



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



April Fools' Day quiet

Deep powder and stern warnings keep behavior in check at ski area

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TOM ROSS/STAFF

Deputy County Clerk Kim Bonner asks the Routt County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday to consider employee furloughs in lieu of the across-the-board 10 percent pay cut that was on the table. The commissioners unanimously adopted the emergency pay cuts at the meeting despite employee complaints.

County adopts pay cuts

Elected officials split about voluntary participation

Brandon Gee PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

The Routt County Board of Commissioners approved 10 percent emergency pay cuts for county employees at a long and fiery hearing Wednesday.

More than 80 county employees — from the seat of the snowplow to child support enforcement — packed a hearing room in the newly remodeled Routt County Courthouse

and pulled no punches in their remarks to the commissioners, who unanimously approved the cuts and cited a need to take significant and immediate action to confront a \$4.9 million 2009 budget deficit.

"The lack of notice in this particular issue is very frustrating to me," said Routt County Communications employee Erik Foster, referring to the fact employees were given only one day's notice about Wednesday's special hearing. "We don't need

By the numbers

Three major Routt County revenues, 2007-09 (in thousands of dollars)				
	2007	2008*	2009 budget	2009 projected
Property tax	\$13,589	\$14,879	\$15,752	\$15,752
Sales Tax	\$7,151	\$6,328	\$5,026	\$4,142
Investment income	\$1,007	\$1,856	\$756	\$468

* Projected

Source: Routt County

to be handled with kid gloves, but I think it's important for you to communicate with us."

Another complaint expressed Wednesday was that the cuts are not being coupled with a pro-

portional reduction in workers' hours, which was the approach taken by the city of Steamboat Springs earlier this year.

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SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area			
New snow — Mid-mountain*	10 in.	Total snow†	382.5 in.
New snow — Summit	19 in.	Trails open	165/165
Base — Mid-mountain	88 in.	Lifts open	14/18
Base — Summit	116 in.	Conditions	Powder

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 21 as measured at mid-mountain FOR UP-TO-DATE ROAD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RABBIT EARS PASS, call 511 or visit: www.cotrip.org

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