## II. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

## A. Budgetary Information

The County Judge serves as the budget officer for the Commissioners' Court and submits the annual budget for approval where the legal level of control is the function level. Amendments to the budget and additional appropriations must be approved by Commissioners' Court. Following is a summary of the budget calendar:

- The proposed budget is filed with the County Clerk and made available for public inspection.
- The Commissioners' Court holds a public hearing on the proposed budget and subsequently makes changes and approves the budget including the adoption of a property tax levy which is effective on October 1 preceding the beginning of the fiscal year.
- The approved budget is filed with the County Clerk.
- During the course of the budget year, it may be necessary to amend the budget. The Commissioners' Court may, by order, authorize an emergency expenditure as an amendment to the original budget only in a case of grave public necessity to meet an unusual and unforeseen condition that could not have been included in the original budget through the use of reasonable diligent thought and attention. The Commissioners' Court may issue an order to amend the budget by transferring an amount budgeted for one line item to another budgeted line item without authorizing an emergency expenditure.