

SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

BUDGET HEARING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in a special budget session with the following members present: Chairman Ward McDaniel, Vice Chairman Carmen L. McLemore, and Commissioners Joanna Bryan, Tynalin Smiley, and Warren J. Yeager, Jr.

Others present were: County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Clerk Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Finance Officer Sherry Herring, Deputy Clerk Leanna Roberts, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Assistant Administrator Michael L. Hammond, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Deputy Administrator Brett Lowry, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Building Inspector George Knight, Central Services Director Denise Manuel, Gulf County E.M.S. Director Houston Whitfield, G.I.S. Coordinator Mike Nelson, Grant Coordinator Towan Kopinsky, Deputy Grant Coordinator Kari Summers, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, County Planner David Richardson, Public Works Director Joe Danford, Sheriff Mike Harrison, Sheriff's Department Captain Chris Buchanan, and T.D.C. Executive Director Jennifer Jenkins.

Chairman McDaniel called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m., E.T.

TENTATIVE 2013-14 BUDGET OVERVIEW

After discussion by Chief Administrator Butler, Clerk Norris advised the board of the following: (1) the Aggregate Tentative Millage Rate is 7.3100, which is 7.79% above the current year aggregate rolled back rate of 6.7818; (2) the current Countywide Tentative Millage Rate is 6.9936; (3) the maximum Countywide Millage Rate is 6.9936, unless the Board votes to adopt a lesser rate; noting that compliance with the voting requirements will be measured by the vote at the Final Budget Hearing; (4) the General Fund Cash Carry Forward amount is \$6,633,471.00, (unrestricted portion is \$4,436,555.00 General Fund and \$269,545.00 Public Works, and the General Fund Restricted Cash is \$1,924,371.00) which has been budgeted as a source of funds in the 2014-15 General Fund Budget; (5) reduction in Cash Carry Forward from previous years, with overall reductions to expenditures and: (a) mandatory retirement increase, (b) reduction in ambulance revenues, (c) increase in Worker's Compensation premiums, (d) E.D.C. budget increase, (e) move ½ GIS position from E-911 Grant to General Fund, (f) move spotter position from Small County Solid Waste Grant to Public Works; (6) the Dependent Special Fire Control Districts Tentative Millage Rates are: (a) St. Joseph Fire Control District .4000, (b) Tupelo Fire Control District .5000, (c) Overstreet Fire Control District .5000, and (d) Howard Creek Fire Control District .5000; noting that compliance with voting requirements will be measured by the vote on the final adoption of the levy of the millage at the Final Hearing.

RESOLUTION – GENERAL FUND ADDITIONAL CASH CARRY FORWARD

Following discussion by Clerk Financial Officer Herring, Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt the following resolution increasing the General Fund, in the amount of \$46,750.00. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-23

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, anticipates additional Cash Carry Forward in the General Fund for Fiscal Year 2014-15 that was approved by the BOCC at the special budget meeting on 7/24/2014; and

WHEREAS, said additional revenue will be used for expenditures in Fiscal Year 2014-15;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

That the 2014-15 proposed budget be increased, as follows:

GENERAL FUND

REVENUE:

00198-99000	Balance Brt. Forward: Cash	\$46,750.00
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EXPENDITURES:

99984-95002	Reserve for Infrastructure Fund	\$46,750.00
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THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of County commissioners, this 10th day of September, 2014.

(End)

RESOLUTION – DECREASE REVENUE AMBULANCE FEE

After discussion by Clerk Finance Officer Herring, Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt the following resolution decreasing the Ambulance Fee Revenue, in the amount of \$200,000.00. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-24

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, anticipates a reduction in Ambulance Revenue for Fiscal Year 2014-15 that was approved by the BOCC at the special budget meeting on 7/24/2014;

WHEREAS, said reduction resulted in an increase in Ad Valorem Tax Revenue for Fiscal Year 2014-15 and was included in the proposed millage of 6.9936;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLED, as follows:

That the 2014-15 proposed budget be adjusted, as follows:

GENERAL FUND

REVENUE:

00142-60000	Ambulance Fees Combined	\$ (200,000.00)
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THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, this 10th day of September, 2014.

(End)

RESOLUTION – LIBRARY GRANT INCREASE

Upon recommendation by Clerk Finance Officer Herring, Commissioner Smiley motioned to adopt the following resolution increasing the Library Grant Revenue and Expenditures, in the amount of \$10,673.00. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-25

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, anticipates additional Aid to Libraries Grant Revenue in the General Fund or the 2014-15 Fiscal Year that was not included in the proposed budget dated 07/24/2014; and

WHEREAS, said additional revenue will be passed through to the library as an expenditure in Fiscal Year 2014-15;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

That the 2014-15 proposed budget be increased, as follows:

GENERAL FUND

REVENUE:

00134-71000	Aid To Libraries	\$ 10,673.00
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EXPENDITURES:

62271-34200	N.W. Regional Libr. State	\$10,673.00
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THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, this 10th day of September, 2014.

