

The Board of County Commissioners of Citrus County, Florida, met at 9:00 A.M. in special session on the above date at the Lecanto Government Building, 3600 West Sovereign Path in Lecanto to conduct Preliminary Budget Hearings on the 2006/2007 budget.

Present: Gary Bartell, Chairman; Jim Fowler, First Vice-Chairman; Dennis Damato, Second Vice-Chairman; Vickie Phillips and Joyce Valentino

Interim Administrator: Tom Dick
Director of Management and Budget: Cathy Taylor
Deputy Clerks: Glenda Brown and Theresa Steelfox

The Chairman called the meeting to order, Commissioner Damato gave the invocation, and Commissioner Valentino led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chairman made brief comments regarding the agenda schedule and Mr. Dick explained that the budget document included all of the elements of the budget in order for the Board to make a decision on funding levels for next fiscal year.

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Pages 48 and 49 Supervisor of Elections - \$875,448 - 14.37% increase

Pages 50 and 51 Elections - \$417,976 - 15.19% increase

Supervisor of Elections Susan Gill made comments about the state and federal mandated voter registration. She said that the elections were becoming more complicated and technical, and the security needs were increasing. She requested more space for her office prior to the 2008 election.

Commissioners Valentino and Phillips discussed Ms. Gill's space needs, emergency management plans, identifying and acquiring property, parking issues, the temporary storage space at the Citrus County Resource Center, the need for a master plan, and so on.

Ms. Gill replied to Commissioner Bartell's question about the additional position by stating that it was not mandated; however, she needed more technically trained people.

Commissioner Damato explained that the Board needed to allocate funding for short-term interim space because it would be impossible to construct a new building for the Election's Office prior to the 2008 election. He added that he had located 8,000 square feet of interim space in downtown Inverness and that there was available property in downtown Inverness for the Elections new office.

Mr. Dick replied to Commissioner Phillips' question regarding funding for property acquisition by stating that there was \$2 million in that account.

The Commissioners concurred with the Chairman's suggestion to schedule a special workshop to discuss a plan for space needs.

CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Pages 30 and 31 Judicial Administration - \$20,500 - 00.00% increase

Pages 250 and 251 Article V Technology – Circuit Court - \$192,013 – 51.73% increase

CLERK TO THE BOARD

Pages 32 and 33 Clerk to the Board - \$1,267,604 – 7.50% increase; pages 6 and 7 Accounts Receivable - \$105,852 – 10.57% increase; pages 34 and 35 Clerk of County Courts - \$14,000 - 3.70% increase; and pages 64 and 65 Historical Resources - \$100,308 – 5.50% increase

Clerk of the Circuit Court Betty Strifler explained that her budget included one fulltime employee to serve in the Finance Department. She advised that the new employee would assist the current payroll deputy clerk in processing payroll and grant accounting. She added that her office currently processed payroll for approximately 900 employees and 250 volunteers. She assured the Board that her office had utilized technology as much as possible; however, it had been determined that outsourcing payroll was not as efficient.

She further explained that the court portion of her budget was for communications only and that her budget included her expense for disaster recovery.

PROPERTY APPRAISER

Pages 88 and 89 \$3,804,002 – 7.00% increase

Mr. Dick stated that this budget included nine new employees. He advised that this budget had been approved by the Florida Department of Revenue and there was an appeal process if the Board chose to adjust this budget.

Directive: Commissioners Bartell and Phillips requested justification for the extra positions in all of the budgets.

SHERIFF

Pages 94 and 95 General Operating - \$25,415,871 – 15.76% increase; pages 96 and 97 Court Services - \$3,066,119 – 16.25% increase; and pages 98 and 99 City of Inverness - \$1,099,114 – 9.72% increase

Mr. Dick advised that the increase in this budget was due to the request for 14 new employees, and the increases in worker's compensation, state retirement, and fuel.

Sheriff Jeff Dawsy presented a slide presentation titled "Citrus County Sheriff's Office Proposed Budget '06/'07", which included the projected increases, uncontrollable

costs, pay plan - salary comparison, new positions, enforceable civil process served, calls for service, deputy available time, and districts (filed with the Clerk's agenda).

