

MINUTES OF A BOARD DEPARTMENTS BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD JULY 13, 2005.

The Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners, in and for Gilchrist County Florida, convened in a regular meeting on Monday, July 13, 2005 at 10:00 a.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; Janice Wasson, Deputy Clerk; Jacki Johnson, Finance; Ron McQueen; John Ayers; Marvin Weaver, Billy Cannon, Justin Watson, Linda Walker, Ron Mills, Tony Cruz,

Call to Order:

Chairperson Gentry called the workshop to order at 10:00 p.m.

County Extension: (1/15) Marvin Weaver presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget, and reviewed each line item. He also discussed the retirement and replacement of Elaine Fason.

Jacki Johnson advised the Board of the anniversary increase for Marvin Weaver and Shelia Langford, and stated that the increase is calculated within the figures presented.

The Board discussed travel expenses, and Personal Vehicle Use. Mr. Gilliam advised the Board of the change in policy for Mr. Weaver from prior years.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Tommy Langford, to increase Personal Vehicle Use by \$75 per month and to reduce 2005-2006 Budget request Travel/Per Diem to \$7,500. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Motion by Commissioner Sharon Langford, seconded by Commissioner Durden, to leave Office Supplies at \$1,100, same as 2004-2005 Budget. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Road Department: (1/1080-2/405) Justin Watson presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget, and reviewed each line item.

Mr. Watson requested \$5,000 for Merit Raises. The Board stated that Merit Raises would be discussed as a group meeting.

Mr. Watson stated that there are 20 active employees, and Finance stated that the figures within the 2005-2006 Proposed Budget are calculated for 22 employees (20 active with two (2) additional).

Mr. McQueen questioned the amount of graders and the amount of payments made each month. Finance advised the Board of the actual amount of each.

Mr. Watson requested to replace his request for a Ford Ranger with a request of a tractor. He also made a correction to the Brown Cutter from \$20,000 to \$9,000.

Mr. Watson advised the Board that \$2,500 could be moved from New Equipment to Repair and Maintenance to build a drag. He stated that the cost of labor and materials is included within the \$2,500. This changes line item #54600 to \$57,500, and line item #56400 to \$112,000.

Mr. Watson and Mr. Cannon addressed the issue of tires, coming out of repair and maintenance, and questioned if a separate line item needed to be added.

Commissioner Tommy Langford questioned part-time employment (Other Salaries/No Retirement)

for mowing.

EMS (Emergency Medical Service): (2/409) Linda Walker presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget, and reviewed each line item.

Commissioner Sharon Langford questioned Education costs, and Ms. Walker advised the current EMT enrollments, and provided an explanation.

Ms. Walker advised the Board that August 14, 2005 is the tentative delivery date for the new ambulances being received, reducing the Repair and Maintenance expense.

Chairperson Gentry questioned the reduction in Grants, and Ms. Walker stated that Grant money would be used before October (generators). If EMS applies for another Grant, it will not be until later in the year. The Board discussed the money allocated for the new EMS Station.

Ms. Walkers discussed the increase in Uniforms, and stated that she had inquired about a Uniform Service, however, no contract had been signed. The Board recommended that the County Attorney review the contract prior to signing.

Jacki Johnson stated that the requested budget was presented to the Board as submitted by EMS.

Mr. Gilliam and the Board discussed the EMS Special Assessment Revenue. He stated that the revenue amount needed to be finalized prior to August. The Board discussed 1 mil, and Mr. Gilliam stated that he would raise the issue at the Monday, July 18, 2005 Meeting.

Ms. Walker stated that the county had made Mutual Aid calls from October 1, 2004 until July 12, 2005 to - Dixie County, 66; Levy – 15; Alachua – 5; Suwannee – 1. She also stated that other Counties responding to a Gilchrist County call receive the money for the call.

Ms. Walker stated that in regards to salaries, she budgeted \$.48 an hour straight across the Board, same as last year's calculations. Mr. Gilliam questioned the new position, 40 hours per week, Field Supervisor. The Board stated that they would like it to remain within \$.35.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, to make salaries \$.35 per hour. Chairperson called for a second, no second received. Motion died for lack of second.

The Board discussed further, in detail, that the salary increase for EMS would be approximately \$1,600 per employee where other Departments would be receiving \$1,000 per employee.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford, to make salaries \$.35 per hour. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Jacki Johnson advised the Board that she was conservative in projecting revenue from Ambulance fees for this budget.

Health Department: (2/2095) No representative attended to present the 2005-2006 Budget, however Mr. Gilliam and Mr. McQueen made a presentation. The Board discussed the request, and Mr. Gilliam stated that over the last nine (9) years, the Health Department has always ask for \$28,600. The Board also discussed future Grant.

*Lunch break from 12:15 p.m. until 1:15 p.m..
The Board reconvened at 1:15 p.m.*

Veteran's Service Office: (2/2175-3/38) Mr. McQueen presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget, and reviewed each line item. He stated that Major Stout is a part-time employee, is recovering from surgery, and could not attend.

