



JOY HOFMEISTER
STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Mary Fallin
FROM: Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
DATE: March 1, 2017
SUBJECT: Analysis of Expenditures of Districts on a Four-Day School Week

I am writing today in response to your January request for an analysis of expenditures for Oklahoma school districts that have adopted four-day school weeks. A study across several school years results in the most thorough analysis. Therefore, I am providing analysis of expenditures from fiscal year 2008-2009 through fiscal year 2015-2016 for the following districts: Fort Towson, Midway, Wilson, Swink, Lone Wolf, Battiest, Valliant, Avant, Barnsdall, Prue, Asher, Moyers, Rattan, Straight, Liberty (Tulsa County) and Sharon-Mutual. These districts switched to a four-day week beginning in fiscal year 2011-2012.

With this analysis, we sought to determine whether district average expenditures decreased after the move to a four-day week. To do so, we used expenditure data from three years prior to the change in the weekly schedule and from the time of the change to the present. We included four types of expenditures where savings might be predicted in a move to a reduced school week: utilities, food, transportation and support staff.

Of the 16 districts, we discovered that nine spent more money, on average, after the switch to a four-day week. Eight of these nine districts also saw a decrease in Weighted Average Daily Membership (WADM). It is possible that the increase in expenditures for those eight districts may have been attributed to the increase in student numbers.

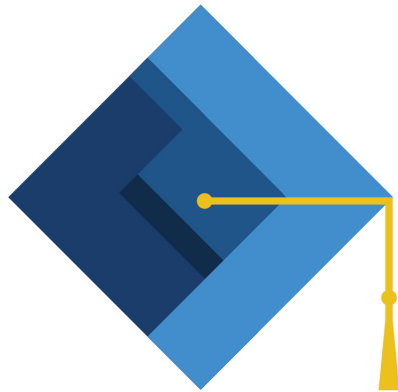
The remaining seven districts spent less money, on average, after switching to the four-day school week. Four of the seven saw a decrease in WADM, which may be attributed to the decrease in student number. Three districts spent less money while their WADM increased. Further study is needed to determine the cause of these savings. This report does not clearly indicate that the savings were necessarily caused by the switch to a four-day week.

When we combined expenditures of all 16 districts, we found that, on average, school districts spent \$4,523 more on utilities, \$2,714 less on food, \$1,971 less on transportation, and \$8,542 more on support staff after switching to a four-day week than they spent before the change in school schedule.

In conclusion, after analyzing each district's expenditures, we can find no conclusive evidence to support the theory that four-day school weeks save districts money.

Attached documentation:

- Graphs depicting patterns in each district's expenditures
- Spreadsheet documenting each district's expenditures since 2008

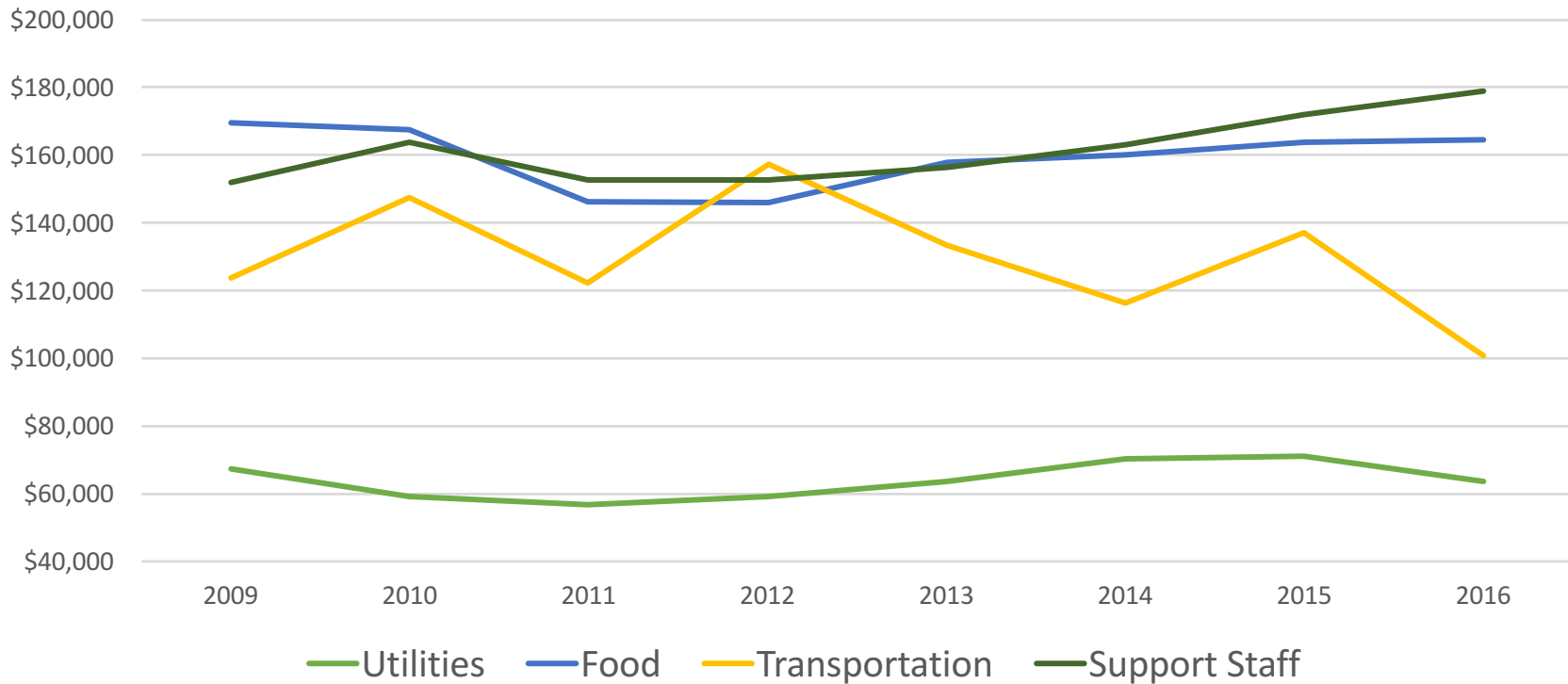


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Analysis of Expenditures of Districts
on a Four-Day School Week

March 1, 2017

Average Expenditures Across 16 Four-Day Week Districts



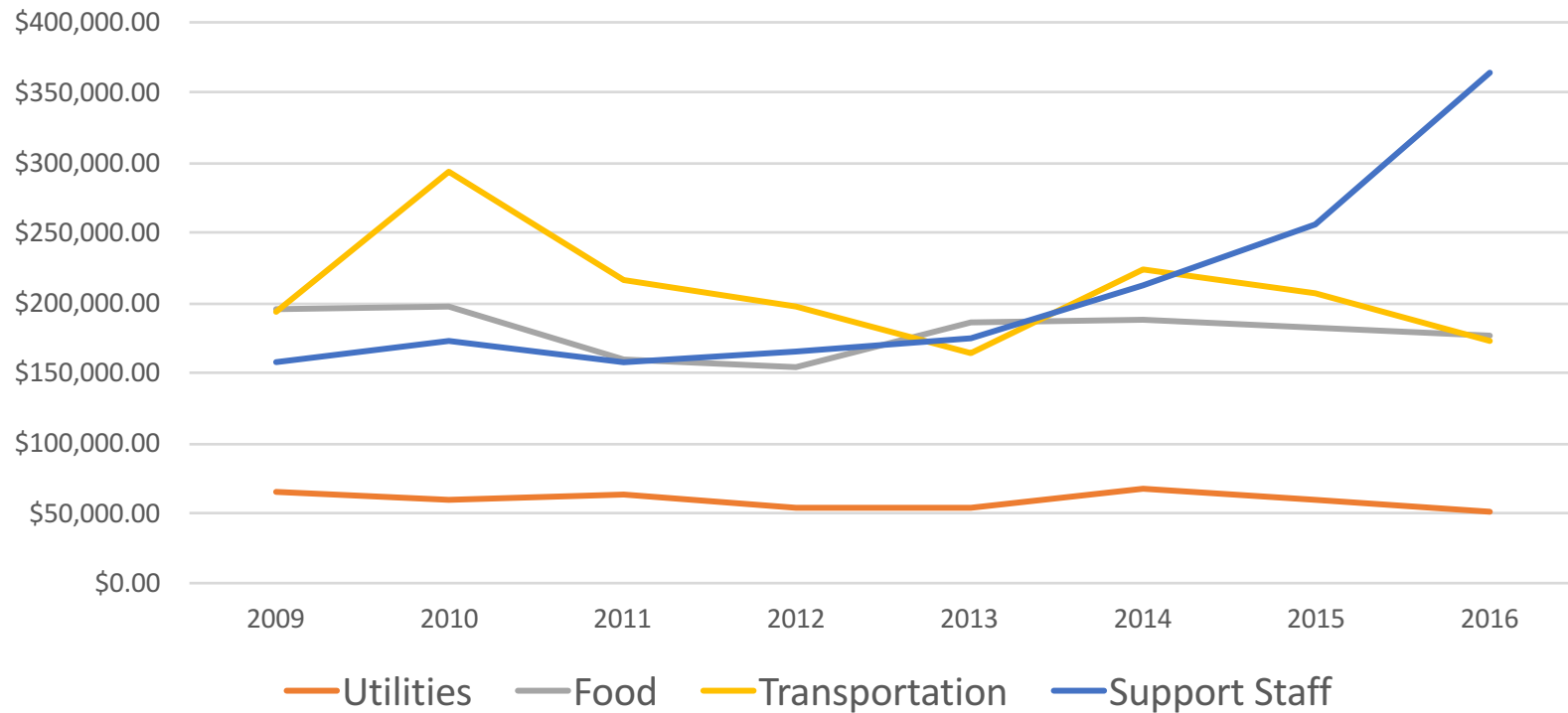
On average, school districts spent \$4,523 more on utilities, \$2,714 less on food, \$1,971 less on transportation, and \$8,542 more on support staff after switching to a four-day school week than they spent before.

