

Coroner

Activity Overview

The County Coroner is a statutory position, filled through a consolidation effective January 1st, 2008 with the resignation of the elected coroner. The Elected Office was consolidated with the County Sheriff. The Coroner has authority to use temporary employees appointed as deputy coroners.

Neither the Coroner nor his deputies perform autopsies. Medical professionals are paid for each autopsy performed. This represents the majority of the Department's operating budget.

Activity Goals

- Strive to provide the best Coroner Service in Montana, using first-rate investigative skills combined with professional and compassionate care to the family members and public surrounding each death.
- Continue public education classes in area schools regarding safety, using coroner statistics as a tool, and educate the general public regarding duties performed by the Coroner's Office.
- Establish and maintain a well-equipped morgue.
- Continue to offer fee-based services to other counties.
- Continue training of Coroner and Deputy Coroners.
- Modify Monthly Statistic Program to reflect fiscal year reporting rather than the current calendar year reporting.
- Continue building capital for the purpose of purchasing a pickup-style 4-wheel drive coroner vehicle with tinted-glass topper in order to accomplish separate air space for driver and cargo/body and provide for safer travel; intended replacement for aging Chevrolet Suburban.

Recent Accomplishments

- Basic and advanced (medico-legal) training of several Deputy Coroners.
- Providing outreach to driver's education classes and career days in the local schools.
- Provided a Coroner vehicle to West Yellowstone Deputy Coroner for duties.
- Provided safe transportation.
- Comply with City, County, State and Federal standards.
- Increased on-call Deputy Coroners from one to two.
- Developed new Monthly Statistic Program to increase efficiency and decrease reporting errors.
- Developed new cremation authorization process to better comply with state-mandated guidelines.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Coroner

Activity Budget

Object of Expenditure	Actual FY 2012	BUDGET FY 2013	Actual FY 2013	Request FY 2014	Preliminary FY 2014	BUDGET FY 2014
Personnel	\$ 57,255	\$ 56,575	\$ 58,105	\$ 57,136	\$ 57,136	\$ 57,136
Operations	37,033	55,987	38,918	54,285	54,285	54,285
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Outlay	-	5,787	-	7,787	-	-
Transfers Out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 94,288</u>	<u>\$ 118,349</u>	<u>\$ 97,023</u>	<u>\$ 119,208</u>	<u>\$ 111,421</u>	<u>\$ 111,421</u>

Budget by Fund Group

General Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Revenue Funds	94,288	118,349	97,023	119,208	111,421	111,421
Debt Service Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Project Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enterprise Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Internal Service Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trust & Agency Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 94,288</u>	<u>\$ 118,349</u>	<u>\$ 97,023</u>	<u>\$ 119,208</u>	<u>\$ 111,421</u>	<u>\$ 111,421</u>

Funding Sources

Tax Revenues	\$ 81,078	\$ 75,351	\$ 72,337	\$ 89,405	\$ 90,681	\$ 83,211
Non-Tax Revenues	25,488	25,140	21,369	20,222	18,139	23,234
Cash Reappropriated	(12,278)	17,858	3,317	9,581	2,601	4,976
Total	<u>\$ 94,288</u>	<u>\$ 118,349</u>	<u>\$ 97,023</u>	<u>\$ 119,208</u>	<u>\$ 111,421</u>	<u>\$ 111,421</u>

Activity Personnel

No. of Positions	FT/PT	Title	PTE
1	Part-Time	Consolidated Coroner	1
8	Part-Time	Deputy Coroners	8
2	Part-Time	West Yellowstone, Big Sky	1
11		Total Program	11

Coroner

2014 Budget Highlights

Personnel

-

Operations

-

Capital

- Vehicle Reserve \$0. The Coroner vehicle replacement was added to 'Core' in FY 2014.

County Commission Goals/Department Response

The County Commission established a set of overarching goals for the County government. Listed below are the goals, followed by the methods by which the Department is striving to fulfill those goals.

Align community needs with budgetary decisions

- Continue to search for ways to decrease operating costs.

Adhere to long-term plans

-

Demonstrate exceptional Customer Service

- Continue great service.
- Provide safe transportation on roads.
- Comply with City, County and Federal standards.
- Continue lectures to driver's education classes, job fairs and the DARE Program.

Be Model for Excellence in Government

- Continue to provide advanced training.
- Maintaining a well equipped morgue.
- Best Coroner Service in Montana.
- Maintain an efficient office.

Improve Communications

- Increased public knowledge of Department – receive positive impression from public.

To be the Employer of Choice

- Continue advanced training.
- Best trained staff in the state.

Coroner

Workload Indicators / Performance Measures

Workload Indicators		Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected
Indicator		FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
1.	Coroner investigated deaths	111	103	75	108
2.	Hospice deaths	82	195	174	204
3.	Cremation authorizations	232	330	317	346
4.	Other calls	30	7	14	16
5.	Coroner contacts	455	635	580	674

Performance Measures		Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected
Measure		FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
1.	Accidental deaths	10	12	5	13
2.	Motor vehicle related	16	14	6	14
3.	Natural causes	74	55	46	58
4.	Suicides	11	13	11	15
5.	Homicide	1	0	1	0
6.	Cases Pending	2	8	6	8
7.	Undetermined	1	1	0	0

Comments

Projected based off of 5% increase in calls from FY 2012 statistics.