

MINUTES OF THE GLADES COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018 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 Tuesday, June 19, 2018 for a Budget Workshop at 9:00 a.m. with the following Commissioners present:

John Ahern, Chairman  
Tim Stanley, Vice Chairman  
Weston Pryor  
Donna Storter Long  
Donald Strenth

Others present:

Julie Mann Braddock, Administrative Secretary  
Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director  
Shelly Ridgdill, Finance Director - Glades County Sheriff's Department  
Joe Helfenberger, Interim County Manager  
Jerry Randolph, Public Works Director  
Gail Jones, Glades County Tax Collector  
Dawn Oliver, Deputy Court Administrator  
Susan Whidden, SHIP Coordinator  
Dr. Joe Pepe, Glades County Health Department  
Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant  
Robert Hammock, Glades Soil & Water Conservation  
Bob Jones, Public Safety Director  
Lori Ward, Glades County Property Appraiser  
Inga Williams, Community Development Director  
2 citizens

Chairman Ahern called the workshop to order at 10:00 a.m.

**PRAYER**

Commissioner Storter Long gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE**

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

**OPENING REMARKS**

Chairman Ahern stated the budget would be a challenge this year. He stated he would like to hear from the staff that was present first and would skip around on the schedule somewhat.

**BUDGET PRESENTATIONS**  
**STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

No one was present.

**PUBLIC DEFENDER**

No one was present.

**COURT ADMINISTRATION**

**CIRCUIT JUDGE**

**COUNTY JUDGE**

**PROBATION**

Dawn Oliver, Deputy Court Administrator, stated she had been able to cut the technology costs in these budgets by a little over \$2,000.00. She stated some of the personnel costs had gone up in the Probation Department due to insurance and retirement. She stated these costs had been off set and ultimately, she had saved approximately \$1,000.00. She stated there would be some returns to the County in this year's Court budgets. She stated she had been able to off-set some of the publications within these budgets with State funds. She stated she could not guarantee these funds for coming years, but if she began to see a pattern she would reduce her budgets. She stated she would continue to try and utilize State funds to support the budgets as much as possible. She thanked the Board for their continued support of the Judiciary, Courts, and Probation Department.

Chairman Ahern questioned moving forward with some changes in the Ordinance that governed Code Enforcement.

Ms. Oliver stated she had spoken with Mr. Helfenberger about these revisions as well. She stated there were some things that could cause issue when trying to move forward in adjudicating these cases. She stated there were some inconsistencies with what the practices were versus what the Ordinance stated. She stated these needed to be cleared up to ensure that these cases would stand and be enforceable. She stated the Courts would support the County in moving forward with these revisions.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Dr. Joe Pepe, Director, thanked the Board for their continued support. He stated he would not be requesting any new funding. He stated he had been able to expand services and successfully negotiate additional general revenue from State funds for an additional \$160,000.00. He stated he was also looking into some additional federal grants that would expand some services. He stated these grants would bring in approximately \$350,000.00 yearly in recurring funds. He stated these funds would be used for clinical care for HIV clients. He stated the preparedness programs had also been funded for an additional year. He stated this was also a recurring grant received each year.

**HOPE CONNECTIONS**

No one was present.

**SUNRISE COMMUNITY**

No one was present.

**DISTRICT MEDICAL EXAMINER**

No one was present.

**GLADES SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

No one was present.

**GOOD WHEELS**

Alan Mandel, CEO Good Wheels, requested an increase in his budget. He explained that some things had happened at the State level within the past 2 weeks. He stated according to information he had received from Tallahassee, the legislature was never given the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) budget information this year. He stated the CTD had tried to get an amendment but there was nothing that could be done. He stated the CTD had taken all of their funds and put into one pot. He stated the Shirley Conway grant funds had been given to every County in the State of Florida. He stated the net result was not bad for Glades and Hendry Counties. He stated he had been operating on \$39,000.00 per month from the CTD to provide transportation for the past year. He stated these funds had been reduced from the prior years. He stated this year he would have \$50,000.00 per month. He stated this appeared to be good on the surface. He stated he would use every penny. He stated he had also received a Federal grant this past year. He stated Good Wheels had been transporting an additional 500 trips per month with the extra funding. He stated these dollars could be used for any kind of transportation. He stated there was a tremendous need for transportation in Hendry and Glades Counties. He stated the reason for his request for an increase was that the grant of \$50,000.00 per month from the State was a 90% grant. He stated there had to be a 10% local match. He stated this amounted to approximately \$67,000.00 in match in order to use those funds. He stated he had also requested an increase from Hendry County.

Chairman Ahern asked how much of an increase Mr. Mandel had requested from Hendry County.

Mr. Mandel stated he was currently getting \$45,000.00 per year from Hendry. He stated he believed he had requested twice as much for the coming year. He explained what Lee County had done for funding.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if Good Wheels was still providing transportation services to and from Clewiston.

