

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, GLADES COUNTY COURTHOUSE, MOORE  
HAVEN, FLORIDA

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The Glades County Board of County Commissioners met on Friday, July 18, 2014 for a Budget Workshop at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Donna Storter Long, Chairman  
Tim Stanley, Vice Chairman  
Paul Beck  
Russell Echols  
Crystal Drake

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court  
Paul Carlisle, County Manager  
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director  
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director  
Brenda Choban, Assistant Finance Director  
Avant Brown, County Road Superintendent  
Pat Dobbins, Director – Glades County Health Department  
Dawn Oliver, Court Administration  
Jenny Allen, Community Development Department  
Tycee Prevatt, Extension Agent  
Joe Hosick, Hendry Glades Mental Health  
Angie Snow Colegrove, Emergency Management Director  
Terri Anascavage, E911 Coordinator  
Tracy Whirls, EDC Director  
Mary Booher, Library  
17 citizens

Chairman Storter Long called the workshop to order at 9:00 a.m.

**BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

County Manager Carlisle gave an overview of the following budgets:

**COUNTY MANAGER**

The Board reduced the travel expenses line item in this budget to \$2,500.00 and the subscriptions/memberships to \$800.00.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

The Board reduced the Office Supplies line item in this budget to \$1,500.00.

**LIBRARY**

The Board reduced the Special Pay line item in this budget to \$0; adjusted the salary line items to reflect the correct amounts; deleted the \$593.00 from the Library Budget line item; and reduced the Travel and Per Diem to \$800.00; and adjusted the difference to make this budget total \$73,500.00.

**COUNTY AGRICULTURE EXTENSION**

The Board reduced the Travel and Per Diem to \$900.00;

**BOCC TECHNOLOGY FUND**

The Board reduced the BOCC Technology Fund to \$65,000.00.

**HENDRY GLADES MENTAL HEALTH/SUNRISE COMMUNITY**

The Board reduced the Hendry Glades Mental Health budget to \$2,500.00.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The Board reduced this budget by \$18,100.00.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Board reduced this budget to \$36,560.00 total.

**PROPERTY APPRAISER**

The Board agreed to leave the purchase of new software in this budget; however, they deleted the \$5,000.00 (\$4,812.00) Contingency Fund making this total budget \$581,253.00.

**PAY RAISE FOR EMPLOYEES**

County Manger Carlisle stated he had reviewed the figures and it would cost approximately \$88,742.00 to give each County employee a 2.5% pay increase. He explained that there was an error on the break-out sheet for the raises. He stated he had a total of \$19,049.00 under the retirement line item; however, this figure should be \$1,077.00. He stated he would clarify this figure.

Chairman Storter Long stated the Board would not have to pay the retirement figure if they gave a lump sum raise instead. She questioned if the grant funded positions were included in this figure.

County Manager Carlisle stated these positions would be included in the figures.

Commissioner Drake questioned the Courthouse Maintenance. She asked if the funds could be used for any other County owned buildings.

County Manager Carlisle explained that the funds had to be used strictly for court services.

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Commissioner Beck agreed with Chairman Storter Long regarding the lump sum payment (one-time) payment to employees for a raise. He stated he was very pleased with the efforts County Manager Carlisle and County Staff had done with this year's budgets.

Commissioner Echols disagreed and stated he would prefer the employees receive a salary increase.

Vice Chairman Stanley agreed with Commissioner Echols.

Commissioner Beck stated he understood that a salary increase would be more beneficial to the employees in the long run. He stated he just did not see how the Board could pay for such an increase without a revenue stream to support it.

Chairman Storter Long questioned tab #18 – BOCC Technology. She stated the Board had budgeted \$100,000.00 for other contractual services and questioned the other items within this line item.

County Manager Carlisle stated there were some other items charged to this budget.

Vice Chairman Stanley questioned the need for this much funding next year.

County Manager Carlisle stated the County had a continuing services contract with Jesse Wallace. He stated the funds would be needed for the maintenance of the County's server.

Chairman Storter Long questioned the phone lines within the Courthouse. She asked if these were built in to the expenses.

County Manager Carlisle stated there may be some savings here with the changes to the fax lines. He stated Century Link was installing new lines now.

Commissioner Drake questioned the annual rate of pay for Mr. Wallace. She asked if this figure was \$52,000.00 or \$42,000.00 per year.

Mrs. Choban stated the figure was \$47,200.00 plus \$65.00/hour for any services provided beyond "server" work. She stated Mr. Wallace's contract was with the Board only. She explained that if a Constitutional Officer used his services they would be required to pay the \$65.00/hour rate.

Ms. Brown explained how the Technology Fund had been set up initially. She stated the Board had taken the computer technology funds from all of the Constitutional Officers/Department Heads budgets. She stated if any of the Constitutional Officers/Department Heads needed software or computer hardware they could request the funds from the Board.

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Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the Sheriff's Department employees were included in the figure.

County Manager Carlisle stated the Corrections employees were not included. He stated the Clerk would also have some employees that were funded through the State and that the Board could not fund.

Vice Chairman Stanley questioned raising the MSTU for Law Enforcement to cover these raises.

County Manager Carlisle stated an increase in the MSTU would still not cover the Corrections side of the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Storter Long stated she was not sure why these employees were not covered. She stated the Board had a Correction's budget.

Sheriff Whiddon explained that it would cost him \$134,000.00 to give everyone at the Sheriff's Office a 2.5 % raise.

Chairman Storter Long asked if Sheriff Whiddon and Clerk Brown had the additional funds to cover the raises for their other employees.

Sheriff Whiddon stated he would not be able to give the raise to all of his employees therefore; he would use the funds to cover over time. He stated he could not give 1/3 of his employees a raise and not the other 2/3.

Chairman Storter Long stated she understood. She asked if there was a reason the Board could not fund the other employees' raises.

Sheriff Whiddon stated the Board did not fund all of the Law Enforcement employees. He stated a management fee helped supplement these salaries.

Commissioner Echols suggested funding the ones listed in the budget and giving that amount to the Constitutional Officers and allow them to fund whatever raises they deemed best.

Chairman Storter Long read the revisions to the budget into the record. She stated the revenue side had been increased under the Fees, Fines, and Services by approximately \$44,000.00 and approximately \$21,000.00 had been received from the State for an approximate total of \$66,000.00. She stated the County Manager's budget had been reduced by \$2,832.00 for a total of \$144,452.00. She stated a Human Resources position had been created by taking this item from the County Manager's budget. She stated this employee also performed services for the SHIP Administration. She stated the budget for Human Resources was being left at \$19,908.00. She stated the Library's budget had been rolled back to the previous year's budget amount of \$73,500.00. She stated the County Agriculture Extension Office's budget had been reduced to

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\$92,715.00. She stated the Emergency Management budgets were each funded by grants. She stated the increase in this budget was due to an increase in one of the grants. She stated the Veterans' Service Office had been increased by \$3,200.00 for training and certification. She stated the Planning Department's budget had been reduced by almost \$30,000.00 for a total of \$153,268.00. She stated the Code Enforcement position was a part-time job and would remain at \$20,462.00. She stated the Community Services budget included several mandates and came in at \$205,232.00. She stated the Probation Department had been increased by \$3,159.00 because additional fees were being funded by the court system (facilities fee). She stated the Maintenance Department had been adjusted for health insurance for a total of \$193,093.00. She asked if the expenses for the new Clerk's Office storage building would be included in the Maintenance Department budget.

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, stated this was correct.

Chairman Storter Long stated the Courthouse Maintenance budget had been reduced to \$94,710.00. She stated \$155,000.00 of this budget had been transferred over to Administration fees. She stated the Community Center Maintenance budget would remain at \$28,000.00. She stated the Cemetery would remain at \$24,792.00. She stated the Boat Ramps/Parks budget would remain at \$26,400.00. She stated the Emergency Medical budget would be funded at \$1,086,931.00. She stated the Fire Department's budget had been decreased to \$276,137.00. She stated the Moore Haven Fire Department would be funded at \$14,000.00. She stated the EMS Awards Grant would be funded at \$12,274.00. She stated the Animal Control budget had been reduced to \$53,290.00 with the elimination of some overtime. She stated the Commissioners' budget would be \$713,280.00. She stated there would be no change in the Auditor's budget at \$124,500.00. She stated the County Attorney's budget would remain the same at \$82,326.00. She stated the State Attorney's budget came in at \$10,610.00. She questioned why this budget was not part of the court system.

