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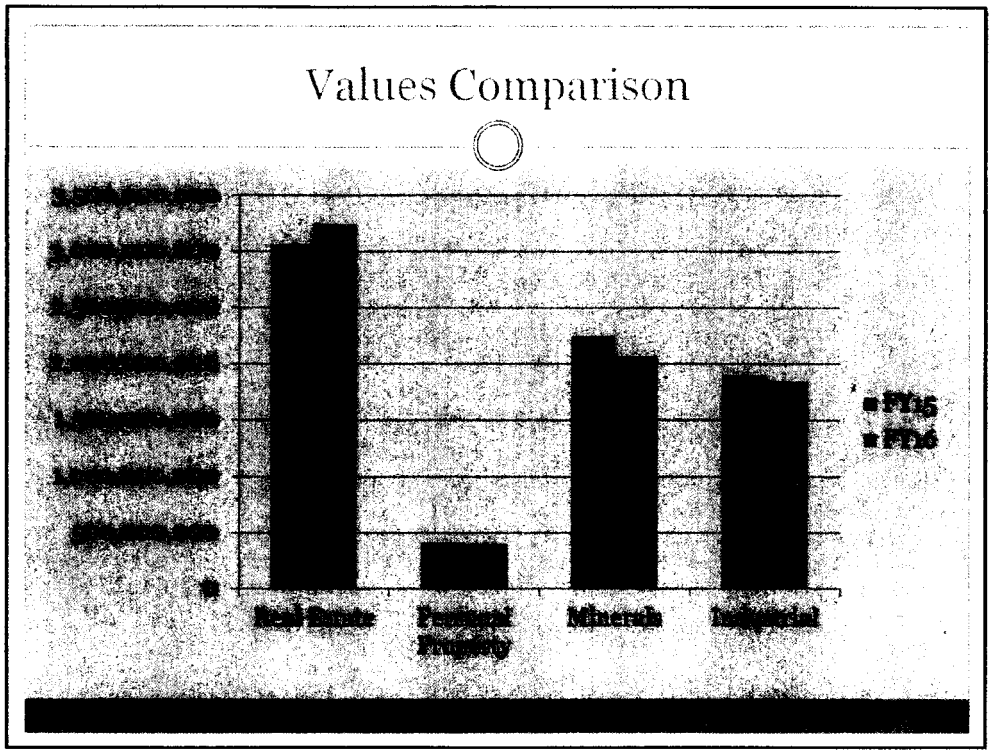
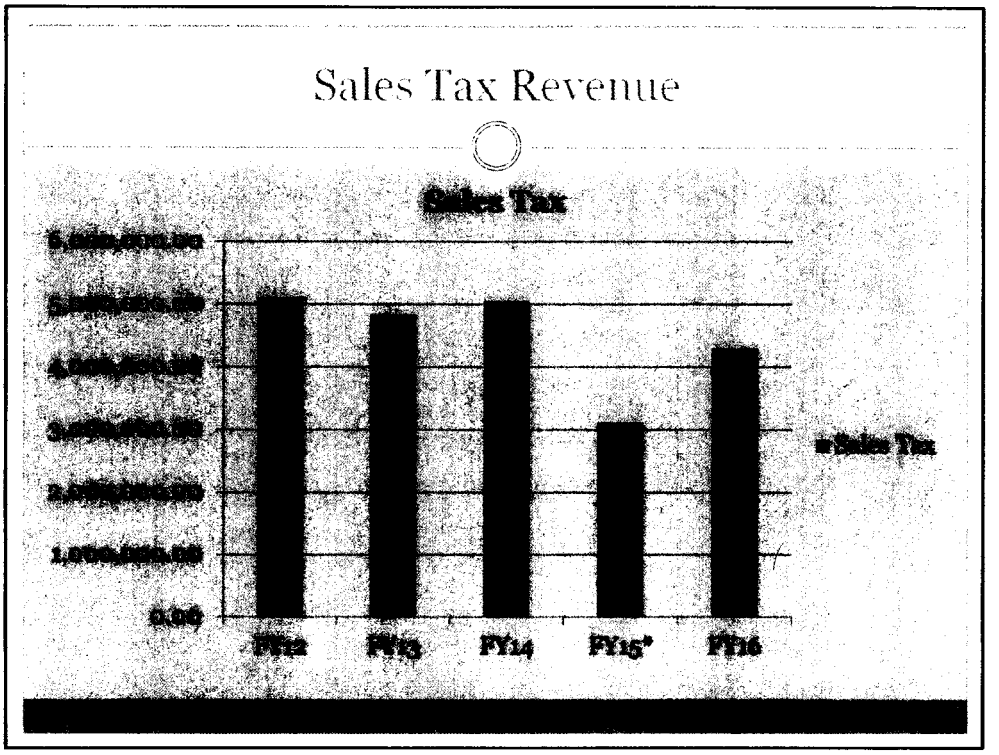
WISE COUNTY BUDGET PROPOSAL