Mr. Mandel stated the Moore Haven to Clewiston route had stopped because there were only 2 – 3 people using the service. He stated now that he had received a grant he could start the route again.

**GLADES COUNTY SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM** (This item was heard out of order)

Chairman Ahern thanked Commissioner Strenth for his contribution to this program this year.

Commissioner Storter Long stated there was a line item for Promotion Activities that had \$6,650.00 in it. She asked if the \$350.00 to Glades County Schools was an every year expense or if this was a one-time expense.

Commissioner Pryor stated he believed the funds were used for fireworks.

Mrs. Patterson stated those funds were used to help with the Christmas on the Caloosahatchee event each year.

Commissioner Storter Long stated there were other youth programs besides this one. She expressed concern with paying teachers when most of the activities were field trips and fun activities.

Chairman Ahern stated the rate appeared to be excessive. He suggested seeing how this year went and addressing the issue again next year.

Susan Whidden, Administrative Assistant, stated she had spoken with Tycee Prevatt, County Extension Agent, about this summer program. She had suggested using some of the 4H Youth Counselors.

It was the consensus of the Board to address this issue next year.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Chairman Ahern stated there had been a slight increase in this budget because of an increase in the FHERO dues. He stated the County and City funded this budget.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this budget had not been increased in the past few years.

Chairman Ahern stated the TDC could possibly fund part of the administrative services for the EDC.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the EDC had a new website. He stated it was a complex site. He stated he believed this would be a great asset to the County. He stated private individuals as well as businesses could put their information on the site.

**COMMISSIONERS**

Chairman Ahern stated there was not much change in this budget.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the Other Contracted Services line item had increased because of what had been paid out for the removal of hurricane debris. He asked when these funds would be received from the State.

Mrs. Patterson stated she did not have a date certain.

**COUNTY AUDITOR**

**COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**COUNTY MANAGER**  
**BOCC TECHNOLOGY**

Commissioner Storter Long questioned why the Software budget had been budgeted for \$21,000.00 when only \$2,500.00 had been expended. She asked why this line item was budgeted so high.

Mrs. Patterson explained that these funds were later put into the Equipment line item in 14/15 for help with the purchase of a server the Clerk's Office.

There was a brief discussion regarding the proposals that Jessie Wallace had made for the updated equipment purchases.

Chairman Ahern asked that Mr. Wallace's proposal be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

**HUMAN RESOURCES** (This item was heard out of order)

Gabrielle Ibietatorremendia, Human Resources Director, stated there should no change in her budget. She stated funding had been moved from the education funds and had been split. She stated the education fund was for reimbursement purposes and she would not be using these funds.

**COUNTY AGRICULTURE EXTENSION – COUNTY AGENT** (This item was heard out of order)

Tycee Prevatt, Glades County Extension Agent, stated the only change she had requested was that the funds that usually went to maintenance and use of the Tahoe be used to rent a van for \$35.00 per day from the University of Florida. She stated the University of Florida also provided full liability coverage. She stated the University of Florida had provided a new computer for Tina Heflin, Secretary, and had upgraded the office computers this year.

Commissioner Storter Long clarified that the \$500.00 under repair/maintenance and the \$500.00 under fuel would be used to rent a vehicle.

Mrs. Prevatt stated this was correct. She stated she no longer used the Tahoe.

Commissioner Storter Long stated these line items would need to be changed.

**LIBRARY**

No one was present.

**PLANNING & ZONING**

Chairman Ahern stated a part-time Code Enforcement Officer had been hired last week and had started work in Ortona on Saturday.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if this employee was contracted and what she was being paid.

Chairman Ahern stated she was being paid \$17.00 per hour and her retirement was being paid. She stated she was hired as a part-time employee and not under a contract.

County Manager Helfenberger stated Susan BuChans from Sebring had been hired last week as well as the County's new Community Development Director. He stated she had a Masters in Planning and was certified in Urban Planning. He stated she had interviewed very well and had no negative references. He stated she would be working on the rezoning for the Air Glades air space in Glades County.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

There was no discussion.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

There was no discussion.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

**EMERGENCY - BASE GRANT**

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – HAZ MAT**

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – TERRORISM** (This item was heard out of order)

Mr. Jones stated Angela Snow-Colegrove, Emergency Management Director, was not able to be present today due to sickness. He stated Mrs. Colegrove had rearranged some of the budget line items, but the remainder of her budget was the same.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if Mrs. Colegrove's salary was in this budget.

Mr. Jones stated it was included.

Tiffany Patterson, Finance Director, stated Mrs. Colegrove's salary was covered by a grant.

**PUBLIC SAFETY (FIRE/EMS ADMINISTRATION)**

**GENERAL EMS**

**GENERAL FIRE**  
**LAKEPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**BUCKHEAD RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**PALMDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**SOUTH GLADES/INDIAN HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**MUSE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**MOORE HAVEN FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**ORTONA FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**VETERAN'S SERVICES**  
**ANIMAL CONTROL**

Bob Jones, Public Safety Director, stated the only budget that had any changes here was the EMS budget. He stated the Fire Departments, Veteran's Services, and Animal Control budgets had all remained the same.