Note: all 16 school districts switched to the four-day school week during FY1112.



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Fort Towson Expenditures

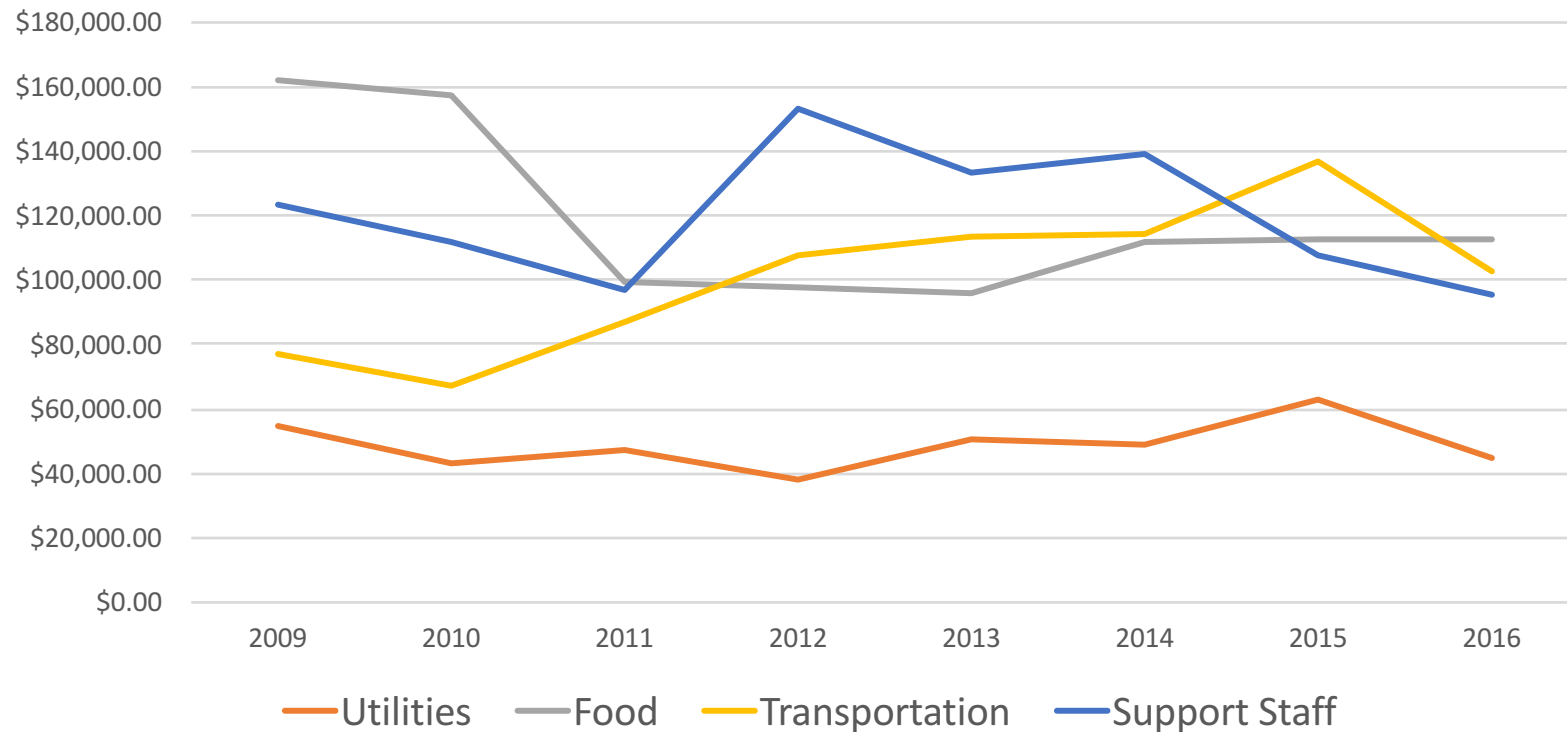


Fort Towson's WADM increased by 23.19 and their expenditures increased by \$18,240 between FY0809 and FY1516. Note: Fort Towson and all following districts switched to a four-day school week beginning in FY1112.



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Midway Expenditures

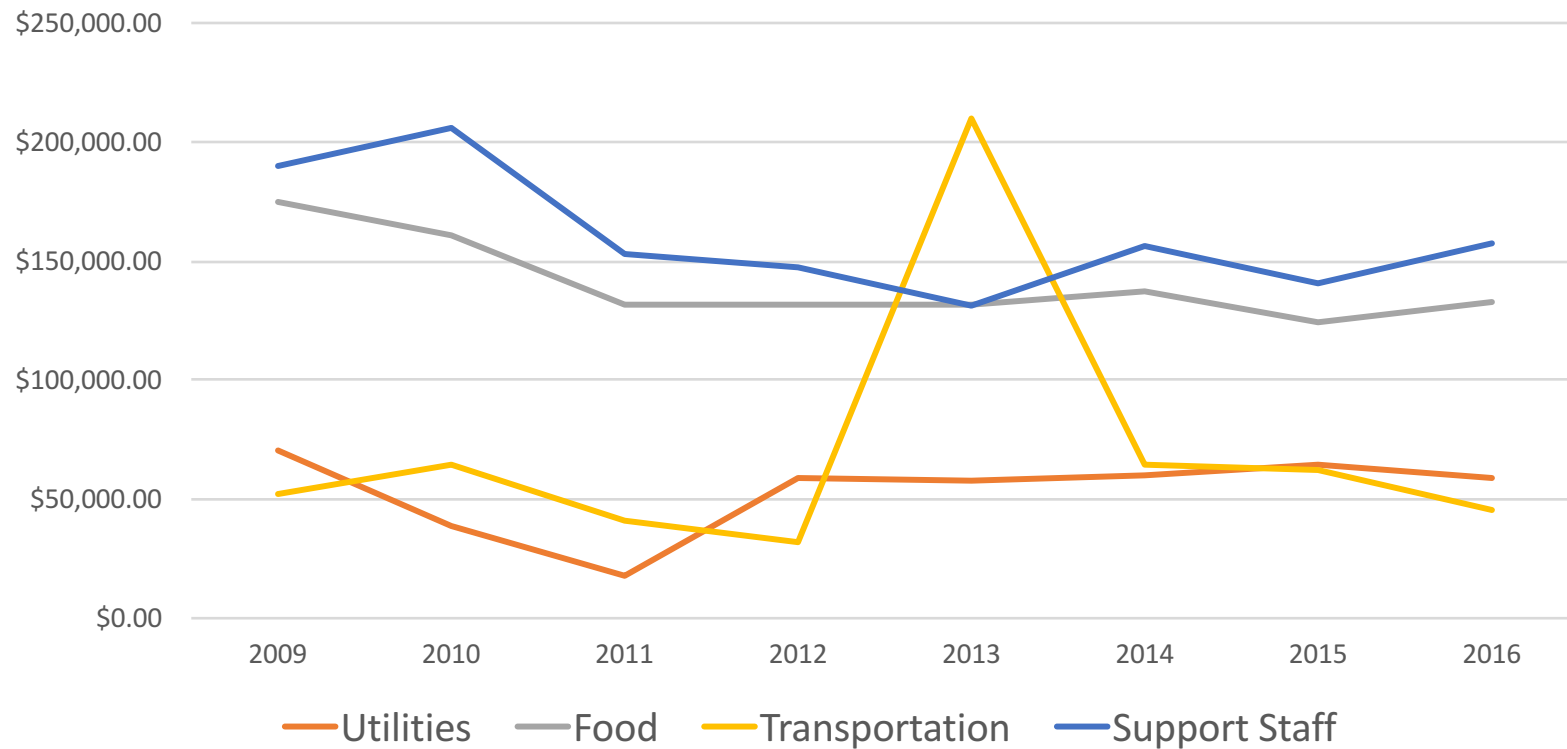


Midway's WADM increased by 54.08 and their expenditures increased by \$20,473 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Wilson Expenditures

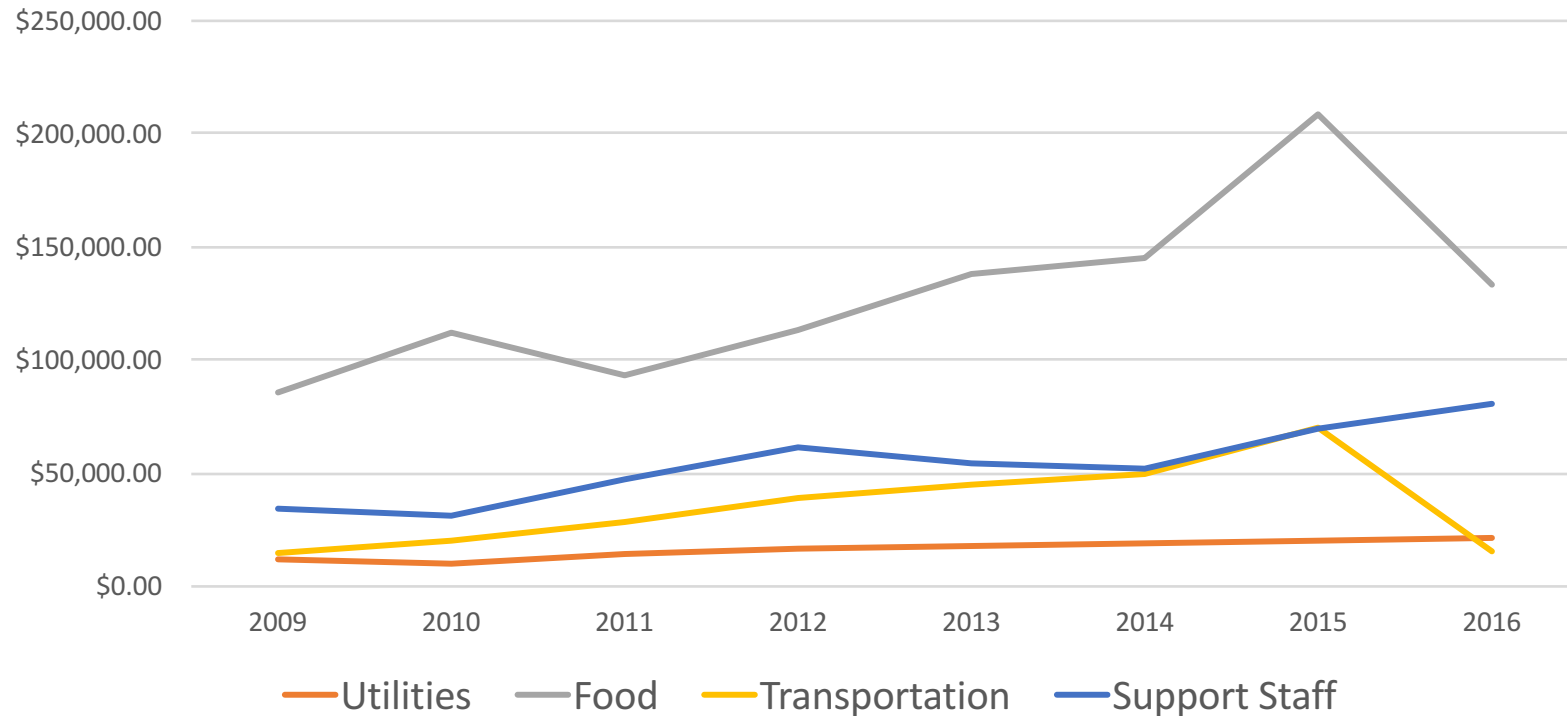


Wilson's WADM decreased by 61.87 and their expenditures decreased by \$2,106 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Swink Expenditures

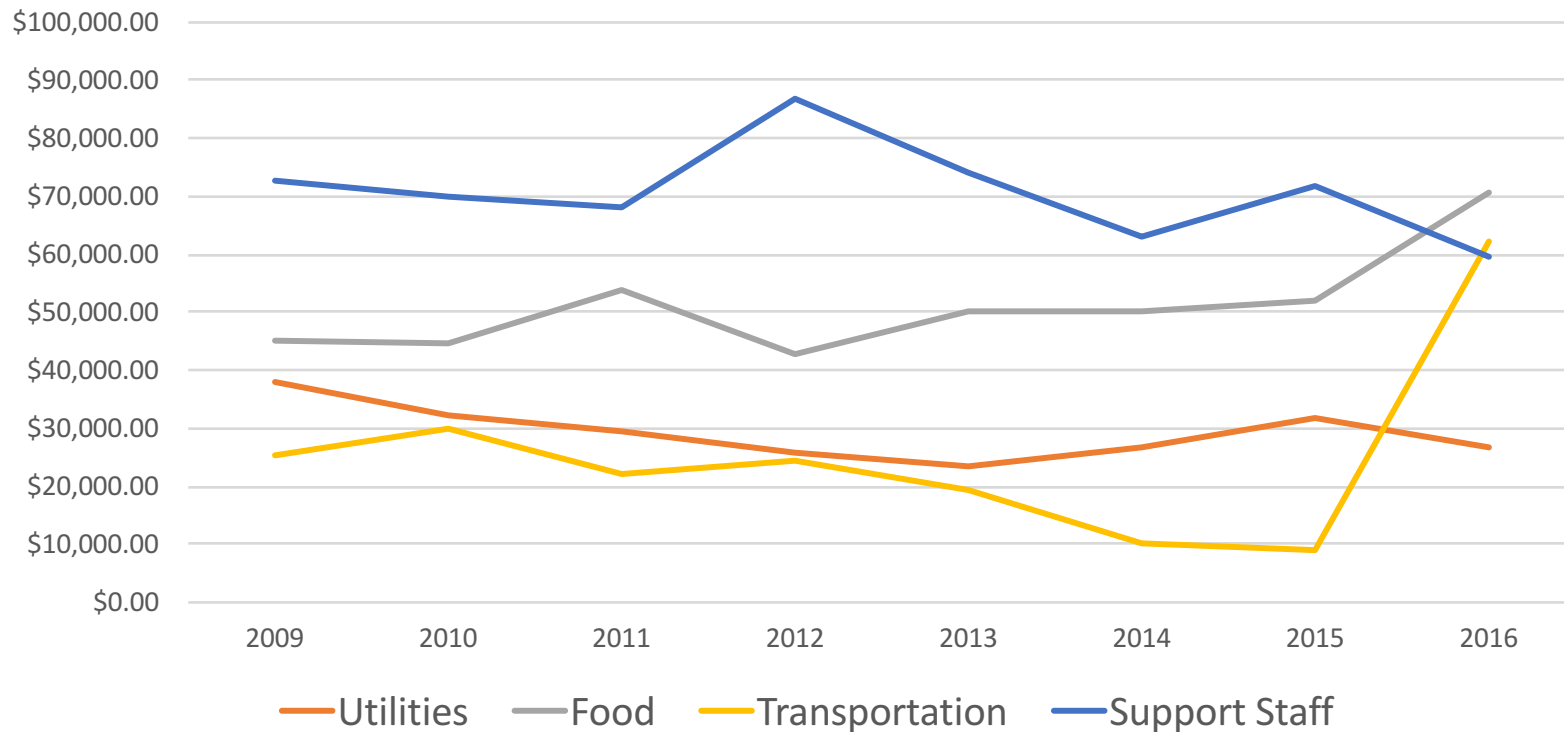


Swink's WADM increased by 121.73 and their expenditures increased by \$106,368 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Lone Wolf Expenditures

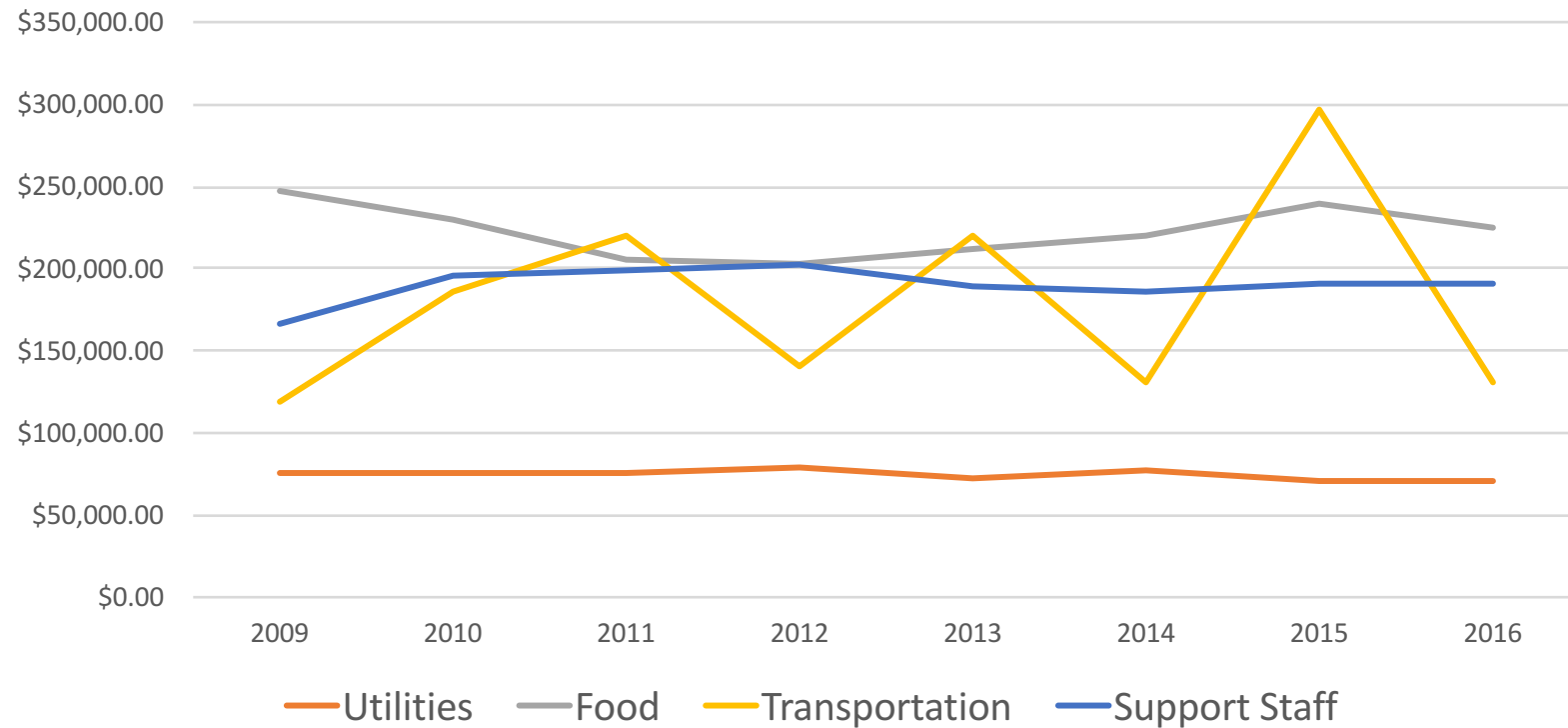


Lone Wolf's WADM increased by 24.02 and their expenditures decreased by \$1,019 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Battiest Expenditures

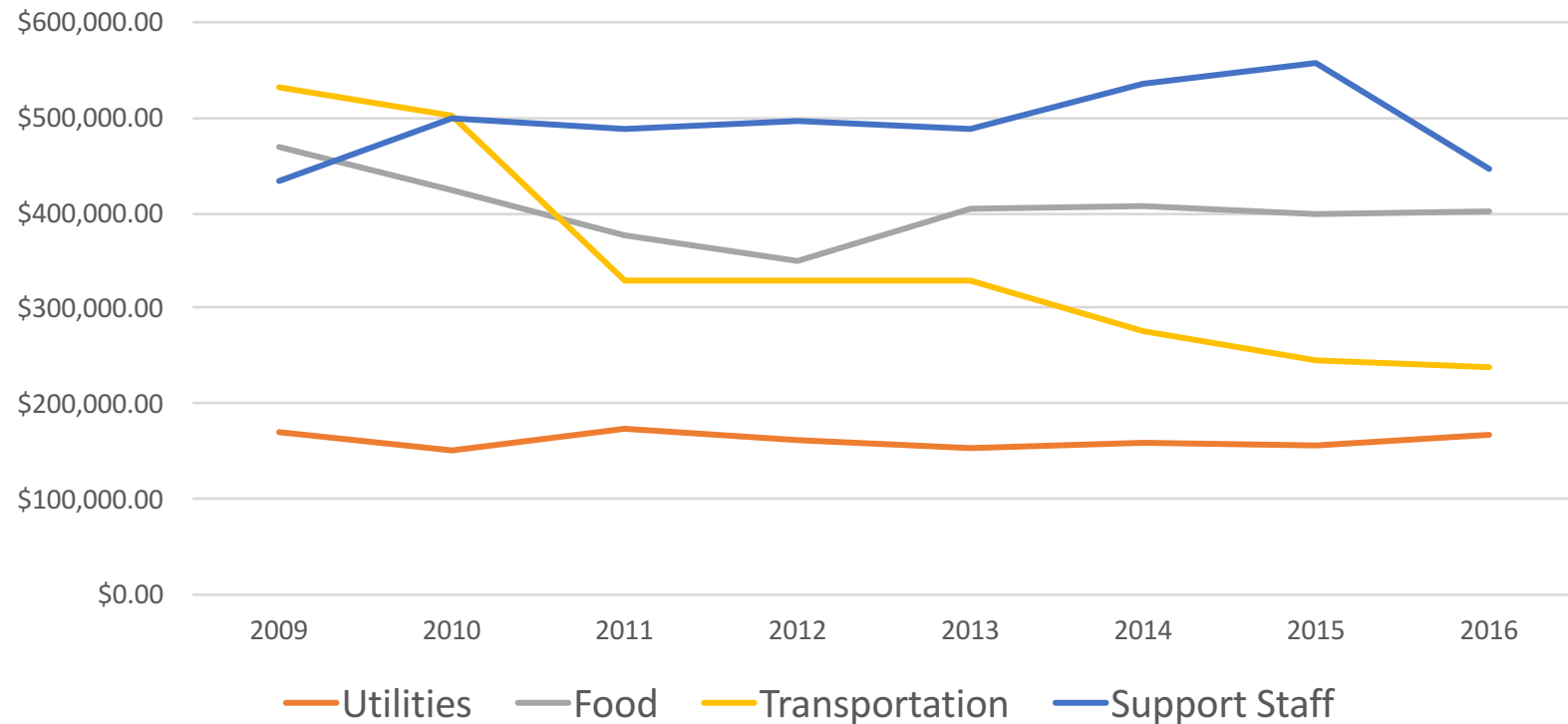


Battiest's WADM increased by 73.82 and their expenditures increased by \$5,008 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Valliant Expenditures