The Sheriff replied to the Commissioners' questions and comments as follows:

- ✎ There were approximately 200 sworn officers and 120 civilians included in personal services.
- ✎ He would meet with any of the Commissioners to explain information in his budget.
- ✎ The balance of the debt service was for the Computer-Aided-Dispatch system.
- ✎ 22 of the 200 sworn officers were in judicial services.
- ✎ 202,750 Calls for Service were all the officers' interaction with the public; such as, traffic stops and accidents (the Sheriff would supply the number of calls per district).
- ✎ He would provide statistical comparisons with Hernando County.
- ✎ The road deputies did not need rental space.
- ✎ The agreement with the City of Inverness had not been finalized and those services were fully funded by the City of Inverness.

The Chairman recessed the meeting until 10:43 A.M.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

Pages 90 and 91 General Administration - \$10,580 - 0.00% increase

Mrs. Taylor explained that this budget included a data entry position that had been requested outside the normal budget process.

STATE ATTORNEY

Pages 102 and 103 General Administration - \$17,160 - 35.78% decrease

Pages 246 and 247 Article V Technology - \$69,350 – 78.97% increase

AGENCIES' BUDGETS

Mr. Dick reviewed the agencies' budgets as follows:

Agency	Page Numbers	2005-2006 Budget	2006-2007 Recommended
County Court Mediation	236	\$10,290	\$9,137
County Planning	46 and 47	\$86,586	\$88,963

Mr. Dick explained that the County Planning budget included the Withlacoochee Regional Water Supply Authority, the North Central Florida Health Planning Council (also known as Well Florida Council), and the Withlacoochee Regional Planning Council.

Jeff Feller, representing Well Florida Council, updated the Board on services provided, such as HIV Aids care, prenatal infant care, nutrition courses, consulting work, and so on. He encouraged the Commissioners to appoint Citrus County members to the Well Florida Council Board.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - AVIATION

Commissioner Fowler asked if the Aviation budget could be discussed now since Tom Davis, representing the Crystal Aero Group, was in the audience.

Mr. Dick advised that those budgets were on pages 18 and 19 at \$110,051, which was a 7.20 percent increase and the Aviation CIP (Capital Improvement Program) was on pages 20 and 21 at \$659,650, a 43.24 percent decrease.

Public Works Director Glen McCracken replied to Commissioner Phillips' question regarding the \$10,000 increase in repair and maintenance by stating that it was for general on going maintenance of the facilities at both airports.

Mr. Davis complimented staff on the work at the airports and the Board for their continued support.

The Chairman stated that there had been an issue regarding fencing at the Inverness Airport and staff had received a letter stating that barbed wire fence was not required behind the residences. He added that Mr. Dick would be discussing this issue further during a regular meeting.

AGENCIES' BUDGETS CONTINUED

Division of Forestry	56 and 57	\$10,759	\$9,392
Guardian Ad Litem	60 and 61	\$5,200	\$10,100
Health Department	276 and 277	\$1,167,262	\$1,202,879
Medical Examiner	74 and 75	\$316,881	\$361,098
Mental Health (The Centers)	76 and 77	\$315,600	\$330,648
Mental Health (Key Center)	78 and 79	\$20,000	\$20,000

Mr. Dick explained that the increase in the Guardian Ad Litem budget was for communication services and computers. He added that Guardian Ad Litem would be adding two additional state employees and the County would be required to find office space for them in downtown Inverness, which was included in Commissioner Damato's space needs report.

Commissioner Phillips commented that the Mental Health (The Centers) was state mandated and the Mental Health (Key Center) had a contractual agreement to raise tree seedlings for the County.

NEW AGENCIES' FUNDING REQUESTS

Mr. Dick explained that the Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Early Learning Coalition of the Nature Coast, and the Sertoma Speech and Hearing Center were new agencies requesting funding by the Board. He added that staff listed those agencies in the budget; however, were waiting for the Board's decision regarding funding.

Commissioner Phillips stated that she did not believe it was the Board's responsibility to take ad valorem tax dollars and give them to private/not for profit organizations, even though they provided a service to the community.

Commissioner Fowler agreed that the Board should not fund Sertoma, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, or the Early Learning Coalition; however, he was disappointed that the Board had reduced funding to CASA (Citrus Abuse Shelter Association) and the Key Center.

Commissioners discussed CASA and the Key Center having contractual agreements with the County, both agencies receiving state funding, and so on.

Commissioners agreed not to fund the three agencies listed above.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Mr. Dick advised that there was a correction to page 9, line item 58207, for Nature Coast Emergency Foundation. He explained that the recommended budget should be \$826,973 or a reduction of \$109,603 due to the costs for the Gospel Island emergency services being duplicated.

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE RESERVE FUND - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNSEL (EDC) Page 268 \$137,500

Mr. Dick advised that there were representatives from the EDC in the audience to answer any of the Commissioner's questions.

Commissioner Damato commented that he had been the only Commissioner to vote against the EDC funding agreement earlier this year. He mentioned that the EDC director worked 20 hours per week and had a salary equal to a fulltime County administrator. He stated that the Board should expect to see better performance in the EDC contract. He suggested no longer funding the EDC from private funding, using \$37,500 to enhance the County website and place \$100,000 in an economic development fund to help small local businesses expand.

Commissioner Valentino agreed with Commissioner Damato and suggested that the EDC be operated by volunteers. She added that she would no longer support the funding in the future.

Commissioner Phillips said that the EDC demonstrated that they had fulfilled the terms of the contract; however, the contract could be changed or terminated. She mentioned that she had consistently voted against the contract until it was amended to performance-based standards. She suggested discussing this issue outside of the budget process. Mr. Dick advised that the contract had a three-year term based upon annual appropriations.

John Seifert, secretary treasurer of EDC, stated that the EDC would be willing to meet with each Commissioner to discuss the contract. He added that based on the Commissioner's suggestion, the EDC was researching the possibility of working with the Chamber of Commerce (Chamber); however, the Chamber had stated that the funding was needed in order to continue economic development.

Bill Sullivan spoke about the need for economic development in this area. He suggested meeting with the Commissioners regarding problems and changes that needed to be made to the contract. He complimented the EDC members who volunteered their time toward this effort.

The Chairman stated that he also had concerns; however, did not want to remove the funding from the budget because it would stop economic development. He believed that the concerns were with the contract and there should be a public workshop prior to October 1, 2006.


Commissioner Fowler agreed that the funding should be left in the budget. He mentioned that as the EDC liaison he had discussed the Commissioner's dissatisfaction with the organization to the EDC Board. He talked about the achievements of the EDC and the need for economic development in a community.

Discussion continued regarding the EDC being funded through occupational license fees, the salary being paid to the EDC director, improving the EDC website, less EDC administration and distribution of more money into the community, amending the contract, the negotiations with the Chamber, and so on.

Mr. Seifert suggested that the EDC meet with the Board members individually to compile ideas on how to improve, and then the EDC would prepare a proposal for a future Board workshop. He added that he would notify everyone involved in the EDC of the Board's wishes.

Mr. Dick clarified that the Commissioners wished to meet with the EDC individually and that he would agenda a workshop for the first meeting in September.

The Chairman left the meeting and Commissioner Fowler opened the meeting for public comment.

 Morris Harvey spoke about the Sheriff's budget, airport expenditures, and alleviating property taxes. He suggested using the Inverness Airport property for the new Citrus County Complex.

The Chairman addressed Mr. Harvey's question regarding Article V Technology (page 245) by stating the increase was due to the mandated transfer of the court system's technology needs from the state to local government. Mrs. Taylor explained that the amount included a large fund balance, that the fund must be carried forward from the previous year, that the money could not be used for anything else, and that page 246 showed the money as reserve for contingencies. Commissioner Phillips

further explained the requirement of technology needs and that the Board had no control over that budget.

Mrs. Strifler explained that there was a \$4 additional assessment added to each document recorded in the Clerk's Office for the Clerk and court technology. She added that none of that money was from ad valorem tax dollars or from the General Fund, and that the money was restricted to Article V Technology purchases. (11:52 A.M.)

The Chairman returned to the meeting during the public portion of the meeting.

The Chairman recessed the meeting until 1:07 P.M.

The Chairman suggested discussing the advertisement for the County Administrator position.

Commissioners suggested adding mid-size municipal government in the second paragraph of the proposed advertisement, and that the applicant should be familiar with land use and concurrency issues, utilities, transportation, and infrastructure.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BUDGETS

Mr. Dick stated that the next portion of the workshop would be the Board's budgets that had been reviewed in May. He explained that those budgets remained substantially unchanged with the exception of issues that were raised during that May workshop and that those issues were answered in the separate Budget Issues book (filed with the Clerk's agenda).

The Commissioners discussed the following issues:

(1) DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Brad Thorpe, Director of Community Services, discussed the staffing level at the parks. He explained that it would take six new employees and 160 hours of work force to keep the four Level A parks open from dawn to closing time. He advised that there were currently 80 park facilities and three employees that worked at night to take care of various situations. He distributed information (filed with Clerk's agenda) regarding park staffing levels in other counties, which identified that Citrus County had a low number of employees for the size and the number of parks to maintain.

He also discussed the vandalism (approximately \$30,000) and the 60 incident reports at the park facilities this year. He stated that additional employees at the parks would not eliminate the vandalism totally; however, would reduce the vandalism problems.

He mentioned that this year his division became responsible for all of the boat ramps in addition to the other park responsibilities, and that the parks staff maintained the grounds for all of the County buildings. He mentioned the enhanced landscaping

projects on County Road (CR) 486, US 41S, and SR 200, which were also the responsibility of the Parks Department.

Commissioners discussed the vandalism problems, comparing the Citrus County park system to other counties with similar park systems, the transfer of employees to Parks from Facility Maintenance, safety, security, level of service at the parks, and so on.

Directive: Staff to prepare information for Commissioners Phillips and Valentino regarding vandalism, such as, which parks, when it occurred, and the type of vandalism

Commissioner Fowler explained that he had brought this subject up at the May budget meeting because he knew the need for County supervision at the parks because of safety issues, liability, maintenance, etc. He stated that he would support the additional staff that Mr. Thorpe requested.

Commissioners Phillips and Valentino stated that they would not support the additional employees until they received the requested information. Commissioner Damato suggested that the additional employees be multi-talented, multi-tasking, and educated on liability issues and safety issues, etc. The Chairman stated that the additional staff would help maintain County facilities.

Mr. Thorpe stated that he limited the additional staff to the four major parks, and that those personnel would be utilized at other areas when needed.

Consensus: Leave the additional personnel in the park's budget at this time. The Commissioners would make a final decision after the requested information was received from staff.

Mr. Dick informed the Board that there was a new position (Accounting Clerk) requested by Community Support Services to handle grants.

(2) DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Mr. Dick stated that staff was requesting two new positions in this budget, a concurrency impact fee coordinator and a transportation planner. He added that both positions were requested by the Board at the May workshop.

Gary Maidhof, Department of Development Services Director, replied to the Chairman's question about the positions being mandated by stating that the positions were not mandated; however, the County was mandated to maintain a concurrency management system. He added that the transportation planner would assist staff in maintaining and tracking the level of service, serve as liaison with the public, monitor traffic counts and reports, but would not eliminate the need for outside transportation consultants.

Mr. Dick reviewed the other new positions requested in this budget (flood review specialist, residential permitting supervisor, and senior non-residential review coordinator). Mr. Maidhof explained that those positions would be within the Building Division and fee paid. Discussion ensued regarding the fees, inspections, positions, and so on.

(3) DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Mr. Dick explained that the staff increase in this budget (three captains, three engineers, and three firefighters) were to make Connell Heights a fulltime paid fire station. He added that information regarding response times and justification of the career fire stations were included in the Budget Issues book.

He added that an equipment service worker had been added to this budget also. He explained that this person would rotate between the volunteer fire stations providing some preventative maintenance to the equipment at those stations and delivering equipment to Fleet Maintenance for the routine service.

Director of Public Safety Charles Polisenno spoke about the volunteer firefighters, recruiting the volunteers, training requirements, continued demand for service, and so on.

Mr. Dick advised that there was another new position (animal services technician) requested in Animal Control, which would be funded by the General Fund.

(4) DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Dick reviewed the new positions in this budget as follows: accounting clerk; two journeymen from the painting trade to paint the interior of County facilities; engineering project manager concentrating on transportation; engineering project manager in permitting; and water resources engineering inspector.

Mrs. Taylor replied to Commissioner Phillips' question regarding the budget document showing reclassifications by stating that next year there would be an additional page highlighting new positions, reclassifications, and some important information about major increases or decreases.

Mr. Dick continued reviewing other positions in this budget, such as a construction administration manager; driveway inspector; maintenance worker; grounds maintenance worker for Citrus Springs MSBU (Municipal Service Benefit Unit); part-time household hazardous waste technician and medium equipment operator for Solid Waste Management; two utility maintenance workers, two utility technician II and utility system technician; and four positions under water resources relative to the acquisition of the Florida Governmental Utilities Authority systems (FGUA).

The Chairman questioned why the driveway inspector position was not paid by building fees because the need for the position was driven by the amount of construction. Mr. Maidhof replied that this position could not be paid through building funds because it was not a construction activity covered under Chapter 553 of the

Florida Building Code. He stated that staff would monitor the situation and reevaluate the development fees charged to possibly recover some of the costs.

Commissioners discussed future capital improvement projects, the need for supervising the projects, the problems at the Stovall Building (Courthouse Complex), and so on.

(5) OFFICE OF UTILITY REGULATION

Office of Utility Regulation Director Robert Knight addressed the Board about the regulatory assessment fees being reduced by two percent if his office retained jurisdiction over setting the rates for the FGUA systems and the County systems. He added that if the County did not acquire the FGUA systems, the County would have to either raise the regulatory assessment fee or determine if the County wanted to stay in the utility rate business.

(6) OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET:

Mr. Dick advised that there were two new positions under this budget, a contract specialist and a purchasing and contracts manager. He added that the job descriptions and pay schedules were included in the budget book.

(7) OFFICE OF SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT:

Mr. Dick explained that there was one new position under this budget, a GIS (Geographic Information System) analyst. He stated that the budget message asked the Board to consider the funding of the County's own GIS map. He added that the County had not been able to obtain the level of detail needed from the contractor preparing the Property Appraiser's GIS map.

Commissioners agreed that there was a need for the GIS map.

(8) IMPACT FEE UPDATE:

Mr. Maidhof explained that all eight impact fees would be presented to the Board in December and would be implemented the first of next year. He added that there could be some delays in the process if the PDRB (Planning and Development Review Board) or the Board needed additional time to review.

Directive: Staff to make sure that the impact fees would be reviewed every three years, rather than five years, and review the impact fee credits

The Chairman recessed the meeting until 3:34 P.M.

REVIEW OF THE BUDGET MESSAGE

Mr. Dick reviewed the following issues:

Water/Wastewater Infrastructure

It was the wishes of the Board at the May budget workshop to create a funding mechanism of \$2 million to be used as a match for available water and wastewater infrastructure grants. He explained that the funding was included in the budget and was part of the water quality CIP.

The Chairman discussed the policy set by the Board on January 11, 2005; stating that any money pledged locally for grants would be replenished through the assessment.

Mrs. Taylor explained that based on Board discussion, staff developed a new CIP for water and wastewater infrastructure and placed \$2 million for 2007 and future years, which would be included in future CIP and budgets for the Board's consideration.

Discussion ensued regarding the reduction of the Hall's River Wastewater Project assessment, paying the Water Quality Fund back through connection fees (Westwind Village and Nature's Campground), reviewing special assessment policies, and so on.

Supervisor of Elections Building Design

The \$468,750 was budgeted for the acquisition of property and the design of the Elections building, and the money would be used for temporary space if necessary.

GIS Base Map

Mr. Dick reiterated the need for the GIS map and explained that staff would like to select a contractor that could have the map completed within 12 to 18 months.

Sheriff's Budget

This budget increased \$3.9 million, which contributed to the Board's overall increase.

Tax Collector and Property Appraiser

There would be \$846,000 additional commissions paid to the Tax Collector this year, and the increase to the Property Appraiser's budget was a quarter of a million dollars.

School Generators

This CIP project was discussed in May, and it would cost \$400,000 per school (shelter). Four schools would be scheduled next year and two additional schools the following year.

Maintenance Operations

Maintenance Operations contributed to the overall increase by approximately \$410,000 due to additional personnel, fuel, maintenance, and so on.

Parks and Recreation

\$653,000 was for additional staff and equipment to utilize those facilities.

Insurance Fund

\$1,000,000 was transferred to the Insurance Fund due to insurance cost increases and increase in deductible.

Directive: Staff to determine if the County could have self-insurance on County owned buildings and determine the costs and what would be involved in set up.

Transit Program

This budget had an additional \$234,000 cash match for the Transit Program.

Reserve Fund

The reserve level was at 8 percent or 2.8 million dollars.

Land Acquisition for Space Needs

\$2,000,000 had been set aside for land acquisitions and those needs were outlined by Commissioner Damato at the July 25, 2006, regular meeting. All public buildings were placed in separate CIPs this year.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Debt Service

Staff would begin paying debt service (\$500,000) next year for the EOC building. The Sheriff's Vehicle Maintenance Facility was scheduled to begin next fiscal year.

Directive: Determine the amount of revenue that would be saved when the Sheriff moved to the new facility from the current rented facility.

Mr. Dick explained that those items were the major increases to the Board's budget, and that with those items in the budget there would be no change in the millage rate of 8.145.

Commissioner Damato made some comments regarding his previous space needs presentation. He said that it was obvious the Board needed to purchase property in downtown Inverness for the Supervisor of Elections. He added that the design of the building would need to be started; however, the Elections Office would need interim space and he had located 8,000 square feet of available office space. He explained that his reason for not identifying the property for the Elections building was confidentiality and keeping the process competitive. He suggested purchasing land with the immediate budget and directing staff to start the process of purchasing the Inverness Police Department site for the future Tax Collector's building and a site for the

Elections Office. He added that if funding was available, staff should identify the land and preliminary designs for the storage building. He recommended allowing staff to find out how much it would cost to move the Board to the Inverness Government Center in order to free up space for the judicial needs. He added that the Board should purchase property for a judicial annex and for the future building for all constitutional officers in the Meadowcrest area to replace the Revco site in Crystal River. He informed the Board that the budgetary implications were located on page 337.

Commissioners discussed the need for a master plan, finding a permanent location for the Board, scheduling the courtrooms for better utilization, technology for records and storage needs, parking problems, the need to review the options available, scheduling individual meetings with the Commissioners followed by a public workshop for Board direction, and so on.

Mr. Dick described the adjustments to pay classifications and pay grades (compression). He stated that staff suggested an increase of five cents per hour, per year of employment this year in order to correct the salary problems for long-term employees. He advised that next year if a pay study was completed a correction to this issue would be sought.

Commissioner Phillips suggested researching how other counties dealt with this issue, possibly doing a combination of increases, and so on.

The Chairman opened the hearing for public comment.

Mr. Harvey commended the Commissioners who asked questions about the budget. He suggested that if the Board had a zero based budget there would be less questions asked. He commented on the debt and the cash carry forward money.

Dave Conant stated that he supported the utilization of the courtrooms, the Sheriff creating another district, the additional employees for the parks, fulltime firefighters at the Connell Heights Fire Station, a construction project manager, and a hazardous waste position. He added that he was glad the Board was going to advertise the county administrator position through the Human Resources Department and that he would like the Commissioners to have their own building. He thanked the deputy clerks for their hard work and Mr. Dick for a job well done.

Commissioner Phillips commented on the Mercer Group process and the failures of the Board and some of the employees. She added that she hoped that as the Board began the new process for county administrator, if the same problems occurred it would not reflect on Mr. Pettit.

Ron Lieberman, representing the Citrus County Builders Association, commended staff, supported the Department of Development Services and the Department of Public Works budgets, and suggested that the County start the process of acquiring property for rights-of-ways as soon as plans for roads were determined.

With no further public comment, the Chairman closed the public portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Fowler left the meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bartell and seconded by Commissioner Damato to set the following tentative millage rates: General Fund at 6.3681, Transportation at 0.8541, Health Department at 0.1085, Countywide Total for the Board of County Commissioners at 7.3307, Fire Protection Taxing District at 0.4810, Library Taxing District at 0.3333, for a total millage rate of 8.1450.

The Chairman stated that this was the tentative budget millage, which could not be increased; however, it could be decreased at the final public hearing.

Commissioner Phillips stated that she would support the motion; however, she would be meeting with the constitutional officers, Mr. Dick, and staff to ask questions. The Chairman said that he would be looking for ways to reduce the budget. Commissioner Valentino concurred. The Chairman added that he would have a tendency to support the infrastructure projects over the hiring of more employees.

The Chairman called a question on the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Upon motion by Commissioner Phillips, seconded by Commissioner Valentino, and carried unanimously, the Board approved and authorized the Chairman to execute the Certificate of Taxable Value (DR-420).

Mr. Dick announced that the tentative budget hearing would be held on September 14, 2006, the final budget hearing would be held on September 26, 2006, both at 5:01 P.M.

Mr. Dick commended staff for their assistance in the budget process. He also announced that he would not apply for the county administrator position and that he would support the candidate.

Commissioners discussed the possibility of having an assistant for Mr. Dick during the interim, senior staff continuing to support Mr. Dick, and so on.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:20 P.M.

ATTEST: _____, Clerk _____, Chairman