CEI expects $15 per $100K tax rate

Posted: July 11, 2018 8:32 p.m.

Aman

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The College of Eastern Idaho expects to charge Bonneville County taxpayers about $15 per $100,000 in assessed value in 2018-2019.

Trustees spent much of Wednesday evening's meeting going over the college's proposed budget. The community college district was created in 2017, and the 2018-2019 budget marks the first where the college, formerly Eastern Idaho Technical College, will levy property taxes. The levy rate was a major point of contention for opponents of converting EITC into a community college.

CEI's proposed $22.8 million budget, the majority of which comes from the state, includes a $964,000 property tax levy.

"So contrary to some rumors going around, it's going to be $15 per $100,000, just as was promised during the campaign," said Trustee Carrie Scheid.

The rate won't be finalized until the college gets a final estimate of the county's value from the assessor's office. Trustees are expected to adopt the budget at their August meeting, after a public hearing.

Trustees also voted unanimously to keep tuition at $129 per credit for Idaho residents, the same rate as the 2017-2018 school year.

The rate is $179 per credit if the student comes from a county that isn't part of any community college district. However, the extra $50 is charged to the county, not the student. So for example, a student from another county that is part of a community college district, such as Twin Falls or

Jerome, can attend CEI and that extra $50 isn't charged to the student's home county. Other counties have to pay the additional $50 per credit for their students who enroll at CEI.

"The assessment goes to the county and then we collect that $50 per credit," college President Rick Aman said.

The proposed budget contains $378,000 in such payments. This reflects an estimate of about 30 percent of CEI's credits coming from out-of-district.