

MINUTES OF THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 BUDGET
HELD SEPTEMBER 18, 2008
BOARD CHAMBERS, FIRST FLOOR, ESCAMBIA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL COMPLEX
221 PALAFOX PLACE, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
(5:02 p.m. – 6:25 p.m.)

Present: Commissioner Gene M. Valentino, Chairman, District 2
Commissioner Marie K. Young, Vice Chairman, District 3
Commissioner Grover C. Robinson, IV, District 4
Commissioner Kevin W. White, District 5
Commissioner D. M. "Mike" Whitehead, District 1
Mrs. Lisa N. Bernau, Chief Deputy Clerk, representing the
Honorable Ernie Lee Magaha, Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller
Mr. Robert R. "Bob" McLaughlin, County Administrator
Mrs. Alison Rogers, County Attorney
Mrs. Patricia L. Sheldon, Clerk & Comptroller's Administrator of Financial Services
Mrs. Shirley L. Gafford, Program Coordinator, County Administrator's Office
Mrs. Doris Harris, Deputy Clerk to the Board

AGENDA NUMBER

1. Call to Order

Chairman Valentino called the Second Budget Public Hearing to order at 5:02 p.m.

2. Purpose of Meeting/Procedures for Addressing the Board

The Board was advised by Chairman Valentino that the purpose of this meeting was for consideration of the (*Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Final*) Budget.

3. Proof of Publication

The Board was advised by Patricia L. Sheldon, Clerk & Comptroller's Administrator of Financial Services, that the 5:01 p.m. Public Hearing for consideration of the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 was advertised in the Board's Weekly Meeting Schedule in the Pensacola News Journal on September 13, 2008, and the "*Notice of Budget Hearing*" and the "*Budget Summary County of Escambia – Fiscal Year 2008/09*" were published in the Pensacola News Journal on September 15, 2008.

MINUTES OF THE SECOND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – Continued

AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. 5:01 p.m. Public Hearing

A. Presentation of Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009

The Board was advised by County Administrator McLaughlin, as follows:

- (1) This is the second of two required Public Hearings for the Board to adopt the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget;
- (2) The Board of County Commissioners, at the first Public Hearing held September 4, 2008, adopted the Tentative Millage Rates and Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009;
- (3) 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;
- (4) The millage rates tentatively approved by the Board on September 4, 2008, are 6.9755 mills for the Countywide millage rate and .6850 mills for the Sheriff’s Law Enforcement MSTU (*Municipal Services Taxing Unit*); the aggregate of these millage rates proposed for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 is 15.61% below the “Rolled Back Rate” certified by the Property Appraiser; this represents the percentage decrease in property taxes tentatively adopted by the Board;
- (5) Staff has recommended one amendment to the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Tentative Budget; this amendment for a reduction of \$10,346,980 is for recommended adjustments to the Tentative Budget; and
- (7) The revised Budget will result in a balanced unified Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 of \$391,665,064, which is 6.10% less than the adopted Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Budget of \$417,127,265.

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MINUTES OF THE SECOND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – Continued

AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Continued...

B. Public Forum

Speaker(s):

Bob Kerrigan
Alan Miller

CHAIRMAN VALENTINO RELINQUISHED THE CHAIR TO COMMISSIONER YOUNG

C. Adoption of the Final Millage Resolution

Motion made by Commissioner Valentino, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, and carried 4-1, with Commissioner White voting "no," adopting the (*Final*) Millage Resolution (*R2008-165*), as presented in the agenda backup, of 6.9755 mills for the Countywide millage rate and .6850 mills for the Sheriff's Law Enforcement MSTU (*Municipal Services Taxing Unit*) for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

For Information: The Board heard a substitute motion by Commissioner Whitehead, seconded by Commissioner White, that the Board reduce the Sheriff's MSTU by \$2.5 million and the ad valorem taxes by \$1.5 million, and direct staff to find the cuts, and the motion failed 2-3, with Commissioner Robinson, Commissioner Valentino, and Commissioner Young voting "no."

VICE CHAIRMAN YOUNG RELINQUISHED THE CHAIR TO COMMISSIONER VALENTINO

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MINUTES OF THE SECOND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – Continued

AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

4. Continued...

D. Adoption of Resolution Amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Tentative Budget

Motion made by Commissioner Whitehead, seconded by Commissioner White, and carried unanimously, adopting the Resolution (*R2008-166*) approving Supplemental Budget Amendment, Budget Adjustment, amending the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Tentative Budget, in the amount of (\$10,346,980), for the following funds:

- General Fund (001)
- Escambia County Restricted Fund (101)
- Community Redevelopment Fund (151)
- Transportation Trust Fund (175)
- MSBU Assessment Fund (177)
- Civic Center Fund (409)
- Internal Service Fund (501)

E. Adoption of the Final Budget Resolution

Motion made by Commissioner Whitehead, seconded by Commissioner Young, and carried unanimously, adopting the Final Budget Resolution (*R2008-167*) of \$391,665,064 for Fiscal Year 2008-2009, as presented in the agenda backup.

5. Adoption of the SRIA Annual Budget

Motion made by Commissioner Whitehead, seconded by Commissioner White, and carried unanimously, approving to reject the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Annual Budget for Santa Rosa Island Authority (SRIA).

MINUTES OF THE SECOND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – Continued

AGENDA NUMBER – Continued

6. Bond Defeasance

Motion made by Commissioner Robinson, seconded by Commissioner Whitehead, and carried unanimously, approving to proceed with staff's plan, as follows, regarding the PowerPoint Presentation, which was also provided as agenda backup, by Amy Lovoy, Bureau Chief, Management and Budget Services Bureau:

- A. Combine the General Fund Debt Service Reserve with the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) Debt Service Reserve;
- B. Pay off the two energy performance loans (*the Leonard Street Central Energy Plant Loan, in the amount of \$1,218,203, and the Downtown Energy Performance Loan, in the amount of \$750,964*), for an estimated \$1,969,167;
- C. Place the remaining Reserve (about \$10,117,952) in escrow and use the funds to make the annual Debt Service payments on the 2002 TDT Bond, as well as the 1997 Gulf Breeze Loan Pool loan; and
- D. Use any remaining Santa Rosa Island back taxes from the residential lawsuits, once settled, to defease the Bonds, rather than dedicating at least \$1,300,000 annually from the County's General Fund balance carryforward to the escrow for remaining payments (*as indicated at the time the PowerPoint Presentation was prepared*).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Valentino declared the Second Budget Public Hearing of the Board of County Commissioners adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

Ernie Lee Magaha
Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller

Deputy Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Gene M. Valentino, Chairman


Approved: October 2, 2008