

SEPTEMBER 12, 1994

The Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida, met in SPECIAL SESSION in the Manatee Civic Center, One Haben Boulevard, Palmetto, Florida, Monday, September 12, 1993, at 6:01 p.m.

Present were Commissioners:

Stan Stephens, Chairman
Joe McClash, First Vice-Chairman
Kent G. Chetlain, Second Vice-Chairman
John R. Gause, Third Vice-Chairman
Patricia M. Glass
Lari Ann Harris
Maxine M. Hooper

Also present were:

William J. Estabrook, County Administrator
H. Hamilton Rice, Jr., County Attorney
Susan G. Romine, Deputy Clerk, representing
R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

Representatives of the various news media were present.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephens.

BUDGET - FISCAL YEAR 1994-1995

Public hearing (Notice and date provided on TRIM Notice) was held to consider adoption of the Fiscal Year 1994-1995 tentative budget.

Budget Overview

Jim Seuffert, Director of the Office of Financial Management, presented an overview of the FY 1994-95 budget. He reviewed overhead transparencies as follows:

- ~ Sample TRIM Notice
- ~ Manatee County Assessed Values - 1984-1995
- ~ Countywide Millage Rates - 1984-1995
- ~ Millage Summary
- ~ Comparison of Taxes on a \$75,000 Home
- ~ Countywide Millage Levies
- ~ Revenue by Source
- ~ Appropriation by Function
- ~ Manatee Government Staff vs Population Growth 1989-1994
- ~ Manatee County Government Employees per Thousand Population
- ~ Six County Comparison (Based on Fiscal Year 1994 Rates)

Public Comments

Richard Trifari and Dr. Michael Bach representing Aids Council of Manatee, stated the Public Health Unit treats those infected with the HIV virus even though there are no designated funds in that budget from the County or the State. He requested a minimum of \$21,000 to bring a comprehensive clinic to Manatee County. He pointed out it would lessen the burden of care for the Public Health Unit, would provide a specialized quality of care, and would reduce the number of indigent HIV-infected patients seeking treatment at the Manatee Memorial Hospital emergency room.

Barbara Talburtt, representing the League of Women Voters and Lutheran Ministries, spoke in support of allocating funds requested by Lutheran Ministries for a guardianship program for incapacitated indigent residents.

Ann Ridings, representing Lutheran Ministries, requested funding for Lutheran Ministries.

Kathy Barnard, Manatee Council on Aging Executive Director, requested funding for the Telephone Reassurance Program and Seniors Helping Other Seniors service. She also spoke in favor of funding for Lutheran Ministries.

Linda McGrath, social worker at Manatee Memorial Hospital, spoke in support of Lutheran Ministries' application for indigent guardianship funding.

Bob Tergan, representing Manatee Educational TV (METV), described the programs and services provided by METV and requested the Board continue funding METV at its current level of \$175,000.

David Jonathon, educational television teacher at King Middle School, speaking on behalf of METV, along with students **Mike Knotts**, **Eric Davis**, and **Brad Button**, addressed the benefits of METV and requested continued funding of METV.

In response to question, Mr. Jonathon stated they would not be able to provide the same program utilizing the government access channel.

John Rosen, President of METV, requested approval of continued funding at the same level as last year.

Roy "Chick" Parker, representing Manatee-Sarasota Fish & Game Association, Inc., and Environmental Lands Management and Acquisition Committee (ELMAC), requested \$44,000 for an ecological inventory for Duette Park. He submitted a packet of information supporting his request.

William Estabrook, County Administrator, stated he had recommended in August 1994 that a determination be made as to the competitive nature of performing this inventory. Mr. McClash recommended a work session be held to discuss the need for the program and available revenue sources.

John Hare, speaking on behalf of the South Florida Museum and Bishop Planetarium, requested \$23,000 for an additional manatee. He pointed out that "Snooty," the resident manatee, is 46 years old.

Carol Audet, curator of the South Florida Museum, emphasized the benefits of the facility and requested approval of the funding request.

Robert Zack and **Jim Craig**, members of the Board of Directors of the Deaf Service Center of Manatee and Sarasota, requested funding in the amount of \$44,783 for the Deaf Service Center.

William Knight, Director of Suncoast Center for Independent Living, requested \$25,000 in financial support for the Center. He described the services provided noting that all are free.

Pat Slate, resident, questioned if taxes are automatically increased each year and requested that property taxes be lowered.

Patrick McQuisten, student, submitted petitions requesting continued financial support of METV.

Father Rick Pilger, President of Our Daily Bread, Inc., Board of Directors, reviewed the background of Our Daily Bread which provides meals daily to the poor, hungry or homeless. He pointed out the number of persons receiving assistance continues to increase and he requested \$23,600 to expand the program. He presented a handout of the program.

Ernest S. Marshall, Federation of Manatee County Community Association, gave a presentation on the findings of their budget committee and submitted a report prepared by Henry E. Smoak, Sr. He stated the population growth is approximately two percent per year, however, the ad valorem base continues to grow at approximately six percent; ad valorem taxes should be reduced by an additional 15 percent over the next five years; the average salary of County employees is \$34,124.74; the Board should investigate controlling expenditures of constitutional officers; there is duplication of taxes; etc.

Discussion followed during which Mrs. Harris requested that some of the items from Mr. Smoak's report be pulled for analysis and brought back.

Ashley Leonard, HOPE Family Services, stated their original request for an increase in funding for the emergency shelter for domestic violence victims is not necessary due to funding from additional filing fees for dissolutions of marriage. She expressed her appreciation to the Board for their support in the past.

Correspondence

Mr. Stephens entered correspondence (21 letters) into to the record.

Tentative Millage Rates

Motion was made by Mr. McClash, seconded by Mr. Harris and carried unanimously, to adopt

B-95-001 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT TENTATIVE AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATES ANNUAL 1994-1995 BUDGET.

RECORD S44-190

Tentative County Budget

Motion was made by Mr. McClash, seconded by Mrs. Harris and carried unanimously, to adopt

B-95-002 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO AMEND AND ADOPT A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1994-1995.

RECORD S44-191

Tentative Port Authority Budget

Motion was made by Mr. McClash, seconded by Mrs. Hooper and carried unanimously, to adopt

B-95-003 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET OF THE MANATEE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 1994-1995.

RECORD S44-192

Aggregate Millage Rate Comparison

Mr. Seuffert announced that the aggregate millage rate comparison is 4.11 percent over the rollback amount.

Second Public Hearing

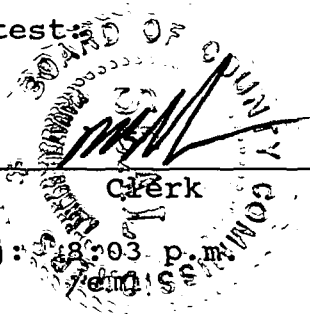
Mr. Stephens announced that a second public hearing will be held September 22, 1994, at 6:00 p.m., at the County Commission Chambers.


MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

APPROVED:


Clerk


Chairman 11/15/94