1. Which threat are you most concerned about?

- Going back to school, virtual formats, and funding considerations.
- Short term: ADM, reversions in the great recession were damaging, making some headway from that, but now hit again. How does this look for teacher salaries? Will more teachers be laid off (likely) vs. new teacher positions? Unemployment. Property tax losses.
- Property tax collections are on track so less of a concern than expected.
- Reduction in food and beverage tax revenue, innkeepers tax revenue, how to assess highway dept.
- Public school funding, teacher shortage, support public schools, daycare, insurance for schools in case of COVID-19 outbreak.
- Highway funding.
- Library medium- and long-term income tax.
- Lost income and where to replace it-using rainy day funds most likely.
- Possible drop in assessed values.
- Higher education-will people come back?
- Road repair funding.
- How will state respond once back in session? Will it be similar to the great recession?
- How is Budget going to be affected? What are we going to look like in the near future, and just wonders how everyone else is looking at this.
- Shortfalls of property tax funds coming in –
- MBH? funds coming in substantial hit? Worried about some payment due.
- Interesting that we may still be have to worry about 2022.
- Roads, How the numbers might compare to the numbers during the recession, this really impacted their county but they are in better shape going in this time. They are more income tax dependent this time.
- Property Tax drops? We need to be cutting back to be able to weather 2021 and 2022.
- Ongoing revenue reduction.
- What are distributions going to be in June?
- How can we help consumer confidence?
- Personal Income be affected by this, and how will businesses and jobs be changed in the future? Fallout from this?
- Depletion of assets.
Local government will be looking again to the state of Indiana for direct aid or ways in which to reform local government that could save us money.

What will the impact be on the arts and the not for profit sectors?

Federal dollars to help balance and whether or not that will pass the Senate.

Local Governments and State Governments will need the support just like the businesses need/needed the support.

Fees that are paid could definitely be impacted. (permit fees)

biggest concern is funded, 2/3 funded by county council in county, 1/3 private biz. Worried that county council will give a reason of not recruiting as heavily as last year vs. retention, until start showing results in recruiting. Perhaps a good word is security. 2 person office, can’t really see how budget can be lowered much more.

MVH funding is of concern. Should be able to recover from lost income, lost revenue from lower gas purchases is not going to come back.

school funding, sales tax loss, uncertain ADM accounts for school funding – esp career/tech funding, other positions being lost in school systems b/c not being rehired. Problems compounded.

Tourism needs to be included, Spencer Co is a tourist destination. Alrdy behind in opening up to tourists this year – parks, destinations, etc. Alrdy a huge concern about being behind in this area.

MVH, but also casino revenues in Orange County is going to take a huge hit.

Real concern is going to be in loss of local income tax receipts due to people not working, those taxes aren’t being earned/collected/paid. Additional impact is anything related to consumer, sales tax, gas tax – if people not working/spending/traveling – all of these pots of receipts are going to be significantly impacted in distributions down the road based on how budget system works. Real estate taxes, assessed value systems could stay stable – this revenue base should remain stable.

Not sure what to expect, 1.5 years in position. Township helps with emergency needs fear of funding shortfall. New people calling as opposed to familiar clients.

Expect uptick in fall as tax and stimulus money is spent.

Balances will be impacted longer term so in short term things look better than they really are.

Concern for long term impact. Libraries are working to have cash flow on-hand. They can squeak by with current balances but nervous about long term.

Blackford has hiring freeze. Bare minimum now because of previous cuts. Likely looking for cuts. LIT is big concern, Sherriff and library are funded from LIT.

Highway revenue/LIT in Wells County is a concern. Putting off Highway garage for 2021.

Property Taxes short & long run are very concerning. Homes being lost? Revenues for schools are very concerning. Not sure one is more important than the others but planning ahead and dealing with the impacts are important. Loss of revenue will be evident.

Common worries include state road fundings that are hurting now.

Property tax excise tax economic development income tax, road funding are our concerns.

Revenues,

how long reductions, property tax dependence/income tax – what projects can move forward?