FY2016

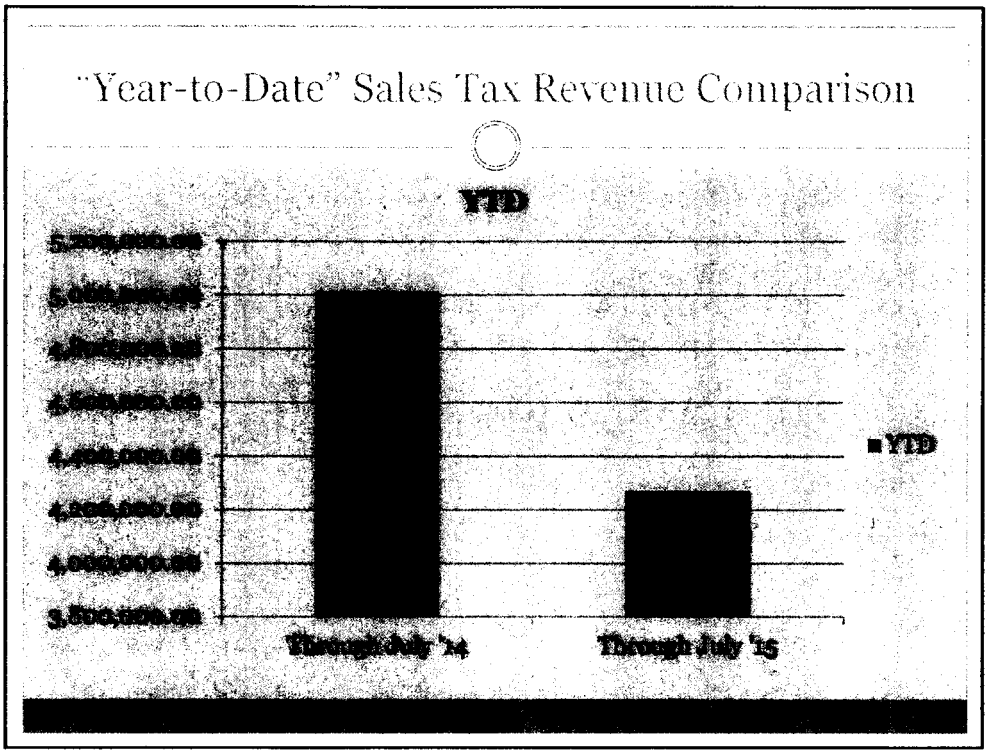
PREPARED BY
COUNTY JUDGE J.D. CLARK
&
COUNTY AUDITOR ANN McCUISTON



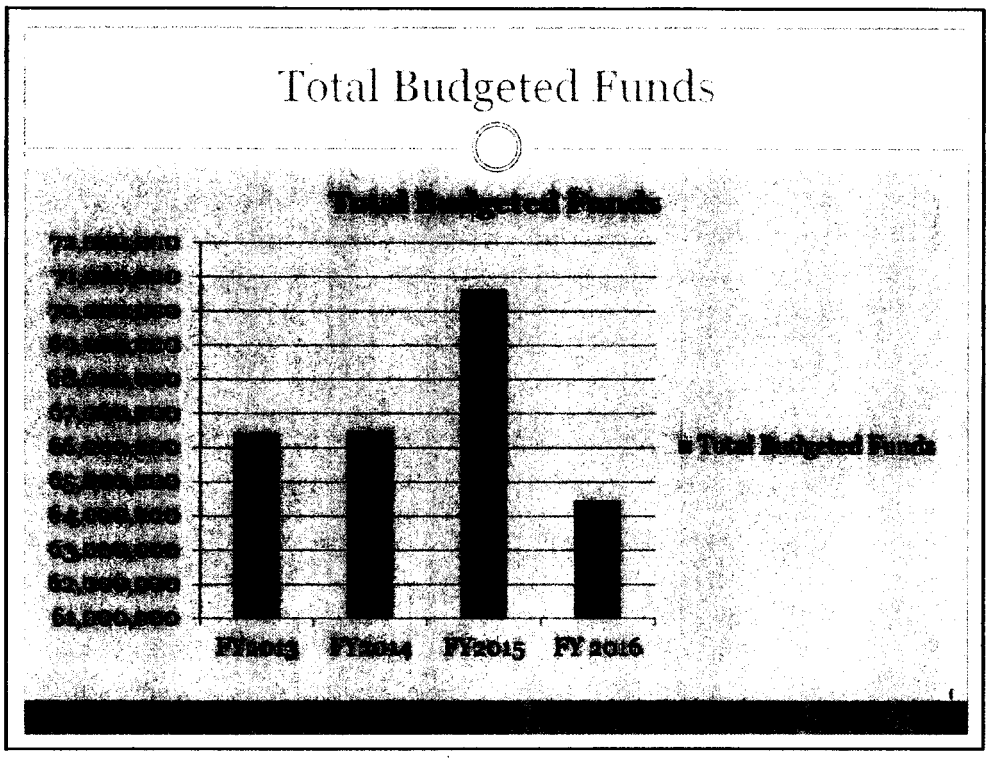
Real Estate: +6.11%
Personal: -3.20%
Minerals: -8.09%
Industrial: -2.88%



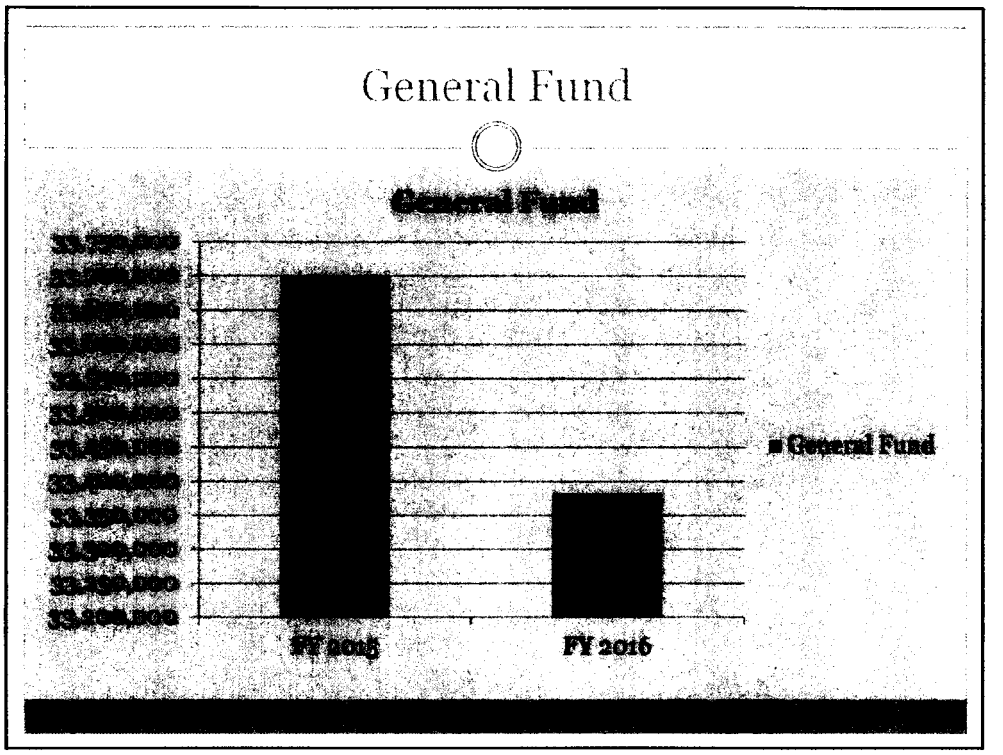
*FY15 sales tax collections are not complete. While we do not know exactly how much sales tax revenue will come in through the end of this fiscal year, we do expect the total amount to be less than previous years. Therefore, we are budgeting based on the assumption that the FY16 sales tax revenue will be down.



Sales tax revenue "year-to-date" at this point last year was $5,014,411.11. Through the same month of this year, we are at $4,272,418.11. That is a decrease of $741,993.00, or 14.7%.



Total budgeted funds for FY16 are $64,473,649. This is $6,182,952 less than the overall FY15 budget, representing an 8.75% reduction. This is not all due to budget cuts- FY15 was also higher because it included the TxDOT grant and capital funds.



Proposed "General Fund" spending is just over $33.3 million. The FY15 adopted "General Fund" spending was set at roughly $33.7 million.

Notable Changes

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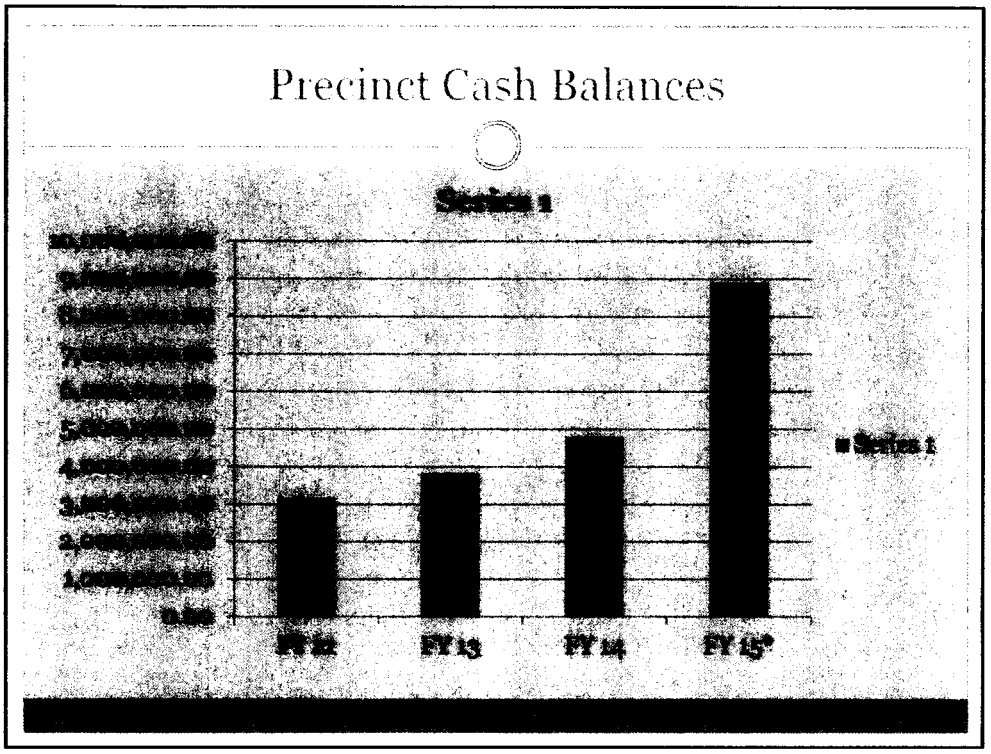

*FY15 precinct cash balances were as of July 31, 2015. While we do realize that some of that will be spent before the end of the fiscal year, we expect that at least $5 million will remain at the end of FY15. Because of this, we are proposing to take 1.5 cents from the FMLR tax rate and apply it to the General Fund tax rate, keeping the overall tax rate the same. While this will result in roughly $1 million less in tax revenue for the precincts combined, the precincts are carrying over an incredibly healthy cash balance (at least $5 million) so operations and services will not be affected.

Proposed FY16 Tax Rates

- The proposed budgets are based on leaving the total tax rates the same as FY 15.
- Total Wise County Property Tax Rate: $0.3789/$100 valuation ($0.3139 for General Fund, $0.065 for FMLR)
- Wise County College Branch Maintenance Tax Rate: $0.046148/$100 valuation.

The Result?

- A balanced budget
- No tax increases
- No cuts in services or operations
- Does not touch our cash reserves
- Final note: cash reserves have doubled since 2013 to almost $5 million.