

**MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AUGUST 15, 2005.**

The Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners, in and for Gilchrist County Florida, convened in a budget workshop on Monday, August 15, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located at 210 South Main Street, Trenton, Florida, with the following members present to-wit:

**Commissioner Mitchell Gentry, Chair**  
**Commissioner Randy Durden, Vice-Chair**  
**Commissioner Sharon Langford**  
**Commissioner Kenrick Thomas**  
**Commissioner Tommy Langford**

**Others in attendance were:** Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk of Circuit Court, John McPherson, County Attorney, Janice Wasson, Deputy Clerk, Sam Ferguson, Finance Director, Jacki Johnson, Finance Department, Ron McQueen, Billy Cannon, Justin Watson, Jerry Keirnan, Marvin Weaver, John Ayers, and Evelyn Meece.

**Call to Order:**

Chairperson Gentry called the workshop to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Budget:** (1/3) Mr. Gilliam advised the Board of the budget recap presented to the Board, and asked for any changes. He discussed the Debt Proceeds Fund and Fire District Fund established, and also the 5-Year (*financing \$41,000*) and 10-Year (*financing \$23,040*) options for financing of the Fire and EMS stations. Commissioner Thomas asked if the Board wanted to budget for an additional stinger blade for the Road Department, would this be the time to establish it, and the Board discussed the benefit to the County.

***Motion by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford, to increase Road Department's equipment budget \$5,000 (from General Revenue Reserve). Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.***

**County Extension Office:** (1/225) Mr. Weaver advised the Board of the opportunity to fill a position (*included within his 2006 budget*) with an employee with a Professional Agent, and requested the Board to allow \$15,000 of the 2006 budget to be used for the position. He stated that this would reduce his budget by \$12,000, and requested the remainder be left to cover additional travel expenses.

Commissioner Durden voiced his concern in the 4-H Program for the County suffering with the agent employee, being that the 4-H Program Assistant is behind at present.

Mr. Weaver explained the selection process by the State, and stated that the position would probably be filled by December or January of 2006. The Board asked if this position will require a secretarial position after being filled, and clarified the duties of the secretary employed at present.

***Motion by Commissioner Tommy Langford, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to hire the recommended 100% 4-H Program qualified County Agent conditional on the 4-H Program not suffering for the County. Commissioner Durden reiterated his concern regarding the 4-H Program. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.***

***Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford, to amend the County Extension Office budget to \$20,000, and return \$7,000 to General Reserve. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.***

Mr. Weaver advised the Board of the meeting to be held at the Extension Office tonight at 7:00 p.m., and invited Board members to attend if possible.

**September 8, 2005 Regular Meeting:** (1/1002) Commissioner Thomas advised the Board that he will not be in attendance of the September 8, 2005 meeting.

**Vehicle Allowance, County Administrator:** (1/1010) Mr. Sam Ferguson advised the board of necessary correction to a previous motion made by the Board, and requested action.

*Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to amend previous motion regarding the Vehicle Allowance for the County Administrator position to \$560 per month. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.*

**Sheriff Office, Dispatch Position:** (1/1056) Commissioner Tommy Langford raised the issue of Sheriff Office, Dispatch Supervisor position requested by the Sheriff Office within his budget. The Board discussed the separation of duties and responsibilities requirement in regards to the Auditor's Report (*Administrative Side*).

**Road Department, Part Time Employees:** (1/1225) Commissioner Tommy Langford raised the issue of part time employees for the Road Department to assist with mowing and limb trimming duties, and stated that a part time employee would also allow the Road Department to monitor the employee for any future vacancies within the department. The Board discussed possibly beginning a part time program during the 2006 year, with several Commissioners suggesting the program begin the current year. Mr. Watson stated that a 20-hour a week position would be more useful for road signs, patching, and driveway permits, but that he would be concerned about placing a part time employee on county equipment, in regards to liability for the County. Mr. McQueen advised the Board that any employee employed for six (6) months or longer would require the employee to become a part time/full time employee, and stated that the County would be required to provide benefits.

The Board directed Mr. McQueen to bring a report back to the Board regarding part time employment for the Road Department.

**SE 70<sup>th</sup>, Road Paving:** (1/1748) Commissioner Sharon Langford raised the issue of SE 70<sup>th</sup>, road paving. She stated that she was under the understanding that the road paving project would be funded in the 2006 budget year, and requested that the tape be made available for inspection by the Board to clarify the issue. The Board advised that the Transportation Committee will be presenting a report at the regular meeting.

**Suwannee River Resource Conservation:** (1/1963) Mr. Doug Omor, Coordinator with the Suwannee River Resource Counsel, was present and requested funding for the 2006 year. The Board advised that a time certain was scheduled with Russell Pope for July 25, 2005, 2:15 - 2:30 p.m., and that no representative attended.

*Motion by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Durden, to approve funding Suwannee River Resource Conservation, \$1,000. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.*

**Adjournment:** (1/2292) There being no further business, Chairperson Gentry adjourned the Budget Workshop at 3:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Mitchell Gentry, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk