

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016 AT 9:00 A.M. IN THE COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM, GLADES COUNTY COURTHOUSE, MOORE
HAVEN, FLORIDA

The Glades County Board of County Commissioners met on Monday, July 18, 2016 for a Budget Workshop at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

Weston Pryor, Chairman
John Ahern, Vice Chairman
Paul Beck

Not present:

Donna Storter Long

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary
Paul Carlisle, County Manager
Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of Court
Shelly Ridgdill, Glades County Sheriff's Department
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director
Mary Booher, Glades County Library
Jenny Allen, Community Development Department
Avant Brown, County Road Superintendent
Lenice Hubbard, Administrative Assistant
Gail Jones, Tax Collector
Tycee Prevatt, Extension Agent
Susan Whidden, SHIP Director
Mr. Mandel, Good Wheels
Tim Stanley
Christina Rodriguez, Hope Connections
Debbie Stanbrough, State Attorney's Office
2 citizens

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

PRAYER

Commissioner Beck gave the invocation.

PLEDGE

Vice Chairman Ahern led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPENING REMARKS

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Chairman Pryor thanked everyone for working so hard on their budgets. He specifically thanked Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, for her efforts in putting together this year's budget.

County Manager Carlisle gave an overview of the revisions made to the budget since the last workshop. He referred to the revised Budget Re-cap Sheet. He stated there were several additions made to the MSTU budget. He stated this totaled approximately \$22,000.00 which would offset some of the expenses. He stated there had been an increase of 5% in the Sheriff Department's insurance premium. He stated a 3% raise for all Departments and Constitutional Offices had been included. He stated both BoCC and non-BoCC employees had been included in this figure. He stated it would be up to the Board on how they wanted to make this adjustment, if they so desired. He stated there had been an increase in property ad valorem taxes and the budget was now basically flat. He stated some of the utility expenses for communities such as Palmdale had been moved into one account. He stated if any of the Commissioners had any questions he would be more than happy to discuss them. He stated none of the Department funding (request) had been removed.

Chairman Pryor clarified that the budget was as flat as it had been at the previous workshop.

County Manager Carlisle stated this was correct. He stated the additional revenues received from the State Revenue Share and additional property ad valorem taxes were offset by insurance expenses, workers' compensation expenses, medical expenses, and salary increases for all employees. He stated there had been some discussion about raising the MSTU.

Vice Chairman Ahern stated the increase to the MSTU was minimal on the revenue side. He commented on making the Code Enforcement Officer's position a full time position. He stated a Park's and Recreation employee position had also been included in this year's budget.

Commissioner Beck stated he was happy with the budget as presented.

Chairman Pryor stated he was also satisfied with the budget as presented. He asked if any Department Heads had any comments. There was none. He called for public input.

Christina Rodriguez, Hope Connections, stated Hope Connections served all of the seniors throughout Glades County. She stated if there was a federal, state, county, United Way grant that served people over the age of 60, Hope Connections most likely received those funds and administered the programs. She gave an overview of how last year's budget funds were expended. She stated in 2015 Hope Connections had case managed 95 seniors in their homes and served 72 people at the meal sites. She stated they had clients in Buckhead Ridge, Lakeport, Moore Haven, Okeechobee, Ortona, Palmdale, and had added 3 in Venus. She stated the average age of their clients was 75. She stated 66% of the clients were female and 46% were living alone. She stated

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66% of the clients served were Caucasian, 27% African American, 4% Hispanic, and 3% were listed as other. She stated 19% of the population were living on \$700.00 or less per month. She stated 52% of the population were living on \$1,200.00 or less per month. She stated 26,000 pounds of food had been served to the seniors from the Harry Chapin Food Bank's Senior Distribution Program. She stated the program had been advertised very well last year. She stated this also qualified Hope Connections as a FEMA Distribution Point just for seniors. She stated \$12,000.00 had been given in direct care cost co-pays and prescription cost refunds to caregivers who were income qualified. She stated over 4,000 meals had been provided at the meal sites and approximately 4,000 meals to homebound seniors (Meals on Wheels). She stated Hope Connections had provided approximately 4,000 hours of homemaking respite and personal care in the home, which was a 51% increase from the previous year. She stated 600 trips had been provided to meal sites and shopping centers within the area. She stated 17 final notice electric bills had been paid. She stated 11 major home modifications had been done throughout the county. She stated this modifications included wheel chair ramps, restroom modifications, widening of doorways for wheel chairs, etc. She stated 4 Medicare enrollment programs had been posted. She stated the next Medicare Enrollment event would be held on November 9, 2016 and anyone over the age of 65 could attend and get unbiased information about Medicare and which plan would best suit them. She stated if people over the age of 65 did not enroll themselves they would be automatically enrolled. She stated there were very few providers in this area. She stated Hope Connections employed 5 full time equivalents in Glades County. She stated there were 4 full time and 2 part time positions. She stated all of these positions were offered paid vacation and sick leave, as well as health care, including the part time employees. She stated Hope Connections had celebrated its 10 year anniversary in Glades County in 2015. She stated over the years over 51,000 meals had been served, 333 days of emergency alert response systems, 25,000 hot meals at the Senior Center, and 21,000 hours of homemaking respite and personal care in the home. She stated she appreciated the Board's support.

Chairman Pryor called for any further public comment. There was none.

County Manager Carlisle asked for direction from the Board regarding any additional changes. He stated the Board would need to advertise the first public hearing to adopt the tentative millage.

Debbie Stanbrough, State Attorney's Office, apologized on behalf of Mr. Russell who was not able to attend today's workshop. She stated this year's budget had been decreased by approximately 6.6% in part because of County Manager Carlisle's efforts to get the State Attorney's phone lines assigned to the County's phone system. She stated this had saved them significant dollars. She thanked County Manager Carlisle for doing this. She thanked the Board for their support.

County Manager Carlisle stated Mrs. Hubbard had done all of the work on getting the phone lines switched to the County's system.

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Commissioner Ahern stated he was satisfied with the budget. He stated staff had done a great job making the requested changes. He stated he appreciated all of the hard work.

County Manager Carlisle stated he would advertise for the public hearing to adopt the tentative budget and tentative millage rates.

ADJOURN

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Ahern seconded by Commissioner Beck the Board moved to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further discussion Chairman Pryor adjourned the workshop at 9:15 a.m.

Weston Pryor, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: June 13, 2017

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