

Sarah Herman, County Clerk
Holly Brady, Deputy Clerk
Jerrid Richards, Deputy Clerk



COUNTY COURTHOUSE
200 Main St., Rm. 23
Boonville, MO 65233-1276
660-882-2114

Cooper County Clerk

January 13, 2020

Commissioners,

I am respectfully declining all 3 commissioner options for my 2020 budget. In the Clerk's Fund 502, I have submitted a budget nearly the same as 2019 with the exception of some salary changes that were approved by the commissioners. With that being said, I will operate the County Clerk's office off the 2019 approved budget with those exceptions, which include the 2.5% staff increase, and the increase of the Elected Official's salary due to the increased valuation of Cooper County.

I have spoken with the State Auditor's office regarding accounts payroll/ payable and Human Resources, it is my interpretation that it is a function of the County Clerk's office, and the State Auditor's office agrees with me, and it will continue to be a function of the Clerk's Office in Cooper County.

Regarding my Election Fund 504, I have submitted a budget that will allow me to effectively run Cooper County's Elections. This budget was similar to other counties around us with similar populations. I have also reached out to the Secretary of States office, they agree that a Voter Registration Clerk for a county of this size is a full-time job, and there will be overtime with this 2020 Election year.

This is a big election year for Cooper County. As the Local Election Authority, I believe elections are my most important role as Cooper Clerk. I will do all that I can to make sure the integrity of Cooper County's elections are not compromised. The budget I have submitted is also further confirmed correct with an email I received from the Secretary of State's office saying that they, at the end of January 2020, will pay us 85% of the Presidential Preference Primary in 2016 which will be almost \$32K. Times that by 4, (knowing that August and November will be slightly more) add the new equipment amount, my full time staff, and the canvass (which is required by law) you will get the amount I requested.

No other office holder has been asked to reduce their budget by about \$90k-\$105k. No other office holder has been given options to choose from on their budget.

Section 50.530 of RSMo. the County Clerk is the Budget Officer in third class counties.

Section 50.540, Subsection 2 of RSMo. states "2. The budget officer shall review the estimates, altering, revising, increasing or decreasing the items as he deems necessary in view of the needs of the various spending agencies and the probable income for the year."

Cooper County Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah J. Herman".