

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015
PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA
FINAL BUDGET HEARING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in special budget session with the following members present: Chairman Ward McDaniel, Vice Chairman Carmen L. McLemore, and Commissioners Joanna Bryan and Sandy Quinn, Jr. <District V seat vacant, awaiting Governor's appointment>.

Others present were: County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Clerk Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Director of Finance and Management Rhonda Woodward, Clerk Budget & Finance Officer Sherry Herring, Deputy Clerk Leanna Roberts, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Assistant Administrator Michael L. Hammond, Deputy Administrator Kari Summers, Building Official George Knight, Central Services Director Lynn Lanier, Gulf County E.D.C. Director Chris Holley, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Gulf County E.M.S. Director Houston Whitfield, County Planner Brett Lowry, Property Appraiser Mitch Burke, Public Works & Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Assistant Public Works Director Lee Collinsworth, Gulf County RESTORE Act Coordinator Warren Yeager, Jr., Sheriff Mike Harrison, Solid Waste Director Joe Danford, T.D.C. Executive Director Jennifer Jenkins, T.D.C. Deputy Director Towan Kopinsky, and Veterans' Service Officer & S.H.I.P. Administrator Joe Paul

Chairman McDaniel called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m., E.T.

2015-16 BUDGET OVERVIEW

Clerk Norris reported that this is the final budget hearing. She then advised the Board of the following: (1) the aggregate proposed millage rate is 7.6232, which is 5.64% above the current year aggregate rolled back rate of 7.2163; (2) the Countywide Tentative Millage Rate is 7.2442, excluding the Fire Districts; (3) the compliance with the voting requirements must be measured by the vote of each Commissioner; (4) the Dependent Fire Districts Tentative Millage Rates are .5000 for each District, with voting requirements required on these as well; (5) the General Fund Budget Cash Carry Forward is \$7,725,222.00 (\$5,527,824.00 General Fund unrestricted, Public Works unrestricted \$670,000.00, and General Fund restricted cash \$1,527,398.00), (6) some of the reasons for the increases over the rolled back rate are as follows: (a) net increase of transfers in and out from General Fund for Public Works and the reestablishing the Capital Projects Fund, (b) overall increase to expenditures, with key increases including Workers Comp Insurance Premiums, Property Appraiser, Sheriff's Office, Gulf County Jail, E.M.S., and General Fund/Public Works pay and step increases; (7) Port St. Joe D.R.A. (Downtown Redevelopment Agency) is \$163,306.00 based on the proposed millage rate. Clerk Norris reported that the increase of 29.5% as advertised in the Budget Summary was mainly due to an increase in anticipated grant funding. She also reported that all revenue and expenditure account codes have been updated for FY 2016 for operational consistency

and State compliance updates with the Uniform Cart of Accounts. Clerk Norris advised the Board that the funding for the General Fund and Public Works pay increases will be budgeted as reserves for contingency for FY 2016 to be disbursed with the final review of the pay and class study. Clerk Budget & Finance Officer Herring stated that she has provided a revised budget book to the Board, which includes the following changes: (1) General Fund decreased by \$54,767.00 due to the closure of the DRI/EAR Fund and relocation of Reserve for Emergency Management Capital to the Capital Projects Fund; (2) Mosquito Control State Fund increased by \$26,747 due to change in the Cash Carry Forward; (3) St. Joe Fire Control District Fund decreased by \$5,000.00 due to change in Cash Carry Forward; (4) General Grant Fund increased by \$1,800.00 due to a grant award amount; (5) DRI/EAR Fund decreased by \$112,854.00 due to closure and reallocation of that fund; (6) Capital Projects Fund increased by \$276,703.00 due to relocation of the DRI/EAR Fund; (7) T.D.C. and E911 Funds made minor allocations adjustments between expenditures and reserves. Commissioner Quinn motioned to approve the revised budget book. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. After discussion, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously (4-0). Clerk Budget & Finance Officer Herring advised the Board that any increases approved by the Board at tonight's Hearing will require equivalent reductions specified by line item.

After discussion and recommendation by Chief Administrator Butler, Commissioner McLemore motioned convert money from Infrastructure Fund to Cash Carry Forward, in the amount of \$80,000.00 and increasing FY 2015-16 Infrastructure Fund by \$80,000.00. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously (4-0).