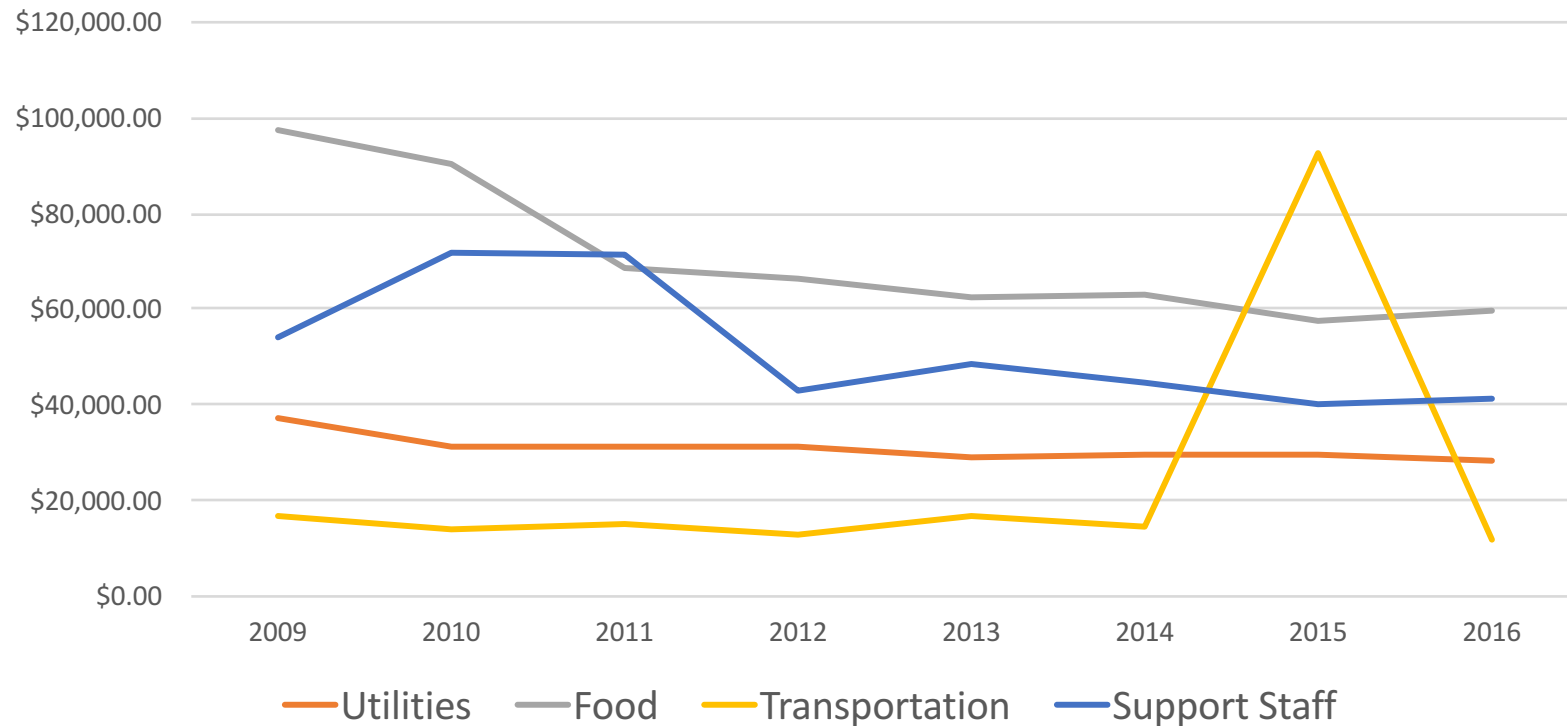


Valliant's WADM decreased by 130.58 and their expenditures decreased by \$175,832 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Avant Expenditures

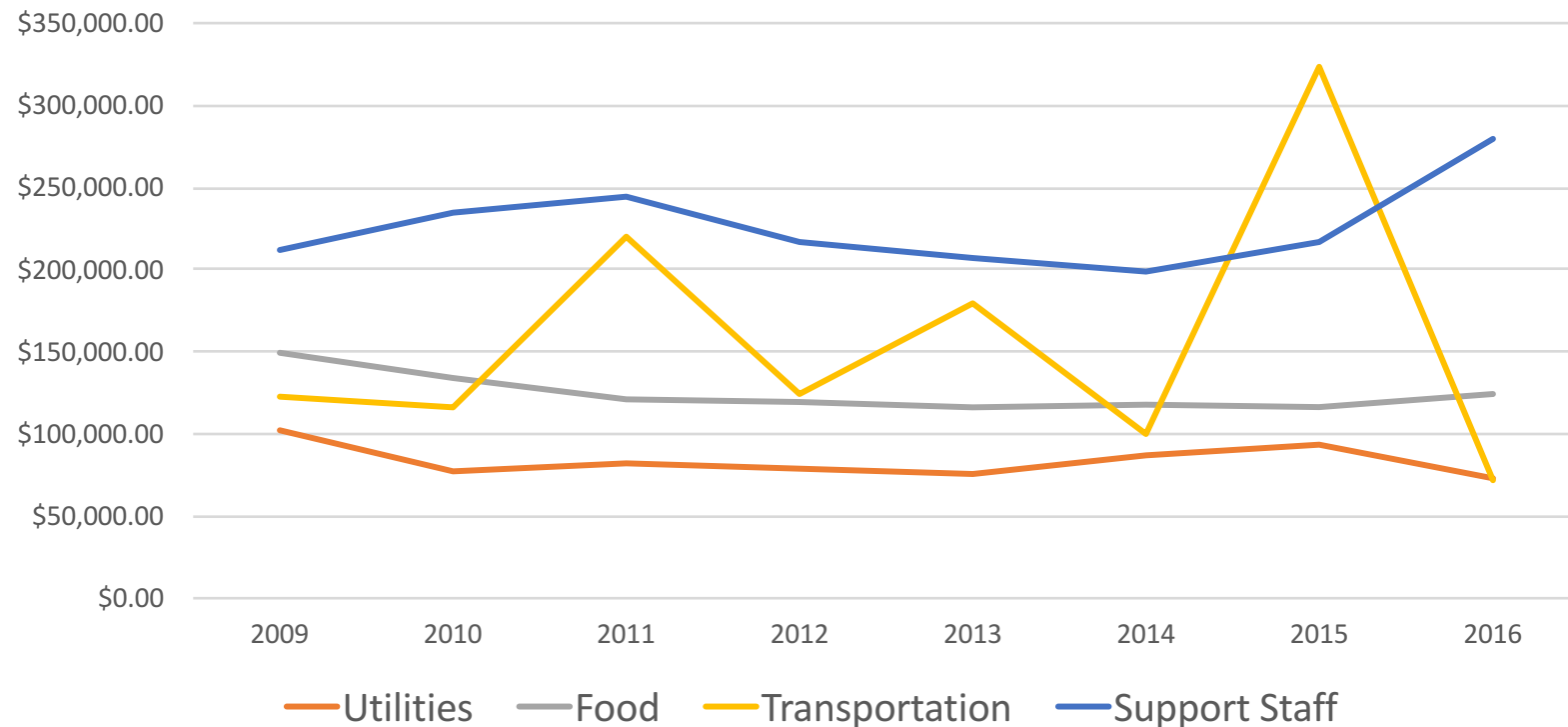


Avant's WADM decreased by 21.3 and their expenditures decreased by \$34,665 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Barnsdall Expenditures

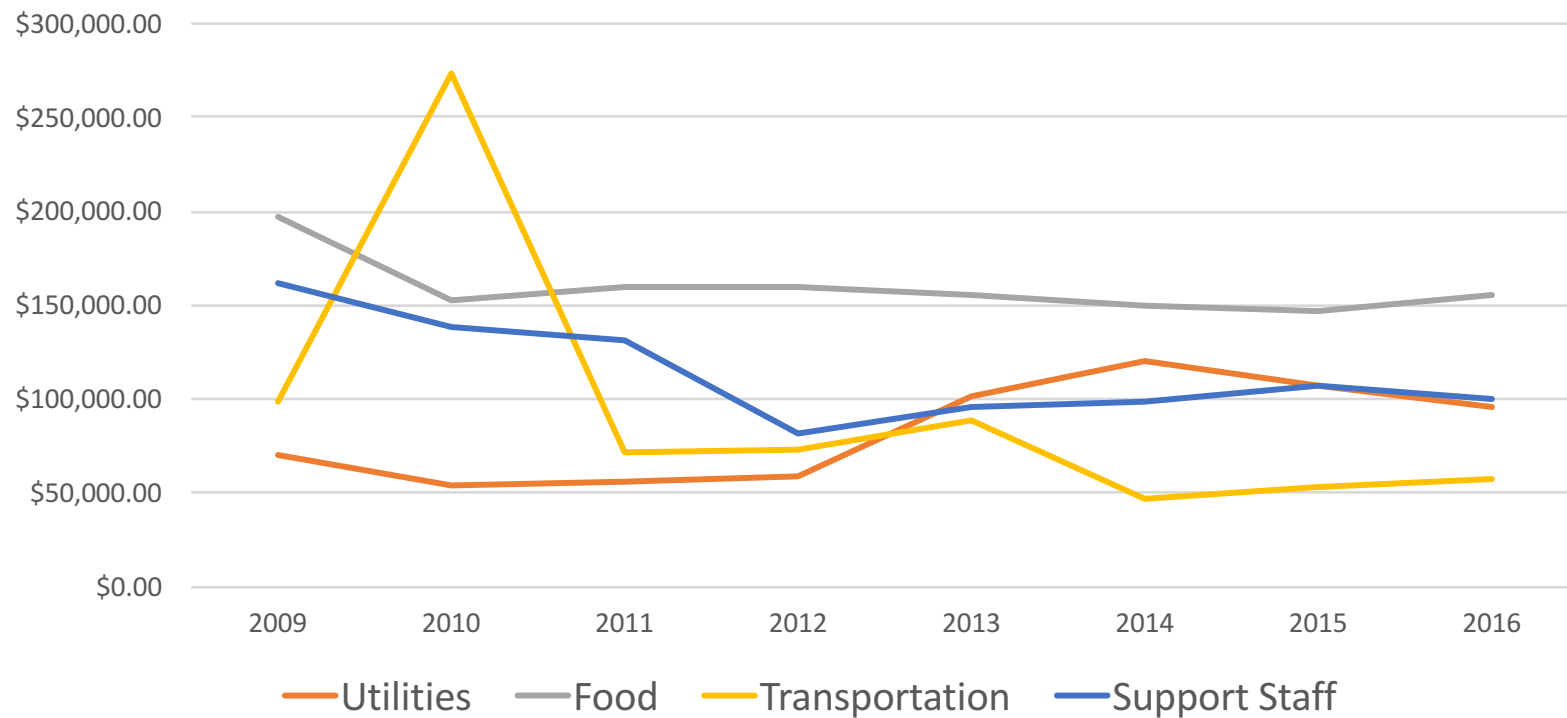


Barnsdall's WADM increased by 18.03 and their expenditures decreased by \$21,881 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Prue Expenditures

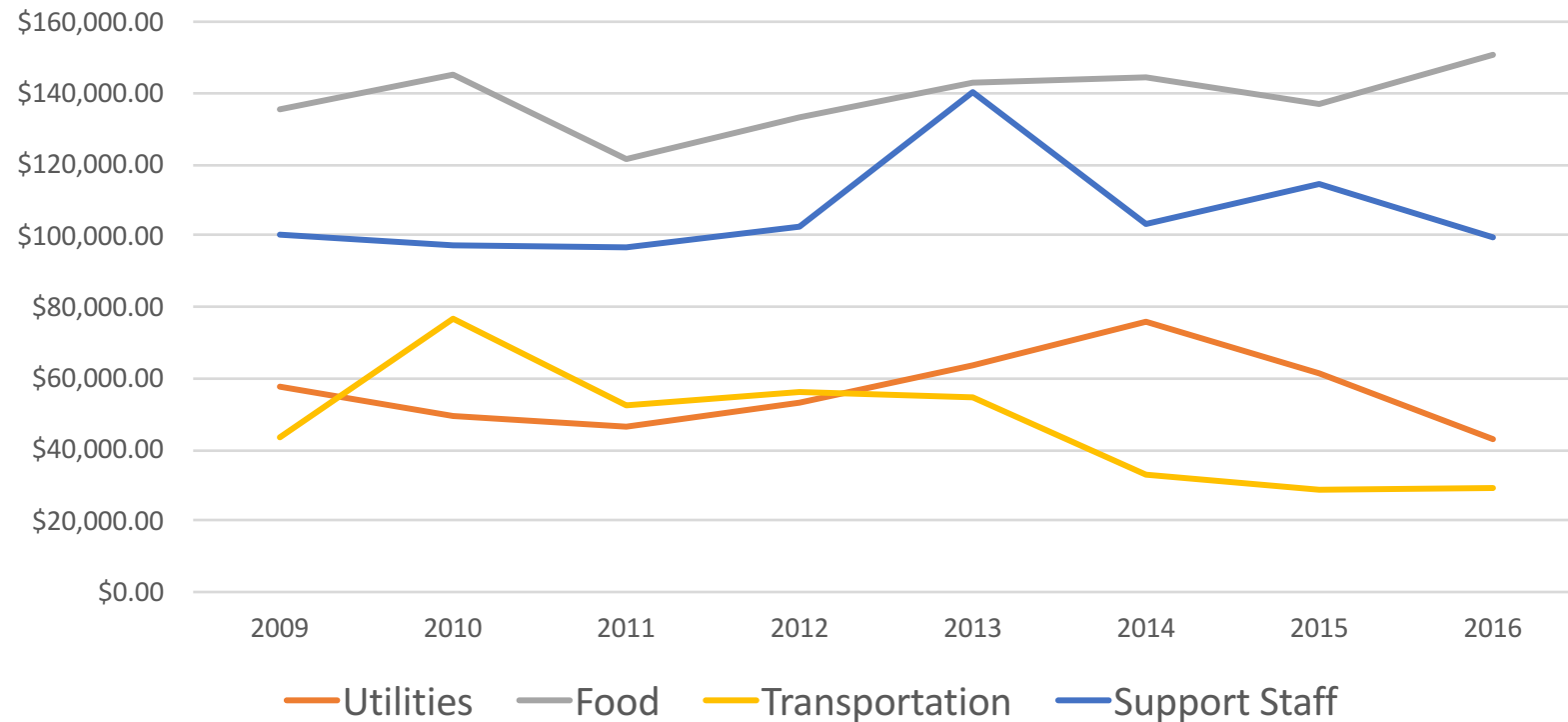


Prue's WADM increased by 13.77 and their expenditures decreased by \$111,531 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Asher Expenditures

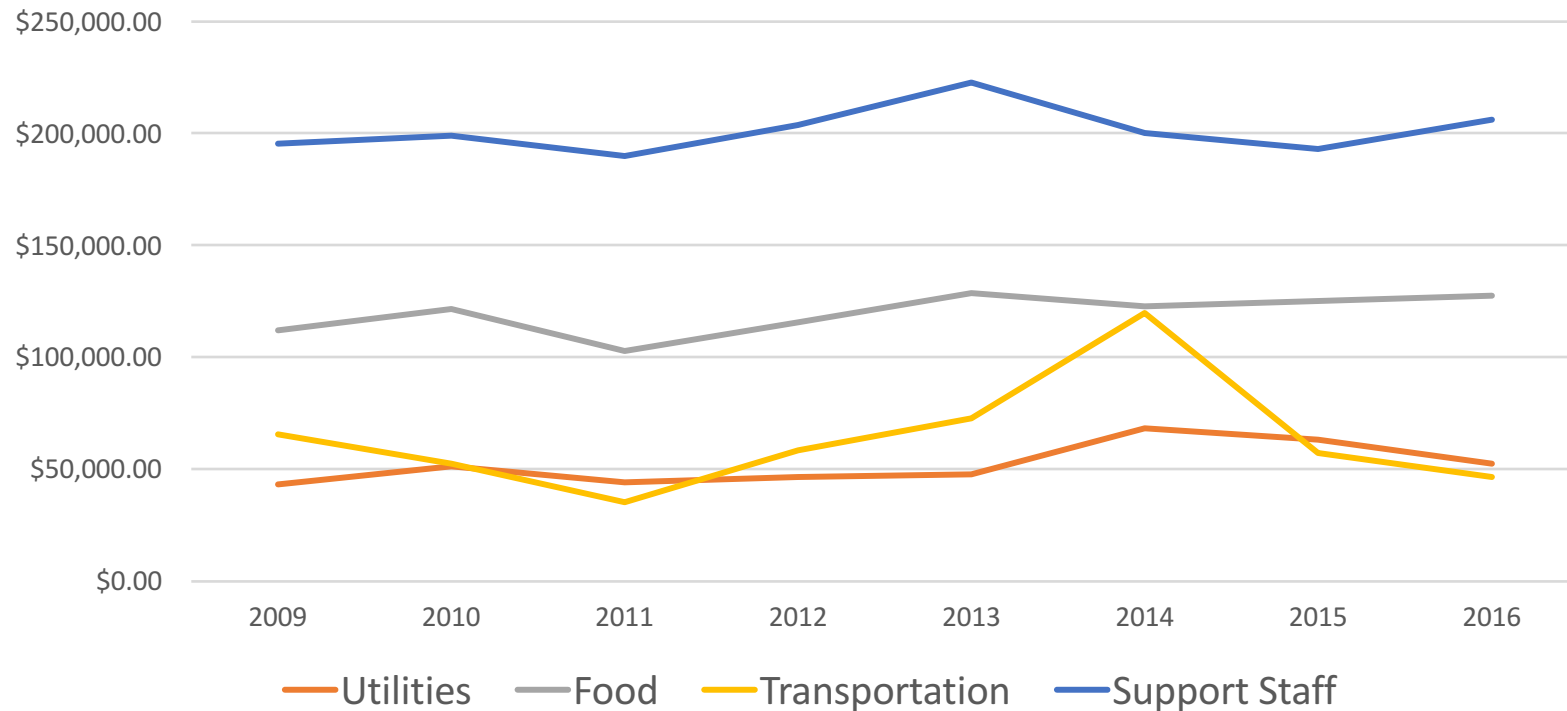


Asher's WADM increased by 71.58 and their expenditures increased by \$12,811 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Moyers Expenditures

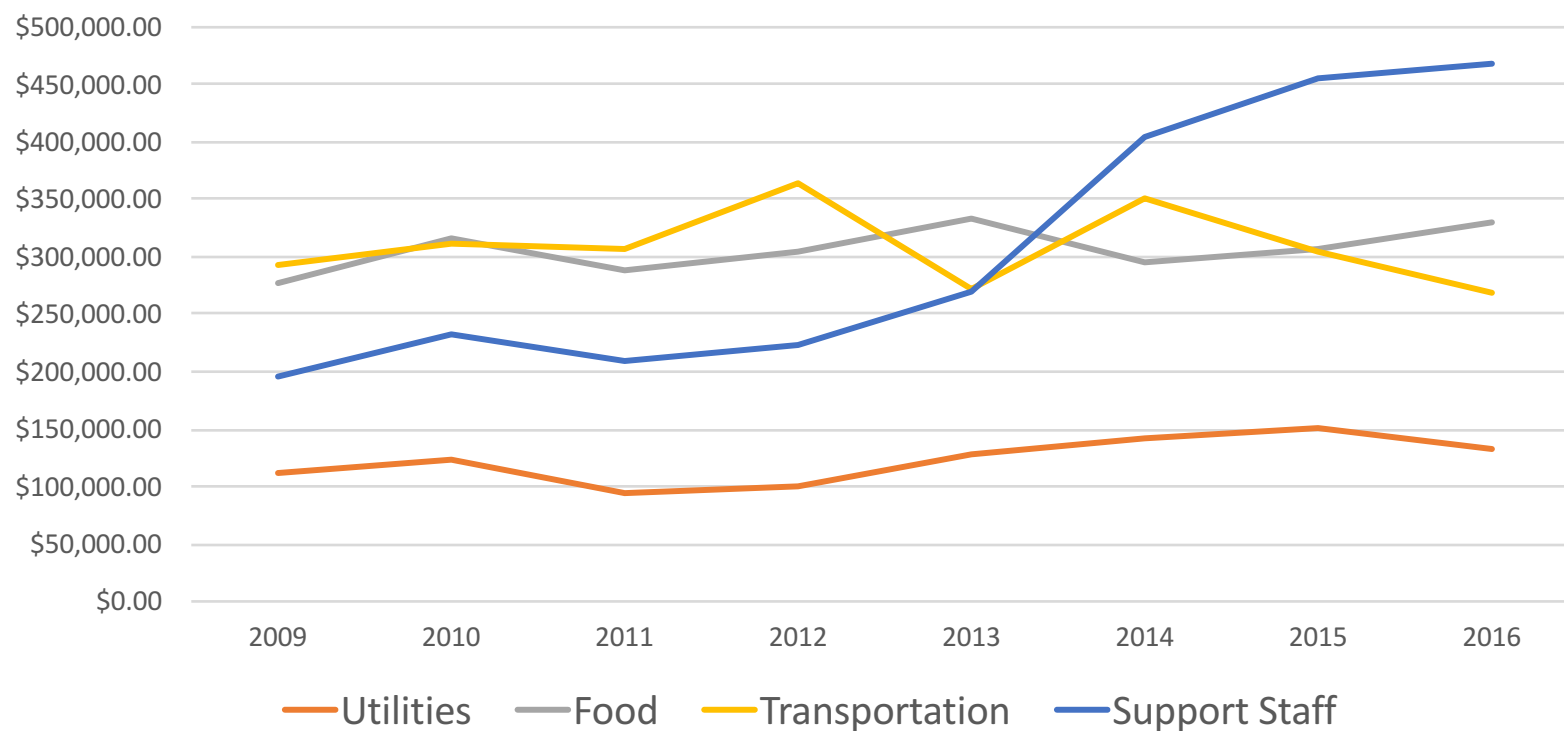


Moyers' WADM increased by 77.28 and their expenditures increased by \$50,548 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Rattan Expenditures

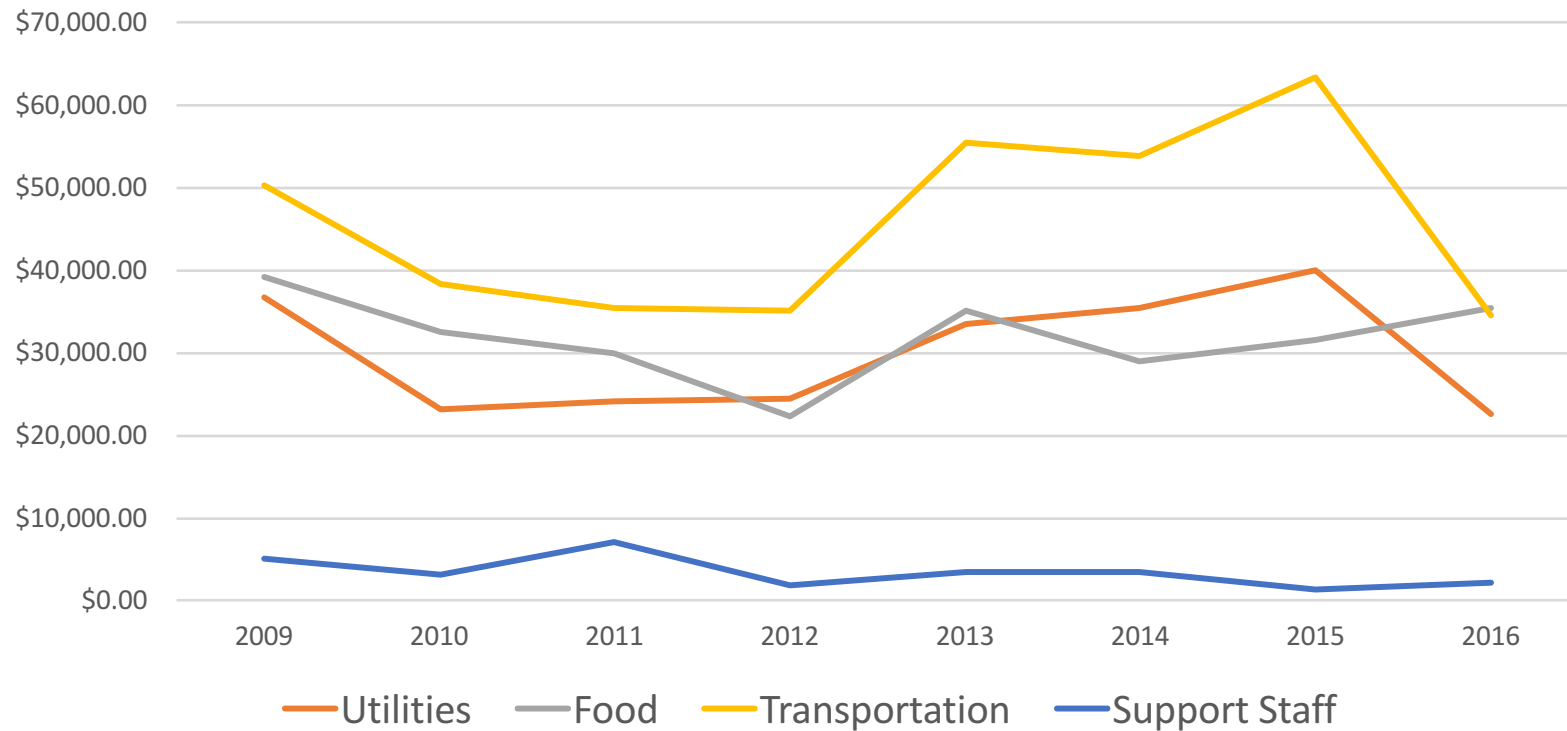


Rattan's WADM increased by 15.63 and their expenditures increased by \$201,485 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Straight Expenditures