Daily operations budget?

How to educate/messaging for public to those we serve?

Different needs to be delivered in different ways.

Follow up zoom topic discussion for future?

Most Concerned with Income Tax Concerns, how quickly people are going to be able to return to work.

Concerned about unskilled labor and small businesses, less worried about financial markets as a whole

Decline in the gas tax will be difficult to overcome.
Don’t see a big drop in residential home values, not a lot of change in commercial values
Concerns about number of kids not returning to public schools
What will state aid look like for 2020-2021 school year.
Concerns about June 2 referendum
Possibility of resurgence with the virus – not being considered enough in plans. How prepared are people for it?
How do we reduce expenses? Not sure how many other revenue sources have been identified.
cutting state aid to schools & property tax reduction
Revenues coming in later which will give at least short-term shortfall
Concerned along by long term and how long it will take it come off of the quotient. Glad to see it is different from ‘08-’09 and what we need to do now to save jobs in two years.
raises and what we need to do now?
Long term threat. LIT money dropping, tax dollars
Grant impact on local income tax
Delaware overall problem will impact every co. budget
Madison tax cut credits and LIT
utility budget, bond payments for water/sewage projects. If people can’t pay utility bills that creates a shortfall.
Allen Co. – Gross assessed value/ who will the winners and losers be. Data is so far in the future it is difficult to determine appropriate actions. Long run effect
Debt accumulating at the federal level. We should work through this at the local level rather than getting more money from fed. Gov.
Maximum Levy Growth Quotient. It was a concern even before this, just by the way it is calculated.
State funding for schools that should start in July – where will this be?
Local Income Tax in Floyd Co. more concern than Property Tax.
State revenues so important for Indiana schools, hopes for federal stimulus dollars, and things are better in July than expected, so there won’t be cuts for Indiana schools. #7-9 are most important for Indiana schools. Concerned this will impact for multiple years.
how to do more with less.
attendance and enrollment and budget cuts.
closing of business
Long term effects of current economic situations
justifying and preparing to talk to the public about our library tax rate

2. Which are you least affected by?
Overall condition evens out typically in Daviess County as variety of domains.
Everything is important!
Short term cash flow - not an issue for Monroe but curious if it is an issue for other counties
Immediate Impact on schools concern, but doesn’t actually affect them
Property tax shortfall hasn’t affected their county much Long term effects more of a concern.,
Just trying to look at the entire picture and wondering what other counties are going to do?
property values assessed is going to remain stable and not be significantly impacted by what we are going through now. A lot of farms selling off, I hope this doesn’t happen. These valuations should stay stable for next 3-5 years, may not go up much but hopefully not a significant decline.
a rise in property values in county within last 5 years. Pricing has not declined during COVID b/c of housing stock, supply and demand. Our home sales are still doing well, homes that are listed are usually selling within a few days once on market. Agree with John M. about property values.
These threats need to be viewed and understood by our county and city elected officials, great people who run and are elected are trying, others who get elected may not always have a good grasp – a concern that there needs to be a good understanding.

Most revenue comes from property tax and LOIT.

Short run for next year will be ok but until we know what LIT will be we don’t know.

Long run on LIT most, St Rd funding least from a library perspective.

Hard to identify as all are interrelated.

State road funding - felt quick but could rebound fast, impact and recover faster, others take years to recover.

want to keep the sustainable budget going

Follow-up question? What are you doing now?

Waiting to see what the departments are needing now and how are we going to address the next budget cycle so that we do not have to cut further in the future.

We are just getting starting. June/July is what we watching and how it will affect the budgets and where we stand at that time with c-19.

Unknowns are the biggest problem.

School aid probably least affect the ag business but property taxes, especially an increase to support other shortfall, is a big concern with the current poor situation in the ag sector.

not as concerned with the income tax because of logistics and e-commerce business they have because e-commerce is booming through all of this. Online shopping during this pandemic has positively affected them. Projecting growth in employment and revenue at this point.

All are important from personal and professional viewpoints.

