

Board of County Commissioners
Minutes of
September 07, 2004

The Board of County Commissioners met in the first **BUDGET HEARING** at the School Board Administration Office at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America followed.

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Ronald Williams, Jennifer Flinn, James Montgomery,
Dewey Weaver and George Skinner.

Others: County Manager Dale Williams
Asst. County Manager Lisa Roberts
County Attorney Marlin Feagle
Deputy Clerk/Internal Auditor Judy Lewis

Public Hearing:

County Manager Dale Williams gave an overview of the budget using an overhead projector.

The Chair opened the public hearing and announced the proposed millage rate of 8.726 mills is 3.93% greater than the rolled back rate.

The man opened the public hearing.

Citizens H.L. Sistrunk and David Rountree asked questions and offered input. The County Manager gave answers.

Commissioner Montgomery asked what, if anything, the County proposed to do regarding the City's request for additional funds to support fire and recreation. The County Manager answered that at this point, if the Board elects to increase the budget in any area, they will have to decrease the budget in another area.

The public hearing for the **general fund** closed.

MOTION by Commissioner Montgomery to set the millage rate at 8.726 mills. Second by Commissioner Williams. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Commissioner Montgomery to adopt the budget at \$28,698,933. Second by Commissioner Weaver. The motion carried unanimously.

The public hearing opened for the **IDA** (Dependent District).

The Chair announced that the proposed .138 mills is 3.93% over the roll back rate.

Commissioner Williams said that the Board needs to find a way to put more money into this budget. He suggested setting aside the once cent sales tax money for this budget.

MOTION by Commissioner Montgomery to set the millage rate at .138 mills. Second by Commissioner Flinn. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Montgomery to adopt the budget at \$301,267. Second by Commissioner Weaver. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Montgomery read that the following funds do not levy ad valorem taxes:

Transportation Trust
2002 Road Improvement Debt Service
Municipal Services Special District
Municipal Services Benefit Unit
Court Services
Special Law Enforcement
Tourist Development Tax – Operating
Tourist Development Tax – Debt Service
Landfill Enterprise
Library Enhancement
Local Housing Assistance
County Facilities Renovations
Road Improvement
Economic Development
Connector Roads Project

Citizen David Rountree asked questions. The County Manager offered clarification.

MOTION by Commissioner Montgomery and Second by Commissioner Williams to adopt tentative budget for the following funds:

Transportation Trust	\$8,352,402
2002 Road Improvement Debt Service	\$1,584,100
Municipal Services Special District	\$6,560,502
Municipal Services Benefit Unit	\$4,231,509
Court Services	\$1,305,516
Special Law Enforcement	\$28,100
Tourist Development Tax – Operating	\$397,825

Tourist Development Tax – Debt Service	\$220,950
Landfill Enterprise	\$2,994,217
Library Enhancement	\$2,832,056
Local Housing Assistance	\$321,000
County Facilities Renovation	\$3,259,000
Road Improvement	\$6,600,491
Economic Development	\$1,885,986
Connector Roads Project	\$10,342,224

The Chair announced that the final budget hearing would be held on September 16, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the School Board Administration building.

OTHER:

County Manager Williams thanked the commissioners for their support during the EOC activation relating to Hurricane Frances. Infrastructure damage has not been fully assessed. There are 18,000 units without power.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

P. DeWitt Cason
Clerk of Circuit Court

Patricia A. Perry, Chief Deputy Clerk