

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR
2020/2021 COUNTY-WIDE BUDGET**

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

Present: Commissioner Steven L. Barry, Chairman, District 5
Commissioner Robert D. Bender, Vice Chairman, District 4
Commissioner Jeffrey W. Bergosh, District 1
Commissioner Lumon J. May, District 3
Commissioner Douglas B. Underhill, District 2
Janice Gilley, County Administrator
Amber McClure, Chief Budget Officer
Alison Rogers, County Attorney
DeLana Allen-Busbee, Administrative Specialist, Clerk and Comptroller's Office
Shamara Jernigan, Agenda Program Coordinator, County Administrator's Office

Location: Ernie Lee Magaha Government Building, Board Chambers, First Floor
221 Palafox Place, Pensacola, Florida

Minutes prepared by: DeLana Allen-Busbee

AGENDA NUMBER

1. Call to Order

Chairman Barry called the Second Budget Public Hearing to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. Was the Meeting Properly Advertised?

The Board was advised by DeLana Allen-Busbee, Administrative Specialist, Clerk and Comptroller's Office, that the 5:31 p.m. Second Public Hearing for Consideration of the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 was advertised in the Pensacola News Journal on September 19, 2020, in the Board's Weekly Meeting Schedule; the *Notice of Proposed Tax Increase* and the *Budget Summary, County of Escambia – Fiscal Year 2020/2021*, were advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on September 18, 2020; the *Notice of Proposed Tax Increase* did include the date and time of the Public Hearing.

FOR INFORMATION: The Board observed a moment of silence, held a Commissioners' Forum, had a lengthy discussion on Hurricane Sally, and Commissioner Barry led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

VERBAL ITEM ADDED TO THE AGENDA

1. Permit Fees

<p>Motion: So moved For Information: County Attorney Rogers advised that the Board could adopt an Emergency Order [EO 20-14] to waive application fees for any and all storm-related development services and building inspection permits. Commissioner Underhill advised that he would like staff to advise him of the cost of this action and Commissioner May expressed the importance of hiring local contractors. County Administrator Gilley also clarified that this action would include the permit fees to temporarily live in an RV on the homeowner's property and the Board agreed. The Emergency Order will be brought to the September 24, 2020, Regular BCC meeting to be ratified. The Board also discussed the debris monitor job fair and issues related to it.</p>

<p>Made by: Commissioner Bender</p>
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<p>Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh</p>

<p>Disposition: Carried unanimously</p>
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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the Agenda as prepared (or duly amended).

<p>Motion: So moved</p>

<p>Made by: Commissioner Underhill</p>

<p>Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh</p>

<p>Disposition: Carried unanimously</p>
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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. 5:31 p.m. Public Hearing

A. Presentation of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

The Board was advised by County Administrator Gilley that:

- (1) This is the second of two required Public Hearings for the Board to adopt the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget;
- (2) At its first Public Hearing held September 8, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) adopted the Tentative Millage Rates and Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021; the law requires that, prior to consideration of the Final Budget, an explanation of the “Rolled Back Rate” be provided and entered into the records; the “Rolled Back Rate” is a computed millage rate that would generate the same amount of ad valorem tax dollars as the prior Fiscal Year, based on the proposed year’s tax roll, excluding new construction;
- (3) The millage rates tentatively approved by the Board on September 8, 2020, are 6.6165 for the County-wide millage rate, .3590 for the Library Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU), and .6850 for the Sheriff’s Law Enforcement Municipal Services Taxing Unit; the aggregate of these millage rates proposed for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 is 4.4% above the “Rolled Back Rate” certified by the Property Appraiser; this represents the percentage increase in property taxes tentatively adopted by the Board;
- (4) Staff has recommended one amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Tentative Budget; this amendment for an increase of \$14,924,264, is for recommended adjustments to the Tentative Budget; and
- (5) The revised budget will result in a balanced unified budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 of \$587,933,284, which is 16.07% more than the adopted Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget of \$493,429,327; and

Motion: Move for approval
Made by: Commissioner Bender
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried 4-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no”

(Continued on Page 4)

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Continued...

B. Community Partner Discussion

Recommendation: Board Discussion to approve the Community Partners funding at the current level discussed at the 1st Budget Public Hearing held September 8, 2020.

