

MINUTES OF A BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE GILCHRIST COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AUGUST 17, 2006.

The Gilchrist County Board of County Commissioners, in and for Gilchrist County Florida, convened in a Budget Workshop meeting on Thursday, August 17, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located at 210 South Main Street, Trenton, Florida, with the following member's present to-wit:

Commissioner Tommy Langford, Chairman
Commissioner Randy Durden, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Kenrick Thomas
Commissioner Sharon Langford
Commissioner Mitchell Gentry

Others in attendance were: Joe Gilliam, Clerk of Court, Jacki Johnson, Finance Director, Patty McCagh, Deputy Clerk, Ron McQueen, County Administrator, John McPherson, County Attorney, John Ayers, Allen Mikell, Sable Bolling, Jana Lamb and Wes Asbell.

Call to Order: Chairman Tommy Langford called Budget Workshop meeting to order 4:03 p.m.

Health Department: Representing the Gilchrist County Health Department is Sable Bolling. She addresses the Board with the following request for funding. Increase funding to handle the increase in the Tuberculosis Program, \$3,000.00; Make up the deficit in Environmental Health for this years contract, \$3,634.00; and the addition of an Environmental Specialist 1, \$45,795.00. The total amount being requested for funding for the Gilchrist County Health Department is \$83,889.00. Also representing the Gilchrist County Health Department were Jana Lamb and Wes Asbell. Jana discussed the Tuberculosis Program while Wes talked about Environmental Health.

Jail Sewer Line and Road Department/Fuel Depot Relocation: Joe Gilliam presented to the Board suggestions for the funding mechanisms on the Road Department/Fuel Depot Relocation and Jail Sewer Line projects as follows: \$271,031.00 was identified from various Board Departments to be transferred to Fund 301 for the relocation of the Road Department & Fuel Depot; \$114,187.00 to be transferred General Fund Reserve for contingency to pay for the Jail Sewer Line, this action leaves a balance of \$65,725.00 in reserve for FY 2006. Budget amendments for FY 05/06 will be prepared and approved at next meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Randy Durden to allow Clerk of Court to transfer funds to pay invoices for the Road Department from the 2005/2006 budget, clerk to prepare budget adjustments and bring back to the regular meeting. Motion was seconded by commissioner Mitchell Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gilliam presented to the Board a draft on the "Mail Out/Advertisement" on Allocation of Your 10 Mill Ad Valorem Taxes over the Past 10 Years. Mr. Gilliam and the Board reviewed the mail out/advertisement and discussed any changes that might need to be made. The Board recommended that the charts should include a column for other revenues and also include information on the board Departments.

They also recommended that footnotes be included to explain the data provided. They also requested that the overall size of the information be made larger, to help with readability. The Board agreed that this information should be presented in the newspaper and not by mail out. The board directed the clerk to include these recommendations and bring back at next meeting for additional review.

AID TO PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS: The following are the organizations that submitted a budget request, with the Boards actions:

- North Central Florida Planning Council budget request in the amount of \$4,615.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve the budget request in the amount of \$4,615.00 for North Central Florida Planning Council, motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

- Character First Council budget request in the amount of \$1,000.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to approve the budget request in the amount of \$1,000.00 for Character First Council, motion was seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

- Chamber of Commerce budget request in the amount of \$20,000.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve the budget amount of \$15,000.00 instead the requested amount of \$20,000.00, motion was seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

- Development Authority budget request in the amount of \$1,100.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve budget request in the amount of \$1,100.00 for Development Authority, motion was seconded by Commissioners Kenrick Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

- Early Learning Coalition budget request in the amount \$5,000.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas to approve budget request in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Early Learning Coalition, motion seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden. Motion carries unanimously.

- Suwannee Valley Leagues budget request for \$47,000.00. They were in the budget for the amount of \$24,500.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to approve a budget of \$30,000.00 to Suwannee Valley League, motion was seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

- Shared Services Network budget request for \$5,000.00.