None really

3. Are there other revenue threats not on this list?

Concern over philanthropic and religious funding’s and effects.

Grant funding-how to make up for this loss for things like community corrections and health dept if federal funding drops.

Assessed values on property taxes-mostly commercial property, appeals process to lower amount. If appeals are lost there likely be trouble with paying

misc. income, distributions from riverboat gambling

Extra Revenue not being able to be receive those funds ( pool, park shelter rentals etc.

Uncertain about the draws are going to be. Timing and how do we maintain services and employee level. May have to do a staff reduction.

Business as usual

Loss revenue of programs that won’t be happening. Park Programs have been cut. Local Festivals cancelled.

again the casinos. Most of council are concerned about casinos b/c March and April will be marginal at best and aren’t expected to open until June at best. What used to receiving will not be the same this year.

Motor vehicle has been getting estimates and so far we have a healthy budget but it’s unknown.

If townships get impacted they may not buy cards for library. Resource sharing through Evergreen has to be paid, $60.00 per patron.

Schools are people talking about not sending kids? Parents are ready for kids to back according to group.

ADM numbers, how will the vaccine development be? If schools are declared open and “business as normal” what will impact be to the ADM? What percent of parents will not send their students? What percent of parents will not participate in virtual? Double edge sword that can hit hard. Revenue threat: curb side services and our operations are different. How does this change the model of what we do / half open and ramifications.
~ Emotional tolls and interrelated effects.
~ Yesterday grant funding was mentioned, health dept, comm.
~ Corrections.
~ How to make up that revenue?
~ Concerned with 2022 due to LOIT and what they should do in 2021 to prepare for the 2022 hit? How do we proactively handle this?
~ Are there ways of running schools differently in future that will help with revenue shortfalls – some of the online school options worked well for some students and others it didn’t work as well – could this be done again in the future. Schools are making plans for virtual, in-person, and a hybrid type of school for 2020-2021. Now that people know this is an option, how do schools help people educate in all of these different forms.
~ Must be “flexible on a dime” – if you can’t you won’t make it. – ADAPT and THRIVE.
~ Gaming revenues – are these facilities open? How much will these funds be reduced because of COVID-19 closures? Casino revenues is hot topic in Dearborn Co., where there is a casino, because a lot of the money goes to the schools. Casinos will need to have to create smoking areas inside of the casinos, which seems to be slowing the opening of some due to this. Not only revenue source for local government but also a source of many jobs for citizens.
~ Local newspaper concerns – advertisements that are related to community events that aren’t happening and revenue is lost. – “Trickle down” is definitely happening in counties.
~ Non-profit agencies losing funding – “going back to meeting basic needs” and other things will not be able to be funded.
~ Social services and child abuse issues.
~ CASA worried about flood of abuse issues coming to them once schools open up.
~ Nonprofit donations will be less to support those programs.

4. **How will reduced revenue affect your operations- are there any discussions on strategies or ideas for dealing with reduced revenue?**

~ The emotional toll and understanding of individuals and adjustments in operations to understand and adjust operations both fiscally and with human interest in mind.
~ Before Covid, the public coming through the door the efficiency rate was lower, now office staff seems to be more productive
~ Utilizing online seems to be also working better and more efficient for their office which takes a lot of time and resources
~ Agreed with technology helping and hope to continue upgrading with this
~ To more with less and few people
~ Services not utilizing: City/County building not using. Remote working and using more technology platforms.
~ Look internally at cuts - conferences
~ Looking at putting off some of the spending on projects – delaying some of those projects.
~ Really streamlining and looking at cuts particularly if we don’t want to cut employees
~ Cutting employees really affects ability to do the job.
~ Have to start planning for what’s coming even if the budgets look ok right now.
~ Township runs tightly already managing parks, fire and EMS.
~ Running budget scenarios will be helpful in planning for potential cuts.
~ Cuts could result in reduced library hours, services, repairs.
~ Councils have been telling people to plan for cuts.
~ Pay raises likely be frozen. Longevity pay will likely be frozen.
~ Delaware voluntary furlough only 2 accepted for fear that position would not be seen as essential.
~ Can run library with PPE on hand for a couple of months but can’t open the stacks with current supplies.
~ Sub committee started, Budget hearing in
~ submitted priorities in April
~ suggestions to shore up
~ marathon beginning with sprint mind set, rapid recovery fund, convention center funding moved - food and bev.
~ Tax. Cash flow analysis anticipating changes to budget
~ notices to departments to be watching for decline in revenue and adjust for budget requests
~ Savings in travel.
~ Road-paving grant. Lets get that on the ground now because in the future this money may not be available.
~ Online betting for casinos was suggested as a revenue source
~ Riverboat money, 0 revenue to counties
~ Recreation center and splash island that raise $2Million/year for parks and not even sure if they will be open this year, so it is lost revenue. On administration side, would not be hiring 100+ people used to man it to balance it out? Does it even make sense to open and is it worth it?
~ Pro-actively starting to reduce costs and expenses - Cut overtime – reducing spending