After discussion by Clerk Norris, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. Erin Payner, of WindMark appeared before the Board to discuss the contributions of the library for the City and requested that the Board maintain or increase the Library Budget. She discussed the kids and summer programs. Dana Boyer, of Dalkeith appeared before the Board to discuss the Port St. Joe and Wewahitchka Library and the programs provided and requested the Board's help in supporting the Libraries. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. Carolina Orsuia, of Port St. Joe appeared before the Board to discuss the library programs and encourage the funding. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. Nancy Brockman, Gulf County Library Coordinator appeared before the Board to stated that with the cuts from last year and this year, along with the increases due to insurance, Gulf County's book fund will be set at zero dollars. She discussed her concerns regarding the deductions and the impact as to what the Library can offer the public. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There was no further public comment.

Chief Administrator Butler reported that Solid Waste Director Danford will work for the County for another six (6) months (retiring); stating that \$45,849.00 has been transferred to Capital Reserve.

RESOLUTION – COUNTYWIDE MILLAGE RATE

Clerk Norris read the proposed resolution regarding the countywide millage rate. Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt the following resolution. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed 3 to 1, with Commissioner Bryan voting no, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-27

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR GULF COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – COUNTYWIDE BUDGET

Clerk Norris read the proposed resolution regarding the FY 2015-16 countywide budget. Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt the following resolution. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed 3 to 1, with Commissioner Bryan voting no, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-28

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – ST. JOSEPH DEPENDENT FIRE CONTROL MILLAGE LEVY

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner Bryan motioned to adopt a Resolution setting the Millage Levy of .5000 Mills in the St. Joseph Dependent Fire Control District for FY 2015-16. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting “yes” and zero (0) Commissioners voting “no”, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR ST. JOSEPH DEPENDENT SPECIAL FIRE

DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-16; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – ST. JOSEPH FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT BUDGET

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner Bryan motioned to adopt the 2015-16 Budget for the St. Joseph Dependent Fire Control District. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public. There being no public comment, the motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting "yes", and zero (0) Commissioners voting "no", as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – TUPELO FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT MILLAGE LEVY

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner Quinn motioned to adopt a Resolution setting a Millage Levy of .5000 Mills for the Tupelo Dependent Special Fire Control District. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting "yes", and zero (0) Commissioners voting "no", as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-31

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FRO TUPELO DEPENDENT SPECIAL FIRE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – TUPELO FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT BUDGET

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt a Resolution setting forth the 2015-16 Budget for the Tupelo Dependent Special Fire Control District. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the

motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting “yes” and zero (0) Commissioners voting “no”, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – OVERSTREET FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT MILLAGE LEVY

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner Bryan motioned to adopt a Resolution setting forth the Millage Rate of .5000 Mills for the Overstreet Dependent Special Fire Control District. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting “yes”, and zero (0) Commissioners voting “no”, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-33

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR OVERSTREET DEPENDENT SPECIAL FIRE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – OVERSTREET FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT BUDGET

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner Bryan motioned to adopt a Resolution setting forth the 2015-16 Budget for the Overstreet Dependent Special Fire Control District. Commissioner Quin seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called the public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting “yes”, and zero (0) Commissioners voting “no”, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-34

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – HOWARD CREEK FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT MILLAGE LEVY

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt a Resolution setting forth the Millage Rate of .5000 Mills for the Howard Creek Dependent Special Fire Control District for 2015-16. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting “yes”, and zero (0) Commissioners voting “no”, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-35

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR HOWARD CREEK DEPENDENT SPECIAL FIRE DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

RESOLUTION – HOWARD CREEK FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT BUDGET

Upon reading of the proposed resolution by Clerk Norris, Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt a Resolution setting forth the 2015-16 Budget for the Howard Creek Dependent Special Fire Control District. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed with four (4) Commissioners voting “yes”, and zero (0) Commissioners voting “no”, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-36

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Complete Resolution on file with Clerk

(End)

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner Quinn, second by Commissioner Bryan, and unanimous 4-0 vote, the meeting did then adjourn at 5:49 p.m., E.T.

**WARD MCDANIEL
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**