 2025, AS FIXED BY THE OTERO COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the County of Otero, has adopted the annual budget in accordance with the local government budget law on December 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to balance the budget for *General Fund operating expenses is \$8,775,813; Road & Bridge expenses is \$3,490,773; Insurance expenses is \$1,225,001; Capital Improvement Fund expenses is \$505,630, and Social Services expenses is \$5,273,160;* and

WHEREAS, the 2025 valuation for assessment for the County of Otero as certified by the County Assessor is *\$193,315,545; and*

WHEREAS, after reviewing the requirements for anticipated expenditures and revenues from all of the sources for FY2026, the Board of County Commissioners of Otero County has determined that the proper mill levy, which shall be collected in the year 2026 upon each dollar of the assessed valuation of all taxable property in the County shall be *21.948 mills plus a temporary mill levy tax of 0.213 mills, for a temporary mill levy of 22.161.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF OTERO, COLORADO, as follows:

Section 1. There is hereby levied upon each dollar's worth of property within the county limits of the County of Otero for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses and paying all legal obligations of said County for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2026, a tax of *21.948 mills, plus a temporary mill levy tax of 0.213 mills for a total temporary mill levy of 22.161* on each dollars' worth of property as per the assessed value thereon as show by the valuation for assessment, as certified by the Otero County Assessor for the year 2025, as fixed by the Otero County Board of Equalization.

Total Authorized Levy	21.948 Mills
(Temporary Tax Mill Levy– Taxes Abated and/or Refunded)	<u>.213 Mills</u>
Revised Levy	22.161 Mills
General Fund #10	11.207 Mills
Road & Bridge Fund #20	3.354 Mills
Insurance Fund #45	2.100 Mills
Social Services Fund #89	3.250 Mills
Capital Improvement Fund #12	2.250 Mills

FY2026 Mill Levy
December 15, 2025

ADOPTED THIS 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER, A.D. 2025.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF OTERO, STATE OF
COLORADO

Otero County Clerk & Recorder

Rob Oquist, Chairman

Tim Knabenshue

Jim Baldwin

OTERO COUNTY
A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE SUMS OF MONEY FOR FY2026
2025-022

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING SUMS OF MONEY TO THE VARIOUS FUNDS AND SPENDING AGENCIES IN THE AMOUNTS AND FOR THE PURPOSES AS SET FORTH BELOW, FOR THE COUNTY OF OTERO, COLORADO, FOR THE FY2026 BUDGET YEAR.

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS has adopted the annual budget in accordance with the Local Government Budget Law, on December 15, 2025, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has made provisions therein for revenues in an amount equal to or greater than the total proposed expenditures as set forth in said budget, and;

WHEREAS, it is not only required by law, but also necessary to appropriate the revenues and reserves or fund balances provided in the budget to and for the purposes described below, thereby establishing a limitation on expenditures for the operations of Otero County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF OTERO, COLORADO:

Section 1. That the following sums are hereby appropriated from the revenue of each fund, to each fund, for the purposes stated:

<i>FUND</i>	<i>CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES</i>	<i>CAPITAL OUTLAY</i>	<i>DEBT SERVICE</i>	<i>TOTAL FUND</i>
General Fund #10	\$ 8,775,813	\$	\$	\$ 8,775,813
Capital Improvement Fund #12	\$ 1,517,000	\$	\$	\$ 1,517,000
Road & Bridge Fund #20	\$ 3,029,983	\$ 460,790	\$	\$ 3,490,773
Medical Trust Fund #25	\$ 2,739,534	\$	\$	\$ 2,739,534
Contingent Fund #30	\$ 250,000	\$	\$	\$ 250,000
Area Agency on Aging Fund #40	\$ 1,721,994	\$	\$	\$ 1,721,994
Insurance Fund #45	\$ 1,225,001	\$	\$	\$ 1,225,001
Detention Center Fund #50	\$ 689,375	\$	\$ 260,000	\$ 949,375
Internal Services Fund #65	\$ 149,500	\$ 250,000	\$	\$ 399,500
General Human Services Fund #70	\$ 1,701,776	\$	\$	\$ 1,701,776
Health Fund #80	\$ 2,214,215	\$	\$	\$ 2,214,215
Conservation Trust Fund #85	\$ 368,569	\$	\$	\$ 368,569
Social Services Fund #89	\$ 5,273,160	\$	\$	\$ 5,273,160
Clerk Hire Fund #90	\$ 235,243	\$	\$	\$ 235,243
Otero Land Trust Fund #100	\$ 1,700	\$	\$	\$ 1,700
TOTAL	\$ 29,892,863	\$ 710,790	\$ 260,000	\$ 30,863,653
Component Units				
Small Business Dev. RLF #11	\$ 105,800	\$	\$	\$ 105,800
E911 Fund #95	\$ 513,750	\$	\$ 113,469	\$ 627,219