(End)

RESOLUTION – PUBLIC WORKS ADDITIONAL CASH CARRY FORWARD

Following discussion by Clerk Finance Officer Herring, Commissioner Bryan motioned to adopt the following resolution increasing Public Works Cash Carry Forward, in the amount of \$802.00. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-26

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, anticipates additional Cash Carry Forward in the Public Works Fund that was approved by the BOCC at the regular meeting on 8/12/2014; and

WHEREAS, said additional revenue will be used for expenditures in Fiscal Year 2014-15;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLED, as follows:

That the 2014-2015 proposed budget be increased as follows:

PUBLIC WORKS FUND

REVENUE:

104398-99000	Balance Brt. Forward: Cash	\$ 802.00
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EXPENDITURES:

281513-64000	Equipment	\$ 802.00
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THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, this 10th day of September, 2014.
(End)

RESOLUTION – ST. JOSEPH FIRE CONTROL ADDITIONAL CASH CARRY FORWARD

After discussion by Clerk Finance Officer Herring, Commissioner Yeager motioned to adopt the following resolution increasing St. Joseph Fire Control District Cash Carry Forward, in the amount of \$15,000.00. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-27

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, anticipates additional Cash Carry Forward in the St. Joseph Fire Control District Fund for Fiscal Year 2014-15 that was approved by the BOCC at the special budget meeting on 7/24/2014; and

WHEREAS, the South Gulf County Fire Department requested and was approved for an additional \$15,000 Cash Carry Forward;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

That the 2014-2015 proposed budget be increased, as follows:

ST. JOSEPH FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT

REVENUE:

10698-99000	Balance Brt. Forward: Cash	\$15,000.00
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EXPENDITURES:

32922-62100	Improvement to Buildings	\$12,848.00
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32922-64001	Equipment >\$5000	\$ 2,152.00
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THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, this 10th day of September, 2014.

(End)

MANDATED SALARY – ELECTED OFFICERS

Clerk Finance Officer Herring reported that the State has posted the new mandated salary changes for elected officials; which has increased collectively by \$3,192.00. Commissioner McLemore motioned to approve the increase. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion. Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed unanimously.

VARIOUS BUDGETS

Clerk Finance Officer Herring discussed the proposed gas tax ordinance that did not pass, along with the increase in elected officials' salary; reporting that the budget will need to be reduced by \$115,820.00. Chief Administrator Butler recommended that the Board find this amount of money in next year's budget to cut. After discussion by Chief Administrator Butler, Commissioner Bryan discussed her concerns regarding the Economic Development Budget and discussed the amounts for each line item. Upon inquiry by Commissioner McLemore, Commissioner Bryan discussed cutting \$50,000.00 from the Economic Development Budget. After discussion by members of the Board and County Attorney Novak, Commissioner Bryan motioned to cut \$50,000.00 from Economic Development Operating Expenditures. The motion failed for a lack of a second. Commissioner Bryan discussed the line-item for Other Contractual Services under the County Administrator's budget in the amount of \$21,314.00 that is budgeted and was budgeted last year, noting that at the end of August, 2014, no monies have been spent. She requested to cut this figure back. Deputy Administrator Lanier discussed using this line item for software purchases. Upon inquiry by Chairman McDaniel, Deputy Administrator discussed using this line item for contractual services that are under the bid limit. After further discussion, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, Commissioner Bryan inquired about reducing the County Courthouse-Other Contractual Services. Chief Administrator Butler discussed the Radio Towers Maintenance and Repair line item. Commissioner Bryan discussed reducing County Planning, A.R.P.C., and Risk Management/Human Resources budgets. After

further discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned to kill the \$40,000.00 for redistricting expenses. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion for discussion. After discussion by members of the Board, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion then passed 3 to 2, with Commissioners Bryan and Yeager voting no. Commissioner Smiley requested that the Budget Committee review the items that Commissioner Bryan mentioned.

The meeting did then recess at 6:33 p.m., E.T.

The meeting did then reconvene at 6:43 p.m., E.T.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

Chief Administrator Butler discussed the E.M.S. collection numbers and the advertisement to receive sealed bids (#1314-25) for ambulance services, stating that a recommendation will be presented to the Board at their next budget hearing.

SECONDARY ROAD AND BRIDGE

After discussion, Commissioner McLemore motioned to borrow \$75,820.00 for two (2) weeks from Secondary Road and Bridge and place in Public Works Budget. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion. After discussion, Chairman McDaniel called for public comment. There being no public comment, the motion passed 4 to 1, with Commissioner Bryan voting no.

The meeting did then recess at 6:58 p.m., E.T.

The meeting did then reconvene at 8:33 p.m., E.T.

REDUCE THE BUDGET

Commissioner McLemore motioned to cut 1% across the board, give the Library an additional \$15,000.00, and the remainder of the monies take off the Ad Valorem Taxes. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner McLemore included in his motion to add \$4,644.00 to the Veterans' Transportation and \$1,763.00 to ARC. Clerk Norris discussed Grant Revenues and Grant related items that can't be cut the 1%. After discussion, Commissioner Bryan withdrew her second and Commissioner McLemore withdrew his motion. Commissioner McLemore then motioned to allow the Clerk to bring back alternative numbers regarding the 1% cut across the board at the Final Budget Hearing. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting did then recess at 8:50 p.m., E.T.

The meeting did then reconvene at 8:59 p.m., E.T.

RESOLUTION – REDUCE LOCAL OPTION GAS TAX REVENUE

Following discussion by Clerk Norris, Commissioner McLemore motioned to adopt the following resolution regarding the reduce revenue from the local option gas tax. Commissioner Bryan seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 to 1, with Commissioner Yeager voting no.

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-28

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, did not pass the anticipated 2nd Local Option Fuel Tax at the 9/9/2014 Second Public Hearing resulting in a reduction in Local Option Tax Revenue for Fiscal Year 2014-15; and

WHEREAS, said reduction resulted in an increase in intergovernment transfers for for year 2014-15;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

That the 2014-15 proposed budget be adjusted, as follows:

REVENUE:

104312-42000	Second Local Option Fuel Tax	\$(112,628.00)
104831-92000	Interfund Transfers In	\$ 112,628.00

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners, this 10th day of September, 2014.

(End)

RESOLUTION – TENTATIVE 2014-15 MILLAGE RATES

Clerk Norris read the proposed resolution by title setting forth the tentative millage rates. Upon motion by Commissioner Yeager, second by Commissioner Smiley, and unanimous vote, the Board passed the Tentative 2014-15 Millage Rate Resolution, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-29

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR GULF COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-15; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, on September 10, 2014, adopted Fiscal Year 2014-15 Tentative Millage Rates following a Public Hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, held a Public Hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and

WHEREAS, the gross taxable value for operating purposes not exempt from taxation within Gulf County has been certified by the County Property Appraiser to the Board of County Commissioners as \$ 1,379,310,787.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Gulf County, Florida, that:

1. The FY 2014-2015 current-year proposed aggregate millage rate of 7.3100 is **greater than** the rolled-back rate of 6.7818 mills by 7.79%.

The current-year proposed aggregate millage rate of 7.3100 consists of the following:

- a. County-wide proposed operating millage rate 6.9936
 - b. St Joe Fire Zone proposed operating millage rate .4000
 - c. Tupelo Fire Zone proposed operating millage rate .5000
 - d. Overstreet Fire Zone proposed operating millage rate .5000
 - e. Howard Creek Fire Zone proposed operating millage rate .5000
2. There are no proposed voted debt service millage rates.
 3. This Resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED at a public hearing this 10th day of September, 2014. Time Adopted 9:02 PM, E.T.
(End)

RESOLUTION – TENTATIVE 2014-15 BUDGET

Clerk Norris read the proposed resolution by title setting forth the tentative 2014-15 budget. Upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Smiley, and unanimous vote, the Board passed the Tentative 2014-15 Budget Resolution. After discussion, Clerk Norris requested that the Board resend their motion. Commissioner Smiley motioned to resend the resolution. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously. The Clerk then read the proposed resolution setting forth the tentative 2014-15 budget. Upon motion by Commissioner Yeager, second by Commissioner Smiley, and unanimous vote, the Board passed the Tentative 2014-15 Budget Resolution, as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GULF COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Gulf County, Florida, on September 10, 2014, held a Public Hearing as required by Florida Statute 200.065; and

WHEREAS, the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Gulf County, Florida, set forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 in the amount of \$32,886,995.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Gulf County, Florida, that:

1. The Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Tentative Budget be adopted.
2. This Resolution will take effect immediately upon its adoption.

DULY ADOPTED at a Public Hearing this 10th day of September, 2014. Time Adopted 9:07 PM. E.T.

(End)

FINAL BUDGET HEARING

Upon discussion by Clerk Norris, Commissioner Yeager motioned to set the Final Budget Hearing for Monday, September 22, 2014 at 5:01 p.m., E.T. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, the meeting did then adjourn at 9:09 p.m., E.T.

**WARD MCDANIEL
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK OF COURT**