Vice Chairman Stanley questioned the Muse Fire Department budget. He asked how much was put into the budget to rebuild the fire department building.

Mrs. Patterson stated \$48,000.00 had been added to the budget for the construction of a new building.

Commissioner Pryor stated a gentleman had called him this morning with a quote on a steel building. He stated for a 50' X 60' building the cost would be \$60,000.00 plus the costs of concrete. He stated the concrete would average approximately \$7.00 per square foot or \$21,000.00.

Chairman Ahern stated he had talked with David Mercer, Building Inspector, about the existing building and what might be salvaged.

There was some discussion regarding the options that were available with the Muse Fire Department building.

Mr. Jones stated the County was recently awarded a \$110,000.00 grant for the ambulance remount. He stated he would be bringing the item before the Board next week for approval to go out for bid. He stated the minimum match would be \$12,200.00. He stated he was not sure if he could get it done for that price. He stated the newer truck really needed to be remounted. He commented on some changes in the KKK standards for ambulances that would be coming into effect in the near future. He stated if the changes went into effect prior to the remount it would cost approximately \$40,000.00 more. He stated it would probably be December before the truck would be delivered. He stated he had met with some representatives from Motorola and the Sheriff's Department on Friday regarding all radios having to be P25 compliant by 2021. He stated Motorola was pretty sure they would be getting a contract from Harris. He stated if this happened 64- 65 radios would have to be replaced at \$3,000.00 - \$4,000.00 each or approximately \$320,000.00. He stated

Commissioner Storter Long asked what kind of maintenance was being done on the Indian Hills Fire Department building. She stated this building was no longer used as a fire department, only a polling place. She asked if there was a separate fund for the maintenance of this building since it was no longer used as a fire department.

Mr. Jones stated the maintenance of the Indian Hills building and the one in Palmdale were separate since neither were used as fire departments anymore.

**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS** (This item was heard out of order)

Aletris Farnam, Supervisor of Elections, stated she had increased the funds needed to cover 3 months of monitoring for the Albert Security System. She stated she had also been traveling a lot and had increased this line item as well. She stated communications and freight had also increased. She stated she had included \$100.00 per year for water delivery.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the part-time salary and the funds that would cover 2 elections.

Mrs. Farnam stated she had an employee that came in as needed when she was out of the office.

**TAX COLLECTOR** (This item was heard out of order)

Gail Jones, Tax Collector, explained an increase in her budget in the amount of \$8,828.00. She stated the biggest increases were to retirement and health insurance. She stated she had a \$500.00 increase in communications and a \$450.00 increase in postage. She stated she had increased her off site rentals by \$30.00. She stated she had installed a new fire wall in the amount of \$400.00.

**PROPERTY APPRAISER** (This item was heard out of order)

Lorie Ward, Property Appraiser, stated she had no increases other than health insurance and retirement. She referred to the justification page which showed all increases and decreases. She stated she had reclassified \$2,996.00 and moved the funds from “other contracts” since she had not used the funds in several years. She stated she had secured a new contract with Lexus Nexus to assist in verifying residencies and identifying potential homestead fraud.

Commissioner Pryor asked if all of the Mrs. Ward’s IT was up to date.

Mrs. Ward stated her mass appraisal system needed to be updated. She stated the software system was not modern. She stated the system would not do the calculations for special assessments. She stated she had a new company coming to show her a new system on July 10<sup>th</sup>. She stated she would continue to work on getting all of her systems up to date.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated Mrs. Ward had revenue listed under ad valorem at 2%. He asked if this figure was accurate.



Mrs. Ward stated she believed this number would be slightly higher. She stated it would be closer to 4%. She stated there was \$11 million in new construction this past year. She stated this included new businesses and existing structures being added onto. She stated the agricultural assessments had gone down over \$2 million because of the loss of citrus crops after Hurricane Irma. She stated she felt the County had done pretty good considering this loss.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the people who suffered damages had to contact Mrs. Ward's office to request a reduction in their assessments.

Mrs. Ward stated she had a hurricane damage on-line reporting system set up after the storm. She stated a lot of people had utilized the system.

**CLERK OF COURT** (This item was heard out of order)

Sandra Brown, Clerk of Court, stated her budget had increased by \$13,246.00. She stated the majority of this increase was due to the increases in health insurance and retirement rate. She stated she had requested a \$4,500.00 increase for data storage. She stated the one she was currently using was obsolete and she would need to pay for storage on an off-site server.

**SHERIFF** (This item was heard out of order)

Sheriff Hardin stated his budget had increased by \$68,000.00 this year. He stated a large part of this was the School Resource Officer's salary. He stated the Sheriff's Department had partnered with the School Board to fund 3 positions so that a deputy would be present at all of the schools. He stated they believed a floating unit was needed. He stated Sergeant Watts was the supervisor over the School Resource Program. He stated this position was mandated by the State. He stated the remainder of the increase was due to the increases in the retirement rate.