Mr. McQueen stated that the Budget had been adjusted \$1,200 for the Historical Society, however the Board would like special events addressed separately.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford, to remove line

item #55207, \$1,200, Special Events. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Hart Springs: (3/38) Julie Harrison presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget, and reviewed each line item. She updated the Board on the springs' condition, and stated that the springs will probably not generate much revenue for the rest of the summer. She also stated that Repair and Maintenance is being funded from other items at present.

Ms. Harrison stated that advertising is an extraordinarily large expense for Hart Springs. She stated that Hart Springs have a link (free) to Pure Water Wilderness, and have recently received a Web Link Agreement from the State of Florida, Suwannee Trails. The Board discussed the Gilchrist Guide, and the fact that some advertising was suppose to be free. Ms. Harrison stated that she felt the growth of the Springs depends on advertising, and that she is targeting the recreational camping through advertising to subsidize the lack of revenue from the Springs (swimmers).

Ms. Harrison stated that the Provilion roof is in need of repair, and that she does not feel comfortable to allow anyone in the Provilion at present. The Board recommended that someone be called to estimate the damage.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, Seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford, to drop Utility Services, #54300 from \$23,000 to \$15,000 and Equipment, #55241 from \$14,000 to \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Harrison requested a chainsaw to remove several large dead trees before anyone gets seriously injured, and Mr. McQueen stated that he can get a chainsaw and pole saw without Hart Springs having to request funds.

Ms. Harrison requests \$1,333.50 to purchase laptop out of 2004-2005 Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to allow Hart Springs to purchase a laptop computer within 2004-2005 Budget. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Solid Waste: (3/1015) Mr. McQueen presented the Board with the 2005-2006 Budget, and reviewed each line item. Mr. Pat Fischer unable to attend due to a birth of a Grandchild.

Mr. McQueen stated that the Board waives approximately \$30,000, and that there are citizens within the County that have refused to pay for the garbage disposal. The Board discussed the Small County Recycling Grant, and because the County meets the recycling goal, the County still receives Grant money.

The Board discussed the County Attorney reviewing the County's option for collection of delinquent fees. The Board also discussed tires being dumped during Amnesty Days, and not allowing heavy equipment tires during this campaign.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to direct Solid Waste to bring Policy and Procedure in regards to tire disposal. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to remove \$100,000 from line item #56406. Motion carried unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Tommy Langford left at 2:15 p.m.

Florida Association of Counties: (3/2067) Mr. Gilliam stated that Florida Association of Counties was budgeted every year based on population, \$1,803.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford, to pay membership dues for Florida Association of Counties. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Mosquito Control: (3/2121) Mr. McQueen stated that \$6,451 to purchase the chemicals used for spraying, and that it is only used for emergency spraying.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to budget Mosquito Control in the amount of \$6,451. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Blue Cross Blue Shield: (3/00) Mr. Gilliam stated that an estimated renewal had been presented to Constitutional Officers and Department Heads. The Chairperson called for recommended changes, and none was received.

Code Enforcement: (3/2318) Diane Rondolet presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget, and reviewed each line item.

Mr. McQueen stated that Gilchrist County picks up 49%, City of Trenton, 33%, City of Fanning Springs, 18%, Town of Bell, a flat rate of \$750 for 2004-2005, and will look at next years.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford, to approve Code Enforcement Budget. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

The Board stated that the Monthly Code Enforcement Report presented to the Board is very helpful and appreciated.

Blue Cross Blue Shield (Continued): (3/2540-4/23) Mr. Gilliam stated that the additional cost to the Board would be \$58,292, above what it is for 2004-2005 (Board's percent).

Library (Three Rivers Regional Library): (4/28) Mr. McQueen presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to approve Library budget. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Purchase of Land: (4/98) *Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford, to approve purchase of land from Tim Kinsey for \$10,000, with the County paying the closing costs out of the 2004-2005 budget funds. Commissioner Durden will bring motion to the Board again on Monday, July 18, 2005. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.*

Land Swap with School Board: (4/235) Mr. McQueen updated the Board on the land swap with the School Board. He stated that Lake City Community College was excited about bringing Law Enforcement Training to Gilchrist County, and the firing range currently in place would be beneficial. Commissioner Thomas requested that the School Board be made aware of the agricultural activities in the surrounding areas.

Budget Workshop: (4/450) The Board scheduled Other Agencies Budget Workshop for Monday, July 25, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. The Board did not request the Judicial agencies to present their budgets at this time.

Animal Control: (4/561) Carl Cowan presented the Board with a 2005-2006 Budget. Mr. McQueen stated that the increase covers the truck and salary increase for all employees.

Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, to approve Animal Control Budget. Motion carried unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

Fire Assessment: (4/628) Mr. McQueen presented the Board with a handout for the Fire Assessment, and discussed municipality participation. The Board directed Mr. McQueen to correspond with the software company regarding the data for the County.

Adjournment: (4/997)

There being no further business, the Workshop was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

*Motion by Commissioner Durden, seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford, to adjourn.
Motion carried unanimously.*

APPROVED:

Mitchell Gentry, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk