

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR
2021/2022 COUNTY-WIDE BUDGET**

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

Present: Commissioner Robert D. Bender, Chairman, District 4
Commissioner Jeffrey W. Bergosh, Vice Chairman, District 1
Commissioner Steven L. Barry, District 5
Commissioner Lumon J. May, District 3
Commissioner Douglas B. Underhill, District 2
Honorable Pam Childers, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
Wesley J. Moreno, Interim County Administrator
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 Bender called the Second Budget Public Hearing to order at 5:34 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 2021/2022 was advertised in the Pensacola News Journal on September 18, 2021, in the Board's Weekly Meeting Schedule; the *Notice of Proposed Tax Increase* and the *Budget Summary, County of Escambia – Fiscal Year 2021/2022*, were advertised in the *Pensacola News Journal* on September 17, 2021.

Motion: Move that we waive the reading
Made by: Commissioner Underhill
Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh
Disposition: Carried unanimously

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

3. Adoption of the Agenda

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

4. Board Action Items

I. 5:31 p.m. - Public Hearing for Consideration of the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Presentation of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

The Board was advised by Interim County Administrator Moreno that:

- A. This is the second of two required Public Hearings for the Board to adopt the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget;
- B. At its first Public Hearing held September 7, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) adopted the Tentative Millage Rates and Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022. 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;
- C. The millage rates tentatively approved by the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners on September 7, 2021, 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 (MSTU). The aggregate of these millage rates proposed for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 is 3.24% above the “Rolled Back Rate” of 7.2252 certified by the Property Appraiser. This represents the percentage increase in property taxes tentatively adopted by the Board; and
- D. Staff has recommended one Amendment to the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Tentative Budget. This Amendment is for recommended/directed changes to the Tentative Budget and nets an overall adjustment of \$0. The revised budget will result in a balanced unified budget of \$568,262,165, which is 3.3% less than the adopted Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget of \$587,933,284.

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Continued...

II. Board discussion to approve Community Partners funding at the amounts discussed at the Budget Workshop held on September 14, 2021

Recommendation: That the Board discuss approval of Community Partners funding at the amounts discussed at the Budget Workshop held on September 14, 2021.

The Board:

- Held a robust discussion regarding Summerfest Jazz Edition and Visit Pensacola's fiduciary role in the event, and heard support from the majority of the Board to review an analysis on the event's success from Visit Pensacola and support the event with funding pending the review.
- Further discussed Visit Pensacola's role in marketing tourism in Escambia County, specifically addressing the Naval Aviation Museum and the importance of other tourism opportunities, such as cultural tourism, and taking existing experiences to the next level.
- Discussed the funding for Keep Pensacola Beautiful and the many additional resources expended to keep the community clean.
- Heard the request from Commissioner May to ensure that community partners are meeting the expectations as laid out in their applications for funding.
- Changed the line item in the Community Partners Spreadsheet for Century Chamber of Commerce to Town of Century.
- Made the following changes to the FY 2022 Proposed column of the Community Partners Spreadsheet [all other columns remained as presented]:

General Fund Partner Name	FY 22 Proposed
ACTS (Another Chance Transitional Services)	\$15,000
James B. Washington Education & Sports	\$10,250
New World Believers	\$10,250
EComfort, Inc.	\$5,000
Sisters of Hope Corporation	\$7,000

Disposition: No action taken

For Information: The Board did not vote on this item, but made adjustments and held discussion as reflected above.

Speaker(s): Pastor Sylvia Tisdale, Sherri Myers, Calvin Avant, William "Cadillac" Banks, Darien Schaefer, and Chandra Smiley

5. Public Forum

There were no speakers for Public Forum.

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

6. Board Action Items Continued

I. Board Adoption of the Final Millage Resolution for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the Final Millage Resolution for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.

Chairman Bender advised that the Chair will entertain a motion to adopt the Final Millage Resolution [R2021-180] presented in the agenda backup. Millage rates presented are:

County-wide millage rate - 6.6165 mills
Library MSTU - .3590 mills
Sheriff's Law Enforcement MSTU - .6850 mills

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

II. Board Adoption of a Supplemental Budget Amendment Resolution amending the Tentative Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the Supplemental Budget Amendment Resolution [R2021-181] amending the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Tentative Budget, in the net amount of \$0, for the following reasons:

- *Reversal of cost allocation plan budgeted amounts and budgeting these costs at amounts similar to previous years;
- *Reduction of fuel surcharge budgeted by certain departments;
- *Amending Community Partner allocations to amounts discussed at September 14, 2021, Budget Workshop; and
- *Moving Commissioner intern costs to the individual Commission district budgets.

Motion: So moved
Made by: Commissioner May
Seconded by: Commissioner Barry
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

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AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

6. Continued...

III. Board Adoption of the Final Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

Chairman Bender advised that the Chair will entertain a motion to adopt the Final Budget Resolution of \$568,262,165 [R2021-182], for Fiscal Year 2021/2022.

Motion: So moved

For Information: The item/motion for the item was amended to remove the “Leave Buyback” line item in the Sheriff’s budget with the understanding that the Sheriff’s Office would be included in any leave buyback offered to County employees. The Board also discussed issues with pay, funding for stormwater projects and street and sidewalk improvements, as well as discretionary funds.

Made by: Commissioner May

Seconded by: Commissioner Bergosh

Disposition: Carried 4-1, with Commissioner Underhill voting “no”

IV. Board Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Annual Budget for the Santa Rosa Island Authority

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Annual Budget for the Santa Rosa Island Authority.

Motion: Move the item in the affirmative, as presented

For Information: The Board discussed leases on Santa Rosa Island coming to the Board as an agenda item for approval before they are approved by the Santa Rosa Island Authority (SRIA). Commissioner Barry expressed concern primarily regarding any leases in which the leaseholder is not paying property taxes while Commissioner Bergosh expressed concern regarding the condo complexes. County Attorney Rogers advised that she would reach out to Mary Jane Bass, Attorney for the SRIA, and ask her to provide a historical lookback on leases for the last 24 months or so.

Made by: Commissioner Underhill

Seconded by: Commissioner Barry

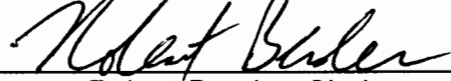
Disposition: Carried unanimously

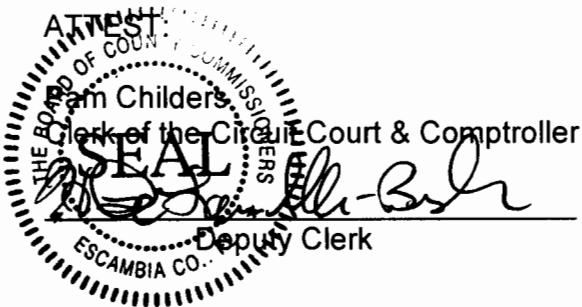
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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Bender declared the Second Budget Public Hearing regarding the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 County-Wide Budget of the Board of County Commissioners adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
Robert Bender, Chairman



Approved: October 14, 2021