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve budget request of \$5,000.00 to Shared Services Network, motion was seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

- Gilchrist County Historical Society budget request in the amount of \$1,200.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Sharon Langford to approve budget request of \$1,200.00 to Gilchrist County Historical Society, motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

- Bell Library budget request in the amount of \$5,000.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve budget request of \$5,000.00 to Bell Library, motion seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

- Senior Citizens Pantry budget request in the amount of \$12,000.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve the budget amount of \$6,000.00 to the Senior Citizens Pantry, making the check payable to “The Mighty Food Bank”. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

- North Central Florida Health Plan Council (WellFlorida Council) budget request in the amount of \$1,195.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to approve the budget request of \$1,195.00 to North Central Florida Health Planning Council (WellFlorida Council), motion seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden. Motion carries unanimously.

- Suwannee River Resource Conservation budget request in the amount of \$1,100.00

MOTION made by Commissioners Mitchell Gentry to approve the budget request of \$1,100.00 to Suwannee River Conservation, motion was seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

- North Central Florida Regional Planning Council - Tourism Program budget request in the amount of \$1,000.00. It was questioned by the Board if this is the program that is funded by Ginnie Springs and if she had been approached about funding this program this year. It had been decided by the Board to take this funding out of the budget as Unanticipated Revenue until a later time, whether or not the program will be funded by Ginnie Springs in the future.

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to remove the funding request of \$1,000.00 to North Central Florida Regional Planning Council – Tourism Program from the budget as Unanticipated Revenue, motion seconded by Commissioner Sharon Langford. Motion carried unanimously.

- D/G/L (Tri County) Tourism Board budget request in the amount of \$5,000.00, a grant match so they can apply for larger grant. Funded \$5,000.00 was granted last year

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to approve budget request in the amount of \$5,000.00 to D/G/L Tourism Board, motion was seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden. Motion carried unanimously.

- Florida Choose Life License Plates budget request in the amount of \$1,298.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve budget request in the amount \$1,298.00 to Florida Choose Life License Plates, motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

AID TO MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES: The following are the agencies that submitted a budget request, with the Boards actions:

- Meridian Behavioral Health Care budget request in the amount of \$40,000.00. Last year we funded \$25,000.00. Commissioner Randy Durden wanted to state on record that he does not approve with the way they do their budget. That fact that the State says we need to fund \$40,000.00 he doesn't have a problem with, but some trimming up in their budget does need to take place.

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve budget request in the amount of \$40,000.00 to Meridian Behavioral Health, motion was seconded by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

- LARC – Levy County Association of Retarded Citizens budget request in the amount of \$1,300.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to approve budget request in the amount of \$1,300.00 to LARC, motion was seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden. Motion carried unanimously.

- City of Trenton: Downtown Redevelopment proposed budget request in the amount of \$140,000.00; proposed budget request will need to be increased; in 2006 budget was \$120,000.00 with this year's bill totaling \$146,000.00. Proposed budget needs to be approximately \$168-\$170,000.00

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to approve proposed budget increase in the amount of \$170,000.00 to the City of Trenton – Downtown Redevelopment, motion seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden. Motion carried unanimously.

- Road Department: The current outlay amount in their budget totals \$335,911.00. The Board discussed item's needed and recommended reducing Capital Outlay to \$200,000.00.

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to leave \$200,000.00 in proposed budget for the Road Department to purchase used tractor and a track hoe, motion seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden. Motion carried unanimously.

Department increases less than 5%: If the Departments had less than a 5% increase, looking at operating expenses, very few of the Board Departments were less than 5%.

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS:

- Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk of Court, working on a step plan for the Clerk Department
- Marilyn Bruce, Tax Collector submitted a revised budget, which is reflected in the new recap splitting software in a two year period
- Susan Bryant, Supervisor of Elections 13.39 increase, personnel raises/ insurance
- Damon Leggett, Property Appraiser 9.29 increase
- Clerk to BOCC -1.43 decrease

Constitutional Officers and Board of County Commissioners finalized salaries have not been posted yet as of today. Last year it was the day of or the day after the final budget was approved that the salaries were posted. Hopefully the salaries will be posted before the finalized budget is approved.