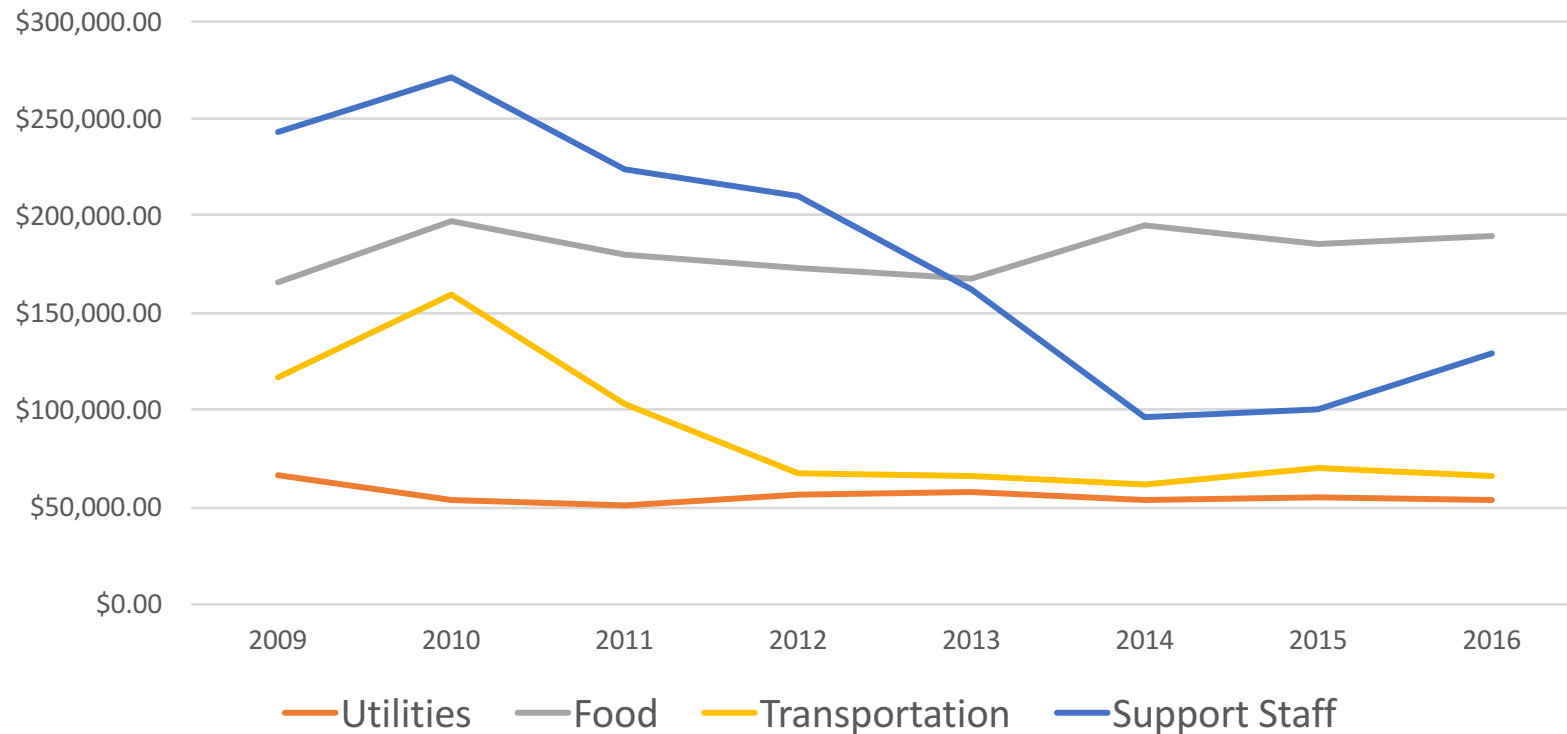


Straight's WADM decreased by 30.23 and their expenditures increased by \$4,579 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Liberty (Tulsa County) Expenditures

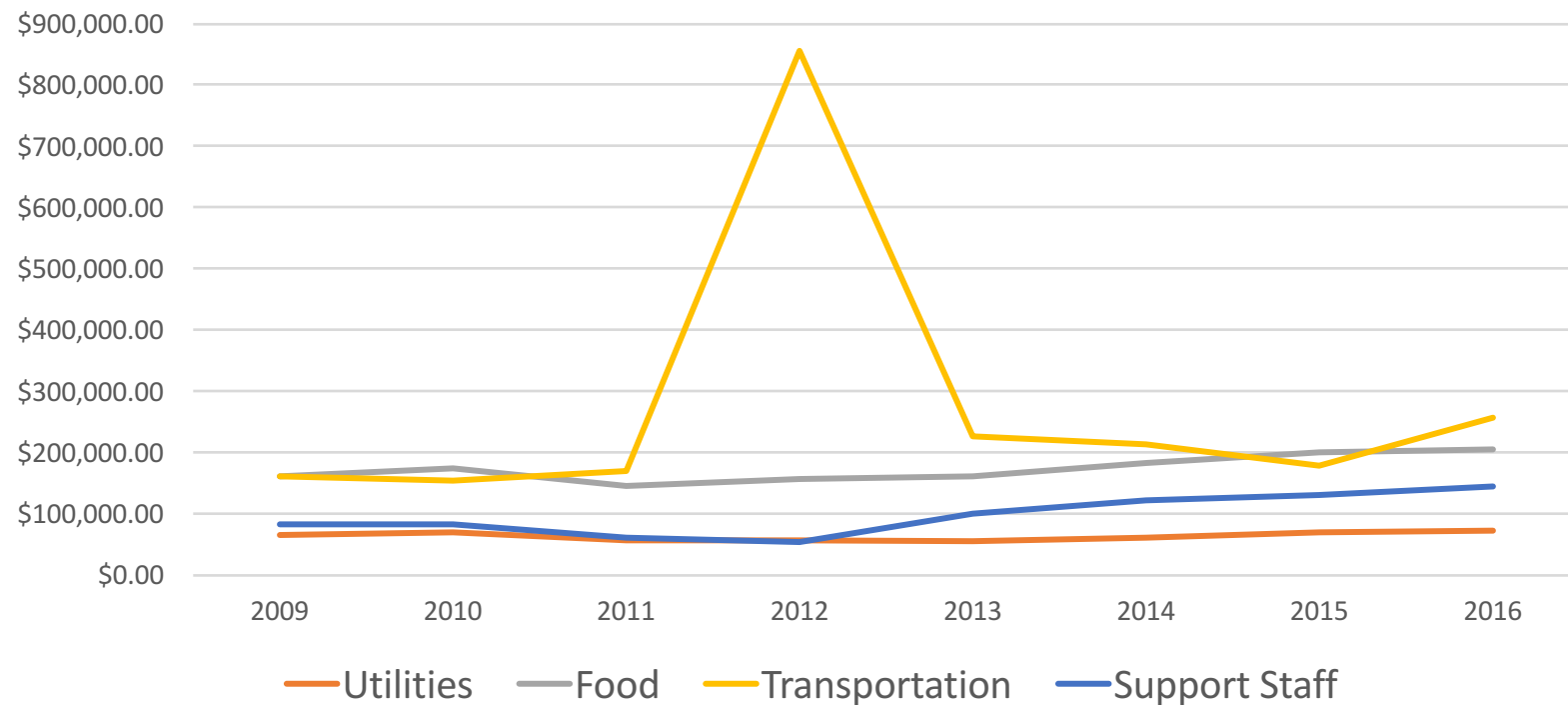


Liberty's WADM decreased by 36.69 and their expenditures decreased by \$167,522 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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Sharon-Mutual Expenditures



Sharon-Mutual's WADM increased by 96.62 and their expenditures increased by \$239,126 between FY0809 and FY1516.



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