5. How do anticipate costs changing?
~ Given the closure of local businesses due to COVID-19, will individuals go back to supporting local businesses since they were forcefully exposed to buying online and the convenience it provides. Ultimately, it’s related to Sales Tax.
~ Added expenses for PPE, plexiglass etc. - and Janitorial labor and supplies not sure on the decrease of expenses
~ Less concern on funds occurring right now because of federal aid – baseline cost going forward. Budget is a difficult thing to pull back on.
~ Worried about keeping sheriff, EMS, jail all functioning.
~ Increase in Water and fees but can’t increase right now, delaying some of the costs of change.
~ Not increasing LIT increase for
~ Vigo-just increased for jail.
~ Increased costs.
~ Vendors/services cost will rise – make determinations.
~ What services you have to provide, like to provide, can afford to provide.
~ Communication of priorities to citizens.
~ One of the big concerns is what if they are able to go back to school, how can they handle the social-distancing requirements. If they cannot go back, how do they hand the e-learning shortfall (equipment, planning, etc)?
~ Some of their budget aren’t being spent now, how does that affect them?
~ Small cities have a great deal of difficulty meeting budget with large portions going to wages.
~ Wages/benefits are a concern.
~ Employee raises have been scarce in the recent past and now they will likely be a casualty of COVID.
~ Already seeing additional costs due to CDC and OSHA work environment recommendations, office arrangements, interaction with the public (cameras?), PPE (masks), increased cleaning and other increased costs that due to help in assist revenue.
~ expenses are starting to go up because other business are seeing decreased in gross revenues so they are increasing their fees, ie electric companies that serve home and businesses but there are no public requests so they are trying to maintain or balance our their lost business.

~ Anticipating slow or reduced revenue, can you recommend a percentage by which we might reduce spending this year to build operating reserves?

~ Is Larry able to equate some of his numbers to a tidy recommendation as a starting point?

6. Are there other revenue sources you are considering? Or that you have utilized during this time?

~ Grant writing funding as mechanism for revenue source. Providing knowledge growth programming around grant funding opportunities.

~ FEMA grant (Christina) Will need extra PPE, supplies to pay back what has been spent.

~ PPE funding will be necessary in the future.

~ not a whole lot of additional revenue because staff to small to pursue additional funding. Two things we are looking at: 1) even with federal support, we’ve only been able to have broadband for the last two years. Prices have dropped, now they can double their broadband capacity. They should be able to help more with e-learning. In many areas, libraries have provided space for unemployment applications. REMC has also stepped up in the extension of rural broadband using the old electrification model. For revenue, we’re in pretty good shape and will likely remain flat for the next several years. Over the long term, he thinks that they will be able to withstand this.

~ Increased LIT in past relieved police pension. Recheck budgets and make reductions.

~ Property values increasing can provide relief.

~ Temporary leaves, voluntary early retirements, other innovative local solutions

~ not very hopeful about grant funding

~ Consumer and patron confidence to return to face-to-face services or activities may not come quickly enough.