

FISCAL YEAR 2025 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Huerfano County, Colorado

Timeline

When	Who	What
October 15 th	County Administrator	County Administrator presents Preliminary Proposed Budget to Commissioners
October 15 th	Board of County Commissioners	Make Preliminary Proposed Budget available to the public
October 29 th , November 12 th , and 19 th	Board of County Commissioners	Commissioner meetings with individual departments and agencies
November 12 th	Board of County Commissioners	Conduct public hearing regarding 2025 budget in Huerfano County
November 26 th	Board of County Commissioners	Budget workshop with County Administrator and Finance to make final budget decisions
December 10 th	Board of County Commissioners	Adopt the 2025 budget and certify mill levy for Huerfano County.

Strategic Priorities

- **Talent Acquisition and Retention:** Build a talent advantage by establishing and maintaining training programs and youth employment or apprenticeship programs while engaging and empowering current employees.
- **Infrastructure and Facilities:** Maintain, preserve, and improve the quality of County-owned infrastructure and facilities, particularly the County Road System.
- **Economic Development:** Maintain an active, organized, and cooperative economic development program that encourages sustainable growth through retention and expansion of existing businesses, and reducing poverty rates along with efforts to grow and attract new businesses.
- **Public Safety:** Build interagency and community collaboration in order to provide greater accountability, build public trust, mitigate risks, and improve the safety and security of the community.

Fund Balance Requirements

- Resolution 22-31 Adopted a Fund Reserve Policy for Huerfano County.
- TABOR Reserve is budgeted at \$350K in the General Fund.
- Certain Funds must account for a Working Capital Reserve.
 - Equal to 10% of Budgeted Operating Expenditures that cannot be used to balance the budget.
- General Fund has a target operational reserve of 25% of budgeted operating expenditures.
 - The TABOR Reserve, General Fund Working Capital Reserve, and General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance all count towards the Target Operational Reserve.

Budget Overview: Structural Changes

- Ending use of the Other Admin Cost Center
 - Distributes formerly shared general fund costs into departmental cost centers
 - Each department now has line items for unemployment insurance and work comp
 - Some costs remain centralized in relevant departments
 - Property Insurance is centralized in the Public Works Cost Center
 - The Treasurer's clearing account is in the Treasurer Cost Center
- Creation of an internal services fund for IT expenses
 - The purchase of paper, ink, printers, computers, postage, etc. will be centralized
 - Bulk purchases of paper and ink will save money and increase efficiency
 - Printers and computers will have regular replacement schedules
 - Copier leases will be moved to this cost center and departments will be billed for usage

Budget Overview: Operational Changes

- This budget includes a 2% cost of living increase
- The decision to switch Health Insurance providers allowed the County to avoid a 9% increase in 2025.
 - The change from a 3 tier system to a 4 tier system may result in additional savings after open enrollment
- Ending contracted law enforcement coverage for the City of Walsenburg will have a major impact on the General Fund, particularly the Sheriff's Office
 - The SO budget has been reduced by roughly \$700K as a result
 - If there is a transition agreement with the City the Sheriff's budget may increase

Budget Overview: Process Notes

- The 2023 Audit is still underway and the auditor is actively working with Finance.
 - Last week's corrections included making budgeted transfers in 2023 that were not previously made.
 - This resulted in significant balance changes in PILT, Special Projects, Emergency Services, Road and Bridge, and the County General Fund
- We expect continuing changes until the audit is complete

GENERAL FUND

Fund Summary

	2023 Unaudited Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Recommended
Beginning Balance	\$1,719,978	\$1,500,988	\$2,135,623
Revenues	\$8,492,251	\$8,338,387	\$7,725,673
Expenditures	\$8,711,242	\$7,703,752	\$8,171,387
Ending Balance	\$1,500,988	\$2,135,623	\$1,689,909

Fund Balance Requirements

Combined Operational Reserve

- Targeted: \$3,375,820
- Actual: \$1,676,074
- Difference: (\$1,349,746)

Working Capital Reserve Requirement Met

- Fund Balance above \$716,986

Key Numbers

- \$350,000 TABOR Reserve
- \$810,548 in Debt Service
- \$600,000 in Transfers into the General Fund
- \$0 in Transfers out of the General Fund

Board of County Commissioners

Department	2023 Actual	2024 Estimated	2025 Requested	2025 Recommended
Land Use and Building	\$254,906	\$192,593	\$214,269	\$215,201
Other Administration	\$1,086,702	\$889,766	\$271,810	\$0
Public Works	\$459,237	\$393,561	\$356,678	\$723,278
Transfer to Other Funds	\$0	\$0	\$350,000	\$350,000
CSU Cooperative Extension	\$13,739	\$19,000	\$21,850	\$20,850
Airport	\$290,742	\$108,892	\$632,950	\$633,450
Veterans	\$18,400	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Administration	\$743,758	\$713,429	\$727,652	\$1,007,175
IT/GIS	\$232,208	\$128,048	\$130,480	\$128,982
Parks and Recreation	\$21	\$139,295	\$168,182	\$156,909
Judicial Center	\$675,233	\$782,100	\$683,900	\$729,300
Economic Development	\$102,938	\$9,003	\$0	\$0
Total	\$3,877,884	\$3,376,687	\$3,558,771	\$3,966,145