Sheriff's proposed budget: The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed budget for the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Tommy Langford suggested that used patrol cars be used by the bailiffs and only purchase the four new patrol cars. At this point, Commissioner Randy Durden brings to the floor that before the decision is made on how many vehicles are needed, the decision of the request of needing six bailiffs', three (3) new positions, needs to be decided. Are three (3) new bailiffs really necessary? The board continued to discuss the need of six bailiffs.

MOTION made by Commissioner Randy Durden to approve one new bailiff position, for a nine month position for the Sheriff's Department, \$37,407.00 above requested budget and if needed come back during the year and readdress the issue, motion seconded by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to approve budget increase of \$6000.00 in the judicial operating expense, for one position/use of bailiff vehicle, in the Sheriff's Department Budget, seconded by Commissioner Kenrick Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Randy Durden reviews with the board a proposed budget for the Sheriff's Department 2006-2007. Commissioner Durden drafted this proposal to emphasize employee raises. The Board continued to discuss the issues of the budget for the Sheriff's 2006-2007 budget. Budget issues will be continued at next budget workshop.

UPDATE on Budget Workshop Scheduled for next Thursday, 08-24-06: Presentations on RFQ's for Jail Architects are scheduled for 1:15p.m., and finish around 4:00p.m., and then start budget workshop, but have been rescheduled. Now the presentations are scheduled to start at 3:00/3:15p.m., so the Budget Workshop can be scheduled earlier, 1:00 p.m.

It was also determined that the Value Adjustment Board Organizational Meeting would be held on Monday, 8/21/06, at 2:30p.m., with Tommy Langford, Kenrick Thomas, Mitchell Gentry as members of that board. Also, on Monday, 8/21/06 the Board of County Commissioners Meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m.

Commissioner Randy Durden says the proposed \$331,000.00 increase in the Sheriff's budget is as high as he would like to go. Commissioner Mitchell Gentry is talking of increasing it by an additional \$10,000.00 for operating expenses and Commissioner Randy Durden after thinking about, agrees to increase to \$341,000.00.

Commissioner Mitchell Gentry readdresses the Sheriff's Budget issue on the topic of insurance. The board continued to discuss these insurance issues, and the possible increase when paying 100% of the single employee rate.

The Board agreed to a \$350,000.00 proposed budget increase, implementing a step plan by the Sheriff. The issue of raises was addressed. If the Board agrees to the proposed budget of \$350,000.00, they want it to be known that this does include raises for the Sheriff's Department. It was suggested, if needed, the Board will put an ad in the newspaper explaining the intended use of the proposed budget. Chairman Tommy Langford thinks the Sheriff should be funded the way he can operate and a 100% for funding the employees. Commissioner Gentry brings up the issue of taking out the new position of correction clerk, they had two positions in the correction that weren't funded last year...Commissioner Thomas commented then that money still there...Commissioner Gentry states they should take that money and hire a new clerk and maybe another employee. The Board continued to discuss the proposals of the Sheriffs budget. A 13% increase over last year's budget is being requested, most of that is personnel, not much for operating at all. A copy of the proposal will be given to the Sheriff.

MOTION made by Commissioner Mitchell Gentry to give Sheriff a requested amount of \$350,000.00 to come up with some new budget requests to work with, asking him to bring back proposals at the next meeting on August 24, 2006, seconded by Commissioner Randy Durden. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board continued to comment on the issues of the salaries of the Sheriff's department, that the board has allowed funding for raises and at the same time we need to make sure that the Union understands our position that we put it in there and that's all we can do.

There being no further business, Chairman Tommy Langford adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

APPROVED:

Tommy Langford, Chairman

ATTEST:

Joseph W. Gilliam, Clerk