



Sullivan County

Management & Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes - Final

Chair Brian McPhillips
Vice Chair Matt McPhillips
Committee Member Joseph Perrello
Committee Member Luis Alvarez
Committee Member Terry Blosser-Bernardo

Thursday, May 14, 2026

9:30 AM

Government Center

Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Brian McPhillips called the Management and Budget Committee to order at 9:30am.

Roll Call

Present: Brian McPhillips, Matt McPhillips, Joseph Perrello, Luis Alvarez and Terry Blosser-Bernardo

Comments:

Nicholas Salomone, Nadia Rajsz, Catherine Scott

Joshua Potosek, Dan Hust, Robert Freehill, Sharon Jankiewicz, Chris Knapp, Kathleen Lara, Lorne Green, Anna Novello, Shannan Armbrust, Russell Reeves

Ken Walter, Lou Setren, Jerry Stevens, Chris Lesser, Dorothy Sanchez and Matt from the Democrat.

Reports:

1. Management & Budget

Commissioner Anna Novello gave an update on the Division of Management and Budget.

Joseph Perrello asked in regard to the 16% decrease in sales tax, what would that represent in a tax increase?

Manager Joshua Potosek stated approximately 19 or 20 percent.

Chair Brian McPhillips stated every 1 percent is \$749,900. He then commented on Mr. Perrello's question. A letter was sent to Finance in Albany to find out why our sales tax is down 14 percent right now.

2. County Treasurer

County Treasurer Kathleen Lara gave her monthly report. She indicated that building and permits are down from last year. She feels it is a combination of things why the numbers are down. She spoke to our Auditors and Matt stated that we are not alone. We are probably the first county to see the down trend.

Kathleen Lara recognized Shannan Armbrust, our Senior Fiscal Administrative Officer, who has been in the Treasurer's Office for over 17 years, brings out exceptional expertise and has the institutional knowledge that is critical to our success. While the ACFR (Annual Comprehensive Financial Report) is truly a team effort, Shannan's leadership in compiling and coordinating the information that drives that report is invaluable.

Kathleen Lara stated she will keep her eyes on the revenue.

3. Real Property Tax Services

Real Property Tax Services Director Chris Knapp gave an update to his Real Property Tax Department reports.

Real Property Tax Services Monthly Report for March 2026

[ID-8379](#)

Attachments: [Real Property Tax Services Monthly Report for 3.2026](#)

Real Property Tax Services Monthly Report for April 2026

[ID-8380](#)

Attachments: [Real Property Tax Services Monthly Report for 4.2026](#)

4. ITS

Chief Information Officer Lorne Green gave an update on Information Technology Services.

5. County Audit & Control

No one was present from Office of Audit and Control.

Discussion:

Public Comment

1. Ken Walter made a public comment.
2. Chris Lesser made a public comment.

At this time, Chair Brian McPhillips made a comment.

At this time, Terry Blosser-Bernardo made a comment.

At this time, Chair Brian McPhillips made a comment.

At this time, Catherine Scott made a public comment.

At this time, Nicholas Salomone made a public comment.

3. Chris Lesser made another public comment.

Resolutions:

Matt McPhillips moved Resolutions #1-#6 in a block, seconded by Luis Alvarez, all in favor 5-0.

1. Apportion the 2026 1st Quarter Mortgage Tax [ID-8339](#)

Attachments: [AU-202 1ST QUARTER MORTGAGE TAX](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips, seconded by District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 5/21/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman McPhillips, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 7 Legislator Perrello, District 6 Legislator Alvarez and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo

2. ADOPT THE “SULLIVAN COUNTY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBERSECURITY GOVERNANCE POLICY AND STANDARDS (SCITS-0001.000)” [ID-8362](#)

Attachments: [Sullivan County Information Technology and Cybersecurity Governance Policy and Standards \(SCITS-0001.000\).pdf](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips, seconded by District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 5/21/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman McPhillips, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 7 Legislator Perrello, District 6 Legislator Alvarez and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo

3. TO AUTHORIZE A PAYMENT TO THOMSON REUTERS [ID-8365](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips, seconded by District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 5/21/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman McPhillips, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 7 Legislator Perrello, District 6 Legislator Alvarez and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo

4. TO AUTHORIZE A 3-YEAR AGREEMENT FOR CONTINUED ACCESS TO LEXISNEXIS ADVANCE ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH PRODUCTS [ID-8366](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips, seconded by District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 5/21/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman McPhillips, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 7 Legislator Perrello, District 6 Legislator Alvarez and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo

5. TO AUTHORIZE A NEW THREE-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THOMSON REUTERS FOR THEIR "CLEAR" RESEARCH PRODUCT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE [ID-8367](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips, seconded by District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 5/21/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman McPhillips, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 7 Legislator Perrello, District 6 Legislator Alvarez and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo

6. To Modify the 2026 Budget [ID-8376](#)

Attachments: [April 30 2026 Resolution Needed](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Matt McPhillips, seconded by District 6 Legislator Luis Alvarez, that this Resolution be carried at Committee to the County Legislature meeting on 5/21/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Chairman McPhillips, Vice Chairman McPhillips, District 7 Legislator Perrello, District 6 Legislator Alvarez and District 9 Legislator Blosser-Bernardo

Adjourn

There being no further business, Matt McPhillips moved to adjourn, seconded by Luis Alvarez. The Management and Budget Committee was adjourned at 10:27am.