

**CASS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
INFORMAL MEETING--MAY 5, 1997, 1:30 PM**

All commissioners were present (Wieland, Schneider, Quick, Meyer, Koenig), as well as County Auditor, Michael Montplaisir, and several other county department heads.

Mr. Wieland said each commissioner will have lots of opportunity to review individual budgets. He discussed past budget procedures and setting a budget goal. Commissioners are encouraged to meet with portfolio departments after the department head prepares their budget request, and to get further information on specific items, paying particular attention to major increases. Because of the lack of years of experience on the board, Mr. Wieland suggested that the commission review budgets as a whole, rather than using the Finance Committee. Mr. Montplaisir suggested starting the budget process in August, as in the past.

Concerning proposed salary increases and benefit package for employees, county department heads will be asked to formulate some recommendations for the Commission to consider.