County Clerk and Recorder

Department	Clerk & Recorder	Elections	Total
2023 Actual	\$357,620	\$104,595	\$462,215
2024 Estimated	\$381,543	\$195,609	\$577,152
2025 Requested	\$482,592	\$195,909	\$678,501
2025 Recommended	\$344,743	\$167,022	\$511,765

County Treasurer

Department	Treasurer	Public Trustee	Total
2023 Actual	\$304,608	\$13,515	\$318,123
2024 Estimated	\$291,950	\$14,245	\$306,195
2025 Requested	\$308,869	\$14,245	\$323,114
2025 Recommended	\$320,659	\$13,457	\$334,116

County Assessor

2023 Actual	\$393,756
2024 Estimated	\$382,366
2025 Requested	\$409,444
2025 Recommended	\$417,204

3rd Judicial District Attorney's Office

The presented numbers are for the DA's office allocation and do not include utilities, which remain budgeted at \$5,000.

2023 Actual	\$415,320
2024 Estimated	\$581,508
2025 Requested	\$682,556
2025 Recommended	\$590,000

County Sheriff

Department	Sheriff	Sheriff (City)	Jail	Search and Rescue	Law Enforcement Assistance	Total
2023 Actual	\$1,883,979	\$73,905	\$860,009	\$2,545	\$0	\$2,820,438
2024 Estimated	\$1,698,529	\$0	\$455,872	\$17,200	\$400	\$2,172,001
2025 Requested	\$1,657,759	\$0	\$831,355	\$25,700	\$500	\$2,515,314
2025 Recommended	\$1,185,012	\$0	\$828,570	\$14,930	\$500	\$2,029,012

County Coroner

2023 Actual	\$112,226
2024 Estimated	\$92,844
2025 Requested	\$126,021
2025 Recommended	\$118,529

Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department

2023 Actual	\$144,291
2024 Estimated	\$210,000
2025 Requested	\$210,000
2025 Recommended	\$210,000

MAJOR FUNDS

Road and Bridge Fund

Department	R/B Apportionment to Municipalities	R/B Construction	R/B Maintenance of Condition	R/B Administration	Noxious Weeds	Total
2023 Actual	\$1,681	\$0	\$786,829	\$1,472,532	\$87,200	\$2,348,243
2024 Estimated	\$1,605	\$0	\$638,021	\$1,418,915	\$107,416	\$2,165,957
2025 Requested	\$1,605	\$0	\$805,890	\$1,536,427	\$136,470	\$2,480,392
2025 Recommended	\$1,582	\$683,146	\$768,913	\$1,498,688	\$135,775	\$3,088,104

Public Welfare Fund

	2023 Unaudited Actual	2024 Projected	2025 Recommended
Beginning Balance	\$612,060	\$145,395	\$10,240
Revenues	\$2,377,103	\$2,334,756	\$2,563,595
Expenditures	\$2,843,769	\$2,469,910	\$2,559,271
Ending Balance	\$145,395	\$10,240	\$14,564

Emergency Services Fund

Department	Emergency Management	Emergency Services	Total
2023 Actual	\$175,381.41	\$762,348.71	\$937,730.12
2024 Estimated	\$239,625.00	\$1,563,543.00	\$1,803,168.00
2025 Requested	\$240,410.00	\$1,825,365.00	\$2,065,775.00
2025 Recommended	\$242,820.00	\$1,295,224.00	\$1,538,044.00

Asset Management Fund

Department	Transfer to Other Funds	Lease Purchase Program	Asset Management Enterprise	Total
2023 Actual	\$0	\$0	\$1,256,510	\$1,256,510
2024 Estimated	\$0	\$0	\$1,221,461	\$1,221,461
2025 Requested	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2025 Recommended	\$140,000	\$0	\$284,869	\$424,869

MINOR FUNDS

Recommended Budgets

Fund Name	Beginning Balance	Recommended Revenues	Recommended Expenditures	Ending Balance
Lodging Tax Tourism	\$88,730	\$85,000	\$102,118	\$71,612
Special Projects	-\$571,409	\$921,827	\$326,535	\$23,883
Retirement	\$150,661	\$206,444	\$183,932	\$173,173
Contingency	\$287,960	\$0	\$287,960	\$0
Parks and Recreation	\$150,316	\$0	\$0	\$150,316
Housing Authority	\$250,000	\$262,600	\$353,600	\$159,000
Conservation Trust	\$45,677	\$14,032	\$27,000	\$32,709

Recommended Budgets

Fund Name	Beginning Balance	Recommended Revenues	Recommended Expenditures	Ending Balance
PILT	-\$153,221	\$625,000	\$433,500	\$38,279
Opioids	\$64,623	\$17,465	\$55,000	\$27,088
Federal Forest	\$86,365	\$18,405	\$104,770	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$98,750	\$89,150	\$9,600
Waste Transfer	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gardner PID	\$62,964	\$88,520	\$81,983	\$69,501
Disaster Recovery	\$926,267	\$0	\$800,000	\$126,267