

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2011
FIRST PUBLIC HEARING TO SET F/Y 2011-2012 TENTATIVE
MILLAGE AND ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET
5:30 P.M.**

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened to conduct the first public hearing to adopt the fiscal year 2011-2012 tentative millage and budget on Thursday, September 15, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. in the County Commission Meeting Room, 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

Present were: Chairman Lewis, Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Riddick, Commissioner Sellars and Commissioner Chandler.

Also present were: Brad Carter, County Manager; Rachel Rhoden, Administrative Assistant; Ray Norman, Clerk of Courts; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Allen Parrish, Emergency Services Director; Will Sexton, County Attorney; Mark Crawford, Press; and Capt. Boatwright.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hersey called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30 p.m. Chairman Lewis asked Clerk Norman to address the Commission.

Clerk Norman distributed copies of and reviewed a [handout](#) reflecting adjustments to the FY 2011-2012 Tentative Budget since the last meeting. The adjustments increase the total tentative budget by \$304,329.00, from \$33,325,671 to \$33,630,000.

ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE:

Chairman Lewis gave the breakdown of the tentative millage rate of 9.1769 mills as follows:

GENERAL FUND	6.9065 mills
FINES & FORFEITURE FUND	2.0000 mills
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FUND	0.1647 mills
HEALTH DEPARTMENT TAXES	<u>0.1057 mills</u>
TOTAL	<u>9.1769 mills</u>

This is expected to generate approximately \$7,604,188

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: None.

BOARD ACTION:

--RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012.

Chairman Lewis read the title into the record.

*Commissioner Thomas moved, seconded by Commissioner Riddick, and **carried 5-0, to adopt a Resolution adopting the tentative millage rate of 9.1769 mills for fiscal-year 2011-2012.** (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2011-12.](#))*

ADOPTION OF TENTATIVE BUDGET:

Chairman Lewis advised that the total operating tentative budget, including interfund transfers and bond reserves is: \$33,630,000.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Press representative Mark Crawford inquired about the County's reserve funds not reflected in the budget. Laurie Douglas, Auditor for the City of Starke, has indicated that reserve funds are to be reflected in the budget.

Clerk Norman said that in his 23 years in office, he has never known of the County's reserves being shown anywhere except in the annual audit reports. He is not aware of any requirement to do so and does not know of any other Counties that do so. At the direction of the Commission, the reserves could be reflected in the actual budget. However, in his opinion, that could be very confusing to the public. His door is always open and he would be glad to sit down with anyone and review the budget and/or the audit report.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

Commissioner Chandler commented on Mr. Crawford's inquiry. Whatever the standard practice is for the Board and for county government, if that is the standard we use, then he would want to continue to use that same standard. That standard has been a good standard for Bradford County and it does cut down on confusion. Any time someone wants to know anything about the County's finances, it is public information.

Chairman Lewis said that he is certain that if there is any question about the manner in which the County prepares the budget, the Clerk will look into it

BOARD ACTION:

--RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

Chairman Lewis read the title into the record.

*Commissioner Chandler moved, seconded by Commissioner Thomas, and **carried 5-0**, to adopt the Resolution Adopting the Tentative Budget of \$33,630,000.00 for Fiscal-Year 2011-2012. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2011-16.](#))*

Chairman Lewis announced that the date for the public hearing to adopt the final millage rate and budget is Monday, September 19, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, the public hearing adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

EDDIE J. LEWIS, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____

RAY NORMAN, CLERK TO THE BOARD

(Minutes prepared by Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk)