

**PUBLIC HEARING
LEVY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 19, 2011**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Levy County Commissioners was held on September 19, 2011 at 6:30 PM in the Levy County Board of County Commissioners meeting room, with the following Commissioners present:

Chairman Danny Stevens
Comm. Ryan Bell
Comm. Chad Johnson
Comm. Marsha Drew

Also present were:

Clerk of Court – Danny J. Shipp
County Attorney – Anne Bast Brown
County Coordinator – Fred Moody
Assistant to the County Coordinator – Dick Tummond

Comm. Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M. Sheriff Johnny Smith gave the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

Set Millage

Mrs. Rees stated the Board has adopted a tentative millage rate of 8.0614, which is the rolled back rate. The Board is presented with Resolution 2011-53 to adopt this rate.

Comm. Stevens asked if there was anyone in the audience to speak for or against the proposed millage rate.

For

Sheriff Smith asked Board to leave the millage rate as it has been set at 8.0614 as he has already had to lay employees off and will have to make further cuts if the millage is reduced.

George Shenya stated he is a retired firefighter having recently moved to Morriston from Massachusetts. He asked the Board to keep the millage rate which has been set and not to lower it. He does not want to see services cut.

Against

Renate Cannon asked the Commissioners to lower the millage rate back to last year's rate and stated she does not want them to raise the millage rate.

Dana Sheffield from Fanning Springs agreed with Mrs. Cannon and asked the Commissioners to keep the millage rate the same as last year and not to raise it.

Barney Cannon asked the Commissioners to lower the millage rate to where people will pay no more than last year.

Comm. Stevens closed the public hearing.

Comm. Drew made a motion to keep the millage rate at 7.4212, the same as this current year. Second was made by Comm. Johnson.

After discussion, Comm. Stevens called a recess of the meeting at 7:18 P.M.
The meeting reconvened at 7:22 P.M.

Mrs. Rees stated if the millage rate of 7.4212 is adopted, it will reflect a reduction from the rolled back rate of 8.0614 mills by 7.94%

Comm. Drew amended her motion to insert the new figures as stated by Mrs. Rees into Resolution 2011-53. Second was made by Comm. Johnson and the votes were cast as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Comm. Drew	Comm. Bell
Comm. Johnson	Comm. Stevens

The MOTION DOES NOT PASS.

After discussion, Comm. Bell made a motion to adopt the current proposed millage rate of 8.0614 reflected in Resolution 2011-53. Second was made by Comm. Johnson and the votes were cast as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Comm. Bell	Comm. Drew
Comm. Stevens	Comm. Johnson

The MOTION DOES NOT PASS.

Comm. Johnson made a motion to adopt the millage rate of 7.8114, which is a reduction of ¼ mill. Second was made by Comm. Stevens after he passed the gavel to Comm. Johnson. The votes were cast as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Comm. Bell	Comm. Drew
Comm. Stevens	
Comm. Johnson	

The MOTION CARRIES.

The meeting recessed at 7:51 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 8:02 P.M.

Mrs. Rees stated the adopted millage rate of 7.8114 for fiscal year 2011-2012, is less than the rolled back rate of 8.0614 mills by 3.10%.

Comm. Johnson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2011-53 with the millage rate of 7.8114. Second was made by Comm. Bell and the votes were cast as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Comm. Bell	Comm. Drew
Comm. Stevens	
Comm. Johnson	

Adopt Budget for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Mrs. Rees states the advertised budget of \$59,231,955 will now be reduced. Additional amendments which Mrs. Rees asked the Board to consider are as follows:

2 resignations from the General Fund totaling \$78,580.

Reduction in Personnel Services and increase in Training by \$500 in the BOCC Admin. Department.

Reduction in Personnel Services by \$42,705 in the Parks Department.

Increased Repairs and Major Improvements by \$78,580 in the BOCC Operations Department.

Road Department is now paving CR 316, so there will not be as much money carried forward, resulting in an estimated reduction in the grant of \$308,806.

Two line item transfers in the EMS Grant, increasing Training by \$741 and decreasing Training in their regular department by \$741.

The net amount with these budget changes is a reduction of \$308,806.

Comm. Johnson made a motion to accept the budget changes as presented. Second was made by Comm. Drew and the MOTION CARRIES.

Mrs. Rees stated this will change the total general Revenue budget to \$22,867,609. The total budget amount with the change in the millage rate will be \$58,511,955.

Comm. Stevens asked if there was anyone in the audience to speak regarding the proposed budget.

Dr. Maggie Lombarda from Meridian Behavioral Healthcare requested the Board to reconsider the reduction in their budget request stating they provide a needed service for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Assistance for Levy County residents. She asked the Board to keep their funding the same as last year or, to at least keep their reduction the same as other departments.

Dana Sheffield and Bob Curr from Fanning Springs both stated they are in favor of the Board adopting the proposed budget.

George Shenya requested the Board keep public safety at top priority with the proposed reduction in budget.

Comm. Bell made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-54 adopting the proposed 2011-2012 fiscal year budget of \$58,511,955. Second was made by Comm. Johnson and the votes were cast as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Comm. Bell	Comm. Drew
Comm. Stevens	
Comm. Johnson	

The MOTION CARRIES.

After discussion, the Commissioners decided to keep funding for Meridian Behavioral Healthcare the same as it was adopted two weeks ago.

Second Public Hearing on Ordinance 2011-05
Repealing and Amending Levy County Code Sections Relating to Firearms, Adopt Ordinance

Atty. Brown presented Ordinance 2011-05 for Board approval, repealing and amending Levy County Code Sections relating to firearms, and read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Comm. Stevens asked if there was anyone to speak for or against the proposed Ordinance. There was none.

Comm. Johnson made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2011-05 as presented by Atty. Brown. Second was made by Comm. Bell and the MOTION CARRIES.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COMMISSION, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:32 P.M.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEVY COUNTY, FL

Clerk of Court, Danny J. Shipp

Chairman, Danny Stevens