Chairman Ahern asked if the Sheriff's Department had received their insurance increases yet.

Shelly Ridgdill, Finance Director – GCSO, stated she had not yet received the increases. She stated she hoped to have the information by the end of the week. She stated she would update her budget and submit a revised version once the figures were received. She stated she was not anticipating a huge increase.

Commissioner Pryor asked if the schools were covering any part of the salaries for the School Resource Officers.

Sheriff Hardin stated the School was covering ¾ of the cost. He stated the School Board had worked very well with him on this matter.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the Charter School in Brighton was covered.

Sheriff Hardin stated the Seminole Police Department furnished an officer to cover the Pemaquett Emahakv Charter School.

### **MAINTENANCE**

Commissioner Storter Long stated \$20,000.00 had been budgeted for maintenance last year but only \$587.00 was the anticipated amount spent. She stated the 3 year average was approximately \$1,000.00. She asked if there was some anticipated expenditure that just had not been made yet.

Mrs. Patterson stated this budget had been this way for a year and had just not been reduced.

Chairman Ahern stated there were some roof repairs needed on the EDC building.

Mr. Randolph stated the air conditioning system at the Buckhead Ridge Community Center would also need to be replaced. He stated the Lakeport Community Center was also in need of repair.

Chairman Ahern stated the a/c unit at the EDC office was 25 years old.

Commissioner Storter Long asked what year the truck was that was currently being used.

Mr. Randolph stated he did not remember what year vehicle it was. He stated it was being repaired every few weeks. He stated the a/c had just gone out as well.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if there were any newer vehicles at the Road Department.

Mr. Randolph stated 2 vehicles had been purchased last year.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if one of these trucks could be transferred to the Maintenance Department and a new one purchased for the Road Department.

Mr. Randolph stated all of the vehicles were being used, but he believed this could be done.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned what kind of issues, if any, this transfer would cause with the audit.

Mrs. Brown stated vehicles have been transferred from the Solid Waste Department to the Road Department in the past. She stated it had not been a problem in the past.

County Manager Helfenberger suggested getting a current value and then transfer a dollar amount. He stated this would create a paper trail.

### **COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE**

Commissioner Storter Long stated the new sheet for the maintenance of the courthouse included the estimated costs of tenting the courthouse.

Mrs. Patterson stated if the Board could get the tenting done before Labor Day it would be in this year's budget. She stated she had entered \$28,100.00; however, she believed it would be closer to \$40,000.00.

County Manager Helfenberger stated it would cost approximately \$40,000.00 for both treatments and there would be ongoing costs.

Chairman Ahern stated they would need at least 3 days to tent the building. He stated this would more than likely come from next year's budget. He stated the roof was in need of repair as well.

#### **DOYLE CONNER BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

#### **NEW HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

#### **JAIL BUILDING**

Commissioner Storter Long questioned budgeting \$5,000.00 for utilities but none had been spent. She stated she believed the temperature was supposed to be controlled in the building.

Mrs. Patterson stated she had not received any bills. She stated she would make sure the bills had not been paid for under regular maintenance.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned budgeting \$2,500.00 for repairs and maintenance and nothing being spent from this line item either.

Mrs. Whidden stated she had operational equipment that required a/c.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if the equipment could be moved to the EOC building.

Mrs. Whidden stated she was looking at several options for moving the equipment.

Commissioner Storter Long stated there was \$2,500.00 budgeted for repairs and maintenance and \$1,500.00 for building maintenance. She asked why these were budgeted so high when nothing had been paid from them since 2014. She stated she thought these funds could be transferred to reserves.

Chairman Ahern stated the reserves had gone from 19% to 13% in the past few years.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if ICE had been ruled out as a possible tenant.

Chairman Ahern stated Sheriff Hardin, Robert DeMann, Chief Hansen, and himself had met last week about Hendry County possibly using the building. He stated Hendry would need to make a decision. He stated Glades County could accommodate them. He stated he would be looking at all of the options.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she hated to see the building sitting empty when it could be used.

**LAKEPORT COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

**BUCKHEAD RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING**

Commissioner Storter Long asked if this was the building where the Community Association met. She asked if this building included the sub offices and questioned the sum of \$10,000.00 being budgeted for utilities.

Mr. Randolph stated this budget was for the entire complex. He asked the Board to keep in mind that at some point a new a/c would be needed.

County Manager Helfenberger asked if this could wait until next year's budget.

Mr. Randolph stated he believed the a/c would have to be replaced fairly soon. He stated he did not believe it could wait.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated the United Way would be holding a big event in July and the a/c would be needed.

Mr. Randolph stated a line item transfer would be needed soon to replace the a/c unit. He stated he was working on getting some quotes and was also with Al Brown on pricing.

