

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

JULY 25, 2007

SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in special session with the following members present: Chairman Bill Williams, Vice Chairman Jerry W. Barnes, and Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore, Billy E. Traylor and Nathan Peters, Jr.

Others present were: County Attorney Timothy McFarland, Clerk Becky Norris, Clerk Executive Administrator Towan Kopinsky, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Emergency Management/911 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, Emergency Management Secretary Stephanie Richardson, G.I.S. Director Larry Davis, G.I.S. Coordinator Scott Warner, Gulf County E.M.S. Director Shane McGuffin, Human Resources Director Denise Manuel, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Public Works Director Gerald Shearer, Road Department Superintendent Bobby Knee, Union Steward Doug Kelly, Veterans' Service Officer James Kennedy, and Sheriff's Office Major Joe Nugent.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m., E.T.

2007-08 PROPOSED BUDGET / COUNTY-WIDE MILLAGE RATE

Chief Administrator Butler discussed the proposed budget for 2007-08, and Clerk Norris discussed the options of the Board (as follows) and the associated penalties for 2008-09.

91% of Rolled-Back Rate - Majority Vote	4.5168
Rolled-Back Rate - Super Majority Vote	4.9635
Current Year Rate - Unanimous Vote	4.6371

After discussion by members of the Board regarding the Super Homestead issue, possible legislative changes next year, implementation of additional revenues and user fees, and the displaced County workers, Commissioner Traylor motioned to adopt a tentative millage rate of 4.9635 (Current Year Rolled-Back Rate). Commissioner Peters seconded the motion, and it passed 4 to 1, with Chairman Williams voting no.

FIRE DISTRICT MILLAGE RATES

After discussion and upon motion by Commissioner Peters, second by Commissioner McLemore, and unanimous vote, the Board adopted a tentative millage rate of .5000 for each Dependent Fire District (St. Joseph, Howard Creek, Tupelo & Overstreet).

M.S.T.U. MILLAGES RATES

Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt a tentative millage rate not to exceed 5.4442 for

the Gulf Front Municipal Services Taxing Unit (M.S.T.U.). Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion, and it passed 4 to 1, with Commissioner Peters voting no.

Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt a tentative millage rate not to exceed 1.9797 for the Gulf Interior Municipal Services Taxing Unit (M.S.T.U.). Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion, and it passed 4 to 1, with Commissioner Peters voting no.

FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

Upon motion by Commissioner Peters, second by Commissioner Traylor, and unanimous vote, the Board scheduled the 1st Budget Public Hearing for Monday, September 10, 2007 at 5:01 p.m., E.T., in the County Commission Meeting Room.

2007-08 TENTATIVE BUDGET

Chief Administrator Butler recommended that the departments now take the tentative budget figures and develop their line item budgets to present to the Clerk as soon as possible for final budget preparation. Upon motion by Commissioner Traylor, second by Commissioner McLemore, and unanimous vote, the Board approved this recommendation. After discussion regarding various budgets issues, the Board agreed for the Chairman to work with the interim Sheriff regarding their budget for 2007-08.

There being no further business, the meeting did then adjourn at 5:35 p.m., E.T.

**BILL WILLIAMS
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**