Mrs. Choban stated there was a \$2.00 Technology Fee that helped fund the State Attorney, Public Defender, and Court Administration.

Chairman Storter Long stated the Health Department's budget had remained the same at \$139,028.00. She stated Hope Connections' budget came in at \$22,080.00. She stated Sunrise Community's budget remained the same at \$43,075.00. She stated \$35,000.00 had been taken from BOCC Technology for a total of \$66,450.00. She stated Hendry Glades Mental Health's budget had been funded at \$2,500.00. She stated the Medical Examiner's budget had decreased. She stated the Soil Conservation's budget had a slight increase due to the need for additional office staff. She stated the Economic Development's budget had been decreased to \$36,560.00. She stated the Supervisor of Elections' budget had decreased to \$211,043.00. She stated the Tax Collector's budget came in at \$430,557.00. She stated the Property Appraiser had reduced her budget to \$581,441.00. She stated the Sheriff's budget which was funded from the General Fund had come in at \$3,079,268.00. She stated the Clerk of the Circuit Court's budget had remained the same at \$399,328.00. She

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stated the transfer to 911 would be \$15,080.00. She stated the Building Department was anticipating enough revenue to cover their budget this year, therefore; no transfer had been made. She stated the Restricted Fund expenses had been funded with an additional \$114,537.00 from the Court Facilities fee (surcharge). She stated the General Fund portion of the salary increase at 2.5% would total \$88,742.00, including retirement. She stated the total amount of expenditures would total \$9,619,433.00 and revenues would be \$14,945,042.00. She stated the reserves for special projects totaled \$1,100,000.00. She stated funds were being left in this total for the self insurance goal that the Board was moving towards.

County Manager Carlisle stated the balance would be carried forward for the Business Park.

Chairman Storter Long stated the reserves for Contingencies at 10% totaled \$1,494,504.00. She stated Cash Carried Forward totaled \$2,731,105.00. She stated the Board was looking at a deficit in the amount of \$984,264.00.

Joe Hosick, Director of the Mental Health Center, expressed concern with his budget funding. He stated he could not continue to operate this way. He stated he was anticipating returning the \$2,500.00 that would have been funded this year and discontinuing service to Glades County.

Chairman Storter Long asked if the Board wished to consider any changes in the Mental Health Center's budget. There were no comments.

Tracy Whirls, EDC Executive Director, respectfully stated this was the wrong time to cut her budget. She stated she was anticipating a lot of work in getting the Training Center up and moving. She stated the only way now to participate in consulting events was to have a membership in Team Florida. She stated the Glades EDC had not joined this effort this year because she was concerned with having the infrastructure in place for the Training Center. She stated the Board should begin to see the results from the efforts made within the next year.

Chairman Storter Long asked what the membership fee was for Team Florida.

Mrs. Whirls stated the fee was \$10,000.00/year. She stated this was the lowest rate offered.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the EDC did serve a purpose and was a private/public partnership that needed to be sufficiently funded.

Chairman Storter Long stated the next step would be to adopt a millage rate. She asked Ms. Brown to explain the process.

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Ms. Brown stated the Board would be asked to set the millage rate at the next regular Board meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>. She stated the public hearings for adoption of the tentative and final budgets would be scheduled for September.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with this budget, as prepared, for the purpose of setting this year's millage rate.

There being no further discussion Chairman Storter Long adjourned the workshop at 10:11 a.m.

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Donna Storter Long, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT A VERBATIM RECORD. TAPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE INTERESTED IN LISTENING TO THE ENTIRE MEETING.