**PALMDALE COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

**MUSE COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

**WASHINGTON PARK COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

**ORTONA COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING**

Commissioner Storter Long stated the \$95.00 budgeted for postage had been eliminated.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked what budget the cleaning of the parks and cemetery rest rooms expenses were listed under.

Mr. Randolph stated the cleaning expenses were paid from the Parks and Boat Ramps budget.

Chairman Ahern stated all of the facilities were covered under this line item.

Mrs. Patterson stated she was not sure if the contract including the Training Center or not.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested that when the new restrooms were added in Laekport, Ortona, and Muse the contract be reviewed so that these facilities would be cleaned as well. She suggested using stainless steel in the construction of the restrooms.

Mr. Randolph agreed.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Bob Mason Park restrooms in LaBelle were stainless steel. She stated it was easier to keep clean. She asked if there had been any damage to the roof at the EOC building.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated there was some minor damage but it had already been repaired.

Mr. Randolph stated the roof at the Public Works Department had not been repaired yet. He stated the water system had been replaced. He stated they had lost their ice maker and his crews were having to get ice from the EOC.

#### **EOC BUILDING**

Commissioner Storter Long questioned why the utilities were less for the EOC building than the Training Center.

Mrs. Patterson stated the utilities for the EOC building were split.

#### **CLERK'S STORAGE BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

#### **TRAINING CENTER BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

#### **INDUSTRIAL PARK**

There was no discussion.

#### **CEMETERY**

There was no discussion.

#### **PARKS & BOAT RAMPS**

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if Mr. Randolph had a spray machine that could be used to spray the pond at the EOC.

Mr. Randolph stated the spraying had to be done with hand sprayers using back packs. He stated no vehicles or equipment were allowed on the site. He stated he was also looking at trying to get Applied Aquatics to do the maintenance at Moon Shine Overlook Park.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if this expense would be under Other Contracted Services for Parks and Boat Ramps.

Chairman Ahern stated this was correct.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Board probably needed to review this line item and include funds to cover the spraying and maintenance.

Mr. Randolph agreed.

There was a brief discussion regarding what would be sprayed and how.

#### **RESTRICTED FUNDS**

There was no discussion.

#### **RESERVES/CONTINGENCIES**

There was no discussion.

#### **TRANSPORTATION TRUST**

Ms. Brown stated the construction of roads had been increased to \$1 million. She stated Cash Carried Forward had been reduced to \$174,000.00. She stated this figure was low. She stated County Manager Helfenberger had suggested dropping the construction of roads back to \$637,000.00 which would increase the Cash Carried Forward to \$537,000.00.

Commissioner Storter Long stated Contingencies were at the maximum.

Mrs. Patterson stated this was correct. She stated the maximum was 10%.

Ms. Brown asked how much was allowed in Cash Carried Forward.

Mrs. Patterson stated maximum amount that Cash Carried Forward could be was \$987,635.00. She stated the paving line item would be reduced to \$637,000.00.

Chairman Ahern stated part of the paving that would be done was in Buckhead Ridge.

Mr. Randolph stated this was correct. He stated he would pave over newly replaced culverts, some rough spots out in Muse and the overlay in Brighton. He stated this road was scheduled for repaving 4 years out and would need repair before then.

## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

Ms. Brown asked if \$637,000.00 would cover all of this paving.

Mr. Randolph stated he had already received a quote for the resurfacing in Buckhead Ridge. He stated this would cost approximately \$200,000.00. He stated this would be covered by SCOP/SCRAP funds. He stated 2 legs of this road had been approved.

Commissioner Pryor asked if it would be cheaper to rent a track hoe instead of buying a new one. He stated it was cheaper for him to rent because there was no maintenance fees involved. He stated he would like to see the figures on buying versus renting.

Mr. Randolph stated he had rented a long stick right after the hurricane and it had cost him \$5,000.00 for one week. He stated the City had rented one not long after and paid half of this. He stated it may be cheaper to rent the equipment.

Chairman Ahern stated the Mosquito Control District had paid for this rental.

Commissioner Storter stated the Equipment, Repairs, and Maintenance line item had been budgeted at \$80,000.00 and only \$30,000.00 had been spent this past year. She stated the request this year was for \$100,000.00. She questioned why this budget was so high and if there were anticipated repairs needed or new equipment was to be purchased.

Mr. Randolph stated he had budgeted this high simply because the equipment was getting older.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned why Building Maintenance had been budgeted at \$2,500.00 last year and \$25,000.00 this year.

Mr. Randolph stated he needed a new roof on the Public Works building.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated insurance had only covered the shop side of the roof at the Public Works building. She stated she was still working on the estimate for the other portion of the roof. She stated she could get with the excess insurers to see if the adjustors could come back out and reevaluate the damage. She stated she was not aware of any damage to the other side of the building.

