

**GREEN COUNTY 2019 BUDGET
REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The proposed budget for 2019 as presented here requires a preliminary tax levy of \$20,770,989 which represents actual operating costs for Green County. In order to meet the required net tax levy of \$16,482,198, the Finance Committee intends to use \$2,805,608 from the 2017 sales tax revenue and \$1,483,183 from the undesignated General Fund. The reduction of the General Fund in 2019 by the 1.48 million dollars will be offset by departments returning an estimated \$910,347 at the end of fiscal 2018. The net effect will be to reduce the General Fund by \$572,836.

The State budget limits the amount municipalities can levy for property taxes to the amount of the previous year's levy plus the amount of net new construction, with allowances for some items not subject to levy limits. The amount of the 2019 tax levy is equal to the amount allowed under the State's levy limits. In comparison to the 2018 levy, the 2019 tax levy provides for an increase of \$692,700. Property values for 2018 increased by 3.05% over the 2016 values. The levy rate for 2018 will be \$5.520 per thousand of equalized value, slightly less than last year's rate of \$5.53.

The budget includes \$790,000 of tax levy from the voter approved referendum to assist in the operations of Pleasant View Nursing Home. The tax levy also includes other amounts that are excluded from the levy limit -- Debt Service payments of \$2,088,584, Bridge & Culvert Repairs of \$50,553 and Library payments of \$460,771.

As the State continues to impose mandates on counties, often without funding, we are forced to do more with less. Effective August 1, 2018, the County instituted a Wheel Tax. This budget includes additional funding to the Highway Department of \$200,000 from this tax for the improvement of county roads and bridges.

We urge you to study this document carefully and review the supplementary schedules that are included. Additional information on individual budgets may be found in the optional department narratives. Questions regarding this budget may be directed to any of the department heads that provided the basic data contained in the budget, the Finance Committee, or the Accounting office. We submit this 2019 Green County Budget for your consideration and approval.

Finance & Accounting Committee

Dennis Everson

Dennis Everson, Chair