FY2026 Appropriation Resolution
December 15, 2025

ADOPTED THIS 15TH DAY OF DECEMBER, A.D. 2025.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF OTERO, STATE OF
COLORADO

Otero County Clerk & Recorder

Rob Oquist, Chairman

Tim Knabenshue

Jim Baldwin

Otero County
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS
BOARD STATEMENT NO. 54 (GASB 54)

#2025-023

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD STATEMENT NO. 54. SETTING THE OTERO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AS THE GOVERNING BODY TO COMMIT FUNDS FOR SPECIFIED PURPOSE. SET THE APPROPRIATE FUND DESIGNATIONS AND AMOUNT FOR FUND BALANCES IN RESTRICTED, COMMITTED, AND ASSIGNED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026.

WHEREAS, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is an independent organization that establishes and improves standards of accounting and financial reporting for U.S. state and local governments;

WHEREAS, GASB has developed GASB Statement No. 54 establishing fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds;

WHEREAS, GASB Statement No. 54 provides for classification as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned based on the relative strength of the constraints that control how specific amounts can be spent;

WHEREAS, the Otero County Board of Commissioners shall spend funds in order of restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned;

WHEREAS, the restricted fund balance category includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes provided by state or federal laws or other restrictions imposed by third parties;

WHEREAS, the committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a Resolution of the Otero County Board of Commissioners;

WHEREAS, amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the Otero County Government for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed;

WHEREAS, unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the government's general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications; and

WHEREAS, the Otero County Board of Commissioners desires to classify certain funds as restricted, committed, and assigned and to make any funds not otherwise designated in this resolution as unassigned as defined by GASB Statement No. 54.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. That the following funds be restricted as defined by GASB Statement No. 54:
 - a. \$90,000 of State Grant money received by Otero County; and
 - b. \$451,602 as a TABOR reserve; and
 - c. Area Agency on Aging Fund
 - d. Social Services Fund
 - e. General Human Services Fund
 - f. Health Fund
 - g. Conservation Trust Fund; and
 - h. Clerk Hire Fund; and
 - i. Otero County Land Trust Fund
 - j. Small Business Development Fund (Component Unit Only)
 - k. 911 Fund (Component Unit Only)

2. That the following funds be committed as defined by GASB Statement No. 54:
 - a. Capital Improvement Fund
 - b. Road & Bridge Fund
 - c. Medical Trust Fund
 - d. Contingent Fund
 - e. Insurance Fund
 - f. Detention Center Fund
 - g. Internal Services Fund

3. That all funds held by Otero County that are not restricted, committed, and assigned in this resolution be designated as unassigned as defined by GASB Statement No. 54.

Adopted this 15th day of December, 2025.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF OTERO, STATE OF
COLORADO

Otero County Clerk & Recorder

Rob Oquist, Chairman

Tim Knabenshue

Jim Baldwin

- Otero County shall contact and inform BOKF, NA of the necessary and required appropriation at the following address:

Attn: Corporate Trust Department

BOKF, NA

C/O BOK Financial

1600 Broadway, 26th Floor

Denver, CO 80202

- Otero County shall submit the payment of \$343,937.50 to BOKF, NA on or before May 15, 2026.
- Otero County shall submit the payment of \$603,937.50 to BOKF, NA on or before November 15, 2026.

Adopted this 15th day of December, 2025.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
OTERO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO:

Clerk & Recorder

Rob Oquist, Chairman

Tim Knabenshue

Jim Baldwin