Commissioner Storter Long stated there were no insurance proceeds listed in the budget.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she believed the County had received \$69,000.00 in insurance proceeds.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the funds were not on the list.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she would contact the excess insurers today to see when they could reevaluate the building. She explained that the amount that had been reimbursed to the County for hurricane damage had been an estimate and was given out

## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

of courtesy. She stated if the total invoices for the repairs that were being done now were more than what the County had already received the County could remit the additional invoices and receive reimbursement for the difference.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned how the County could say that the damages were all due to the storm since it had been 9 months.

Ms. Ibiatorremendia agreed. She stated she had had a hard time getting contractors to give her quotes. She stated some would not even return her calls. She stated she would get all of the final invoices together and submit them to insurance for reimbursement.

Chairman Storter Long questioned if the \$69,000.00 plus the budgeted \$25,000.00 would cover the cost of the new roof.

Chairman Ahern stated he believed it would cost approximately \$100,000.00 to replace the roof.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested increasing this budget.

Ms. Ibiatorremendia stated she would collect all of the final invoices and submit them to the insurance company for payment.

Mr. Randolph suggested reducing the Equipment line item (#460) from \$100,000.00 to \$80,000.00 and putting the difference of \$20,000.00 to Building Maintenance.

Ms. Brown suggested having the Building Maintenance line item reflect the insurance reimbursement.

Commissioner Storter stated she had understood that all of the insurance funds had been deposited in the General Fund except for the funds for Muse and that when repairs were made the funds were paid from the General Fund.

Mrs. Patterson stated these funds were specific to the Transportation Trust Fund budget and had to be accounted for under Transportation Trust.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the insurance funds in the amount of \$69,000.00 were showing on the revenue side but had not been accounted for on the expenditure side.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked why line 630 – Improvement - Other Buildings had increased from \$4,000.00 to \$50,000.00.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Road Department employees' salaries needed to be brought up to par. She questioned why the Office and Shop Repair line item had increased to \$5,000.00 and only \$48.00 had been spent last year. She questioned why

County Manager Helfenberger suggested decreasing this fund to \$1,000.00 and putting the additional \$4,000.00 towards road construction.



## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

Commissioner Storter Long questioned why Printing and Bonding had \$1,000.00 budgeted when only \$30.00 had been expended in the past year. She asked if this line item could be reduced \$300.00 and the additional funds be placed under road construction. She asked if salaries had been built into this budget.

Mrs. Patterson stated the salaries were included.

Commissioner Storter asked what the \$700.00 under Promotions had been used for last year.

Mrs. Patterson stated she believed funds had been expended to feed the employees after the storm. She stated she was not sure and would have to review her records to confirm.

Mr. Randolph stated the crew had been fed but it was paid for out of their own pockets.

Commissioner Storter questioned the Field Operations/Supplies line item. She asked if this line item should be dropped down to \$3,000.00 or \$4,000.00. She stated less than \$500.00 had been spent last year.

County Manager Helfenberger suggested dropping this line item to \$1,000.00 and putting the remaining funds in road construction.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned Cleaning Supplies. She asked why it had been increased to \$5,000.00 when only \$1,000.00 had been expended last year.

County Manager Helfenberger suggested dropping this line item to \$1,000.00 and putting the remaining funds in road construction.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the Tools line item budgeted at \$10,000.00. She stated she did not believe this line item should be over \$3,000.00.

County Manager Helfenberger agreed and suggested the remaining funds be placed in road construction.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the line item for Uniforms.

Mr. Randolph stated the cost of uniforms had gone up.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned Miscellaneous Supplies. She suggested this line item be left at \$500.00 since it had not been used at all. She asked if the Road Material line item covered the patching/repair of roads.

Mr. Randolph stated this was correct. He stated these funds covered the patching of roads and the dirt purchased from Donald Peoples.

## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the budget for Traffic Control Devices.

Mr. Randolph stated he would like to upgrade a lot of the County road signs. He stated the new law required reflect ability and numerous ones did not.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned Buildings being budgeted at \$5,000.00. She asked if this was for new buildings. She stated \$8,000.00 had been spent.

Mrs. Patterson stated this covered any improvements that added value to a building.

Commissioner Storter Long stated this line had increased from \$4,000.00 to \$15,000.00 and nothing had ever been spent. She suggested this budget be left at \$4,000.00.

The Board agreed.

Commissioner Storter Long stated all of the adjustments would go into the Construction of Roads line item.

Commissioner Pryor questioned budgeting \$190,000.00 for a fuel tank.

Mr. Randolph stated this was for the purchase of a double-walled 3 compartment fuel tank. He stated this would replace the fuel tanks that were currently be used at the Road Department. He stated the existing tanks had been patched numerous times and were in need of replacement.

County Manager Helfenberger stated fuel could not be loaded after approximately 10:30 a.m. because it got hot and shut the whole system down.

Mr. Randolph stated the \$190,000.00 would cover removal of the other tanks and dispensers, installing the concrete pad, and hooking up the electronics.

Commissioner Storter Long asked how many bids had been received on the purchase of a new fuel tank.

