

SEPTEMBER 4, 1996

The Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida, met in SPECIAL SESSION in the Administrative Center, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Wednesday, September 4, 1996, at 6:02 p.m.

**Present were Commissioners:**

Stan Stephens, Chairman  
Patricia M. Glass, First Vice-Chairman  
Gwendolyn Y. Brown, Second Vice-Chairman  
John R. Gause  
Maxine M. Hooper  
Joe McClash

**Absent was Commissioner:**

Lari Ann Harris, Third Vice-Chairman - illness

**Also present were:**

Ernie Padgett, County Administrator  
H. Hamilton Rice, Jr., County Attorney  
Judy LaMee, Director of Communications and Development,  
representing R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephens.

**AWARDS**

Herbert W. A. Thiele, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Immediate Past Chair of the Florida Association of County Attorneys, presented the President's Award to H. Hamilton Rice, Jr., County Attorney, for his role, function, and skills of a good in-house local government attorney.

**VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD**

Mr. Stephens referred to a letter from Charles E. Hackney, Property Appraiser, dated September 4, 1996, announcing that if there are any questions about an assessed value of property, the property owner should call the Property Appraiser's office. The deadline for filing a petition to the Value Adjustment Board is September 9, 1996, at 5:00 p.m.

**BUDGET - FISCAL YEAR 1996-1997**

First public hearing (Notice and date provided on TRIM Notice) was held to consider the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 1996-1997.

**Budget Overview**

Ernie Padgett, County Administrator, provided the main theme for the county's budget for Fiscal Year 1996-1997.

Jim Seuffert, Financial Management Department Director, advised that the purpose of this public hearing is to discuss the county budget and the proposed property taxes. He stated that public comments will be heard and tentative budgets/millage rates will be adopted.

Dan Schlandt, Financial Management Department, referred to graphs indicating the following:

- Assessed Property Values 1987-1996
- Countywide Millage Rates 1988-1997
- Proposed Millage Summary
- Comparison of Taxes on a \$80,000 Home
- Sample 1996 Notice Proposed Property Taxes
- Countywide Millage Levies
- Revenue By Source
- Appropriation By Function
- Employees Per Thousand Population
- Six County Comparison

Mr. Padgett announced that a report relating to health care issues will come forward on September 10, 1996, with a recommendation from staff prior to the final budget hearing on September 11, 1996.

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(Cont'd)

Public Comments

**Lisa Leitch** addressed concerns of the lack of health care and education in Manatee County and requested additional assistance in regards to the Aids virus. **Dan Lunger** also requested additional funding.

**Ellie Perkins**, President of the AIDS Council of Manatee County, requested additional funds for an AIDS clinic in Manatee County.

**Winkie Rees**, Women's Resource Center Director, requested funding for the Center's new "SMART" program. She described services that the agency provides for women. She referred to the listing with agencies and programs, who have referred clients to their center.

**Donna Carlton**, representing Deaf Service Center, described the organization's background, thanked the Board for their support, and requested funding of \$55,000 for the Deaf Service Center.

**Michael O'Hara, M.D.**, representing Deaf Service Center, emphasized the need for interpreters and requested that an additional funding of \$11,070.50 be considered for the center.

**Tami Higgins** and **Cathy McAllister** addressed the need for an AIDS clinic in Manatee County.

**Joan Perry** commented on health concerns for AIDS patients and requested \$25,000 be considered for testing water at the public beaches.

**Art O'Hara**, representing Children's Home Society and Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program, requested additional funding for the program.

**Barbara Talburt** spoke in support of the Teen Prevention Task Force and the AIDS Council of Manatee.

**Gloria Rains**, representing Manasota 88, emphasized the need to expend funds for beach water quality testing.

**Wesley Pitts**, Sarasota County resident, commented on the special care that he receives at the Community AIDS Network in Sarasota. He addressed concerns of care for the indigent population.

**Nancy Nemitz**, Executive Director of Suncoast Center for Independent Living, requested funding of \$50,000. An amount of \$30,000 will be designated for direct service for residents and \$20,000 to publish Access Manatee booklets to be distributed in Manatee County.

**Ann Peabody**, representing Friends of Braden River Library, thanked the Board for their support for the countywide library system and requested an increase in the number of staff for the new facility.

**Grissim Walker**, representing Deaf Service Center, thanked the Board for their support and requested continuous support.

Mr. Seuffert submitted a letter from the Deaf Service Center.

Discussion: Funds to be allocated to AIDS health care issue; does the budget need to be adjusted for the additional requests from the agencies; reserve for contingency; request County Administrator provide information in advance regarding the amount budgeted for the AIDS issue.

Tentative Millage Rates

Motion was made by Mr. McClash, seconded by Mrs. Hooper and carried 6 to 0, to adopt

**B-97-001** A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT TENTATIVE AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATES ANNUAL 1996-1997 BUDGET.

RECORD S45-661

Tentative County Budget

Motion was made by Mr. McClash, seconded by Mrs. Hooper and carried 6 to 0, to adopt

B-97-002 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO AMEND AND ADOPT A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996-1997.

RECORD S45-662

Tentative Port Authority Budget

Motion was made by Mr. McClash, seconded by Mrs. Hooper and carried 6 to 0, to adopt

B-97-003 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET OF THE MANATEE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996-1997

RECORD S45-663

Aggregate Millage Rate Comparison

Mr. Seuffert announced that the aggregate millage rate comparison is 3.91 percent.

Second Public Hearing


Mr. Stephens announced that a second public hearing will be held September 11, 1996, at 6:00 p.m., in County Commission Chambers.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

APPROVED:



*[Signature]*  
Clerk  
Adj: 7:35 p.m.  
/dmo

*[Signature]*  
Chairman 11/5/96