The Board discussed funding for community partners, and with the exception of Gulf Coast Kids House, Inc., Legal Services of North Florida, Inc., Northwest Florida Legal Services, Human Relations Commission, Emerald Coast Regional Planning Council, and Council on Aging, agreed to reduce funding by five percent to all General Fund Community Partners from the tentative amounts placed in the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 column at the First Budget Public Hearing for a total of \$1,470,814. General Chappie James Flight Academy was also moved to the General Fund section based on Board discussion at the prior Budget Public Hearing asking staff to move it if it did not meet the litmus test for Tourist Development Tax funding.

Motion: So moved

For Information: Chairman Barry advised that he would entertain a motion on funding the Health and Hope Clinic at \$14,250.

Made by: Commissioner Bender

Seconded by: Commissioner May

Disposition: Carried 3-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no” and Commissioner Bergosh abstaining and filing Form 8B Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal, and other Local Public Officers

Motion: So moved

For Information: Chairman Barry advised that he would entertain a motion on the adjusted funding for Pathways for Change in the amount of \$326,563. Commissioner May advised that he would like to add an allocation of \$20,000 for funding for Pensacola Caring Hearts to use CARES funding for food distribution, which will be brought to the September 24, 2020, Regular Board Meeting.

Made by: Commissioner Bender

Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh

Disposition: Carried 3-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no” and Commissioner May abstaining and filing Form 8B Memorandum of Voting Conflict for County, Municipal, and other Local Public Officers

(Continued on Page 5)

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Continued...

B. Continued...

Motion: Motion to move the balance [of the General fund Community Partners]
Made by: Commissioner Bender
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried 4-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no”

Motion: Move the remaining balance of the Fiscal Year '20 budget from Visit Pensacola carry forward to the Fiscal Year '21 and that we allocate 60% of TDT collections from '21 to the unified budget
For Information: Based on discussion with the Honorable Pam Childers, the Board agreed to discuss September 2020 collections and allocations at a later date.
Made by: Commissioner Bender
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried unanimously

Motion: Move the remaining Community Partner funding allocations just as they sit [includes everything below Visit Pensacola as tentatively funded at the First Budget Public Hearing]
Made by: Commissioner Bender
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried 4-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no”

FOR INFORMATION: The Board agreed to set aside \$3 million from the punitive damages received for individual assistance in case a major disaster was not declared for our area and individual assistance was not made available; no designation was made for the remaining funds.

C. Public Forum Speaker(s):

Melissa Pino
Kevin Wade

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Continued...

D. Board Adoption of the Final Millage Resolution for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Chairman Barry advised that the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt the Millage Resolution [R2020-128], presented in the agenda backup, of 6.6165 mills for the County-wide millage rate, .3590 for the Library MSTU [Municipal Services Taxing Unit], and .6850 for the Sheriff's Law Enforcement MSTU for Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

Motion: So moved
Made by: Commissioner Underhill
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried unanimously

E. Board Adoption of a Resolution Amending the Tentative Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the Resolution [R2020-129] amending the Tentative Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget, in the increased amount of \$14,924,264, for the following funds:

- General Fund - \$1,641,777
- Code Enforcement Fund - \$132,335
- Library Fund - \$78,336
- Restore Fund - \$15,000
- COVID Escambia Fund - \$14,321,324
- SHIP Fund – (\$2,789,990)
- Community Redevelopment Fund - \$1,682
- Bob Sikes Toll Facility Fund - \$268,800
- Solid Waste Fund - \$1,255,000

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Continued...

E. Continued...

Motion: So moved
Made by: Commissioner Bergosh
Seconded by: Commissioner Bender
Disposition: Carried 4-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no”

F. Board Adoption of the Final Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Chairman Barry advised that the Chair would entertain a motion to adopt the Final Budget Resolution [R2020-130] of \$587,933,284, for Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

Motion: Move the we adopt the Final Budget Resolution of \$587,933,284 for Fiscal Year 2020/2021
Made by: Commissioner Bergosh
Seconded by: Commissioner Bender
Disposition: Carried 4-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no”

5. Board Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Annual Budget for the Santa Rosa Island Authority

Motion: Move the Budget of the Santa Rosa Island Authority
Made by: Commissioner Bender
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried 4-0 with Commissioner Underhill having left the meeting

6. Items Added to the Agenda

See Page 2 for a verbal item added to the agenda.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Barry declared the Second Budget Public Hearing regarding the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 County-Wide Budget of the Board of County Commissioners adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Steven Barry, Chairman

ATTEST:

Pam Childers
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

Deputy Clerk

Approved: October 1, 2020