Mr. Randolph stated only one bid had been received. He stated the Request for Bid had been advertised several places on 2 different occasions.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if a Brownfield Grant could be applied for.

Mr. Randolph stated the only way a Brownfield Grant would help was if the soil was contaminated. He stated he had received a price for black iron and one for stainless steel. He stated he had chosen the black iron bid. He stated the contractor would also be doing the concrete work.

Commissioner Pryor asked what the difference in price was between a black iron tank and a stainless steel tank.

Mr. Randolph stated the difference was approximately \$40,000.00.

Commissioner Pryor stated he would rather go with a stainless steel tank for \$40,000.00 more.

Mr. Randolph stated this decision would be totally up to the Board.

Commissioner Pryor commented on the maintenance and upkeep of a stainless steel tank.

Mr. Randolph reminded the Board that the Road Department had not passed their State inspections on the fuel tanks this year.

Commissioner Storter Long commented on the life expectancy of the stainless steel tank. She stated it would last longer.

Mr. Randolph commented on the abrasiveness of fuel. He stated the tanks he was using now were previously located at the Moore Haven barn and were worn out then.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned Office and Shop Equipment line item. She stated \$5,000.00 had been budgeted; however, nothing had been spent in 15/16. She asked if they were anticipating purchasing something.

Mr. Randolph stated he was not anticipating any purchases.

Chairman Ahern asked that Mr. Randolph get a price on leasing a track hoe versus purchasing one.

Mr. Randolph stated he used the track hoe at the pit all of the time. He stated he would need to purchase a new tire balancer this year. He stated he would rather leave this budget at \$5,000.00.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the Equipment (less than \$1,000.00) budget.

There was a discussion regarding the rental versus purchase of equipment.

Commissioner Strenth stated he did not prefer renting equipment. He stated he would rather purchase the equipment and own it.

Vice Chairman Stanley suggested looking at leasing the equipment.

Commissioner Storter Long stated the Road Department did not pay overtime. She stated one employee was given a \$2.00 per hour raise due to being on call, which she understood and the additional funds were taken from the overtime budget. She stated the remaining funds budgeted for overtime needed to be put into salaries.

## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

Mr. Randolph stated the only time the Road Department paid overtime was during a Hurricane.

Commissioner Storter Long stated these funds would be reimbursed by FEMA.

County Manager Helfenberger stated if the County budgeted overtime for storms, FEMA would not reimburse them. He agreed that the funds should be put into the salaries budget.

County Manager Helfenberger stated the Construction of Roads budget was now at \$729,200.00.

Mr. Randolph stated a lot of these funds would be expended in the Buckhead Ridge area.

Commissioner Storter Long stated Fernwood had never been paved. She suggested if there were funds available that the County pave this road.

Commissioner Pryor commented on the 5-year program for the construction of roads.

Mr. Randolph commented on Jack's Branch Road. He stated the contractor was coming back to repair some pot holes that had appeared.

Commissioner Storter Long questioned the Parks Department budget and the transfer of one of the Road Department's newer trucks to that budget. She questioned how the Cemetery Department's truck was holding up.

Mr. Randolph stated he had still not received the Ford Truck from Gilbert Ford. He stated the issue was at the plant, not the dealership. He questioned transferring the value of the truck and asked if an appraisal should be done.

Ms. Brown stated there should be an assessed value.

Commissioner Strenth stated the depreciated value that was still on the books should be transferred.

Commissioner Storter Long asked which employees at the Road Department drove County vehicles home.

Mr. Randolph stated he and Archie Branch drove a vehicle home every night. He stated Jimmy Summeralls also drove a vehicle home when he was on call.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if a list of the number of calls could be provided for a year's time. She asked that this list not include the storm. She asked how often Mr. Randolph was called out.

## GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

Mr. Randolph stated he had been called out to Palmdale this past Sunday due to a flooding issue. He stated the Sheriff's Department, Division of Forestry, and other agencies contacted him frequently. He stated he did not keep records of these calls.

Ms. Brown stated the Board had adopted a policy years ago that only allowed the Road Superintendent and Bob Jones to drive County vehicles home. She stated the Board may wish to review this policy and put into the record at a regular meeting that these additional employees were able to drive County vehicles home.

Commissioner Storter Long asked how the employees were compensated for the overtime hours when they were called out. She asked if Mr. Randolph received time and a half for his overtime.

Mr. Randolph stated he received straight time.

County Manager Helfenberger stated Mr. Randolph provided a sheet with his time and he signed off on it.

Mr. Randolph stated Mr. Carlisle had allowed him to keep track of his own time and take comp time when needed.

County Manager Helfenberger stated he wanted the time given to him in writing.

Commissioner Storter Long agreed with turning the time into the County Manager's office for record keeping.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if another employee was called out with Mr. Randolph if that employee would receive comp time as well.

Mr. Randolph stated this was correct.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if employees were able to carry over their comp time from year to year.

County Manager Helfenberger stated some communities he had worked with allowed a certain amount of time to be carried over each year.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated this needed to be regulated in some way.

Commissioner Storter Long suggested reviewing the County's Personnel Policy in regards to comp time.

County Manager Helfenberger explained that certain departments had to pay out comp time.

Commissioner Storter Long asked if there would be any other changes to this budget other than the health insurance rates and the retirement changes.

Mrs. Patterson stated she should know insurance rate changes within a few weeks and the retirement rate changes had already been budgeted in. She stated she would not know the Constitutional Officer's salary changes for another few weeks.

Chairman Ahern questioned when the County had last gone out for bids on health insurance.

Commissioner Storter Long stated it was several years ago. She stated the County had hired a broker. She stated that because it was a pool the same quality of coverage could not be provided for this price by any other company.

Chairman Ahern stated he would like to look and see what else was available. He stated he would not want to lower the quality of the benefits received now.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated several other companies had approached her. She stated she and Mr. Carlisle had met with several of them; however, the conversations had not continued. She stated the renewal for coverage was usually signed sometime in March. The Board agreed that the insurance policies/coverages should be reviewed.

Ms. Ibietatorremendia stated she would begin looking into this. She stated PRM had to be given a year's notice. She stated she expected at least a 15% increase in the property, liability, and workers' compensation rates this year.

#### **PARKS DEPARTMENT**

There was no discussion.

#### **MSTU – LE**

Vice Chairman Stanley asked if the Board wanted to consider increasing the millage rate again on the MSTU for Law Enforcement again this year.

Commissioner Storter Long stated there was a maximum amount that it could be increased by each year and there was also a maximum amount that it could go to.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he believed the millage could only be increased by .25 per year. He stated he believed last year's increase had brought in approximately \$50,000.00 - \$60,000.00.

Commissioner Storter Long stated she thought the Board should consider increasing the millage rate again this year for the MSTU for Law Enforcement.

Vice Chairman Stanley suggested that staff look into this matter prior to the next meeting and see how much the millage could be increased and how much could be generated in funds.

**BUILDING**

There was no discussion.

**911**

There was no discussion.

**SHIP**

Cindy Ricker, SHIP Director, stated coming into this position there were 2 years in which Glades County did not receive funds. She stated she was working on spending past received funds so that the County could receive funding for those 2 years. She stated 15/16 was the last year funds had been received. She stated she had encumbered \$200,000.00 in 15/16 funds. She stated she had encumbered most of 15/16 funds as well. She stated once these funds were spent the County could receive the 17/18 funds. She stated her budget was pretty well set up the same every year.

Vice Chairman Stanley asked how much was received each year.

Ms. Ricker stated \$350,000.00 was received each year. She expressed concern with some of the bids she had out for several demo/rebuilds. She stated she was not sure she would be able to rebuild these homes for \$100,000.00.

Commissioner Pryor suggested raising the cap for 2 years.

Ms. Ricker stated she was writing up some changes such as this to bring before the Board for consideration in the future.

Commissioner Pryor suggested this item be placed on the next day meeting's agenda.

Ms. Ricker stated the cap could be raised temporarily or case by case exceptions could be made.

**CAPITAL OUTLAY**

There was no discussion.

**SOLID WASTE**

There was no discussion.

**COMMISSIONERS ITEMS AND COMMENTS**

There was a brief discussion regarding the TDC funding advertising costs for local businesses.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he would be attending a meeting with the Heartland Regional Transportation Committee and would be asking them if they had any extra funding for the Good Wheels program.

GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

County Manager Helfenberger reminded the Board that the County would be hosting a round table discussion that was tentatively planned for July 10, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Training Center.

It was the consensus of the Board to hold the round table on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Vice Chairman Stanley commented on County Manager Helfenberger signing checks and questioning this such as County employees talking on County cell phones for an hour at the time. He stated he appreciated County Manager Helfenberger's attention to these matters.

Chairman Ahern and Commissioner Storter Long agreed.

There was a brief discussion regarding the use of County cell phones and the need to review the policy for upgrades.

Chairman Ahern stated all of the applications for the County Manager position would be consider at the Monday night meeting.

County Manager Helfenberger asked the Board for direction on possible salary increases.

Vice Chairman Stanley stated he would like to see the figures on costs for a 1%, 2%, or 3% raise.

Chairman Ahern commented on the GCDC employees and who would have to fund the increase.

Commissioner Storter Long asked that the list of salaries for each employee at the Public Works Department be emailed to each Commissioner.

**ADJOURN**

ON MOTION of Vice Chairman Stanley seconded by Commissioner Pryor the Board moved to adjourn the meeting.

There being no further discussion Chairman Ahern adjourned the workshop at 12:25 p.m.

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John Ahern, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
  

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GLADES COUNTY COMMISSION BUDGET WORKSHOP – JUNE 19, 2018

Sandra H. Brown, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Approved: September 24, 2018

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