

## SEPTEMBER 5, 2002

The Board of County Commissioners, Manatee County, Florida, met in SPECIAL SESSION in the Administrative Center, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton, Florida, Thursday, September 5, 2002, at 6:05 p.m.

Present were Commissioners:

Amy Stein, Chairman  
Jonathan Bruce, First Vice-Chairman  
Patricia M. Glass, Second Vice-Chairman  
Jane W. von Hahmann, Third Vice-Chairman  
Gwendolyn Y. Brown  
George L. Harris  
Joe McClash

Also present were:

Ernie Padgett, County Administrator  
Tedd Williams, Jr., County Attorney  
Pat Tatum, Deputy Clerk,  
representing R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

Invocation by Commissioner Stein.

### AGENDA

Agenda of August 5, 2002, Outside Agency Funding Requests, Proposed Budget Summary, and sign-in sheets. [BC20020905DOC001](#)

### BUDGET – FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003

First public hearing (Notice and date provided on the TRIM Notices) was held to consider the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2002-2003.

#### Budget Overview

Jim Seuffert, Financial Management Director, advised that the purpose of the public hearing was to discuss the proposed County budget and proposed property taxes, hear public comment, and adopt a tentative budget and millage rate. He announced that the percentage increase in property taxes generated by growth in the tax base was 12.18 percent, with a temporary millage increase to provide funding for environmentally sensitive lands. The additional tax proceeds will offset funding increases required in criminal justice areas including law enforcement and funding for a future Judicial Center.

Ernie Padgett, County Administrator, recommended a quarter mill increase in property taxes to fund environmentally sensitive land acquisition. Mr. Padgett noted increases in law enforcement and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for personnel.

Archie Waugh, MGA TV, narrated the proposed budget presentation, noting a 13 percent increase in taxable property values and a temporary one-quarter mill increase. Mr. Waugh reviewed the following charts and graphs:

- Assessed Property Values
  - Countywide Millage Rates 1994-2003
  - Proposed Millage Summary
  - Proposed Millage Summary of Municipal Services Taxing Units and Comparison of Taxes on a \$115,000 home
  - Sample TRIM Notice
  - Countywide Millage Levies
  - Revenue by Source
  - Appropriation by Function
  - Employees per 1,000 Population
  - Six-County Comparison
- [BC20020905DOC002](#)

#### Public Comment

**Dr. Carol Harneit, Kathy Biggs, Maureen Zaremba, Natalie Schiff, Tiffany O'Mally, and Charles Clapsaddle** of Manatee Educational Television Consortium (METV), discussed METV, and thanked the Board for the proposed funding for 2002-2003. [BC20020905DOC003](#)

**Rita Bullock**, Performing Arts Downtown, provided a list of Officers and Board members and expressed gratitude for assistance received through the 2001-2002 budget. [BC20020905DOC004](#)

**Mike McNall, Beverly Burdett, and Ingrid McClellan**, representing Keep Manatee Beautiful, submitted information about Adopt-a-Highway, Road, and Shore Programs.

Discussion followed regarding the program and the requested \$30,399 increase in funding; an employee is needed to coordinate; whether County will fund 100 percent of the cost for a new employee; etc.

(Mr. McClash and Mrs. Glass absent for a portion of discussion)

[BC20020905DOC005](#)

**Ken Byrne** requested assistance in understanding the TRIM notice and Dan Schlandt, Financial Management Department, met with citizens to explain the TRIM notice. [BC20020905DOC006](#)

**Dr. Michelle Lamourt**, Latin Chamber of Commerce, expressed gratitude for past assistance and requested an additional \$15,000 in funding.

Discussion: 2000 Census indicated explosive growth of Hispanic population; in-house training to provide bilingual staff in service areas of the County; \$20,000 budgeted for Hispanic American Alliance for housing counseling; \$10,000 budgeted for Latin Chamber of Commerce for business outreach; etc. [BC20020905DOC007](#)

(Mrs. Stein and Ms. Brown absent for a portion of discussion; Mr. Bruce presiding in Mrs. Stein's absence.)

**Ernest "Sandy" Marshall**, Federation of Manatee County Community Associations, expressed concern regarding the depressed economy, job uncertainty, reduction in retirement incomes, cumulative effect of County and School Board budget, affordable housing, crime, the Sheriff's Office Budget, and the environmental lands issue. He recommended new residents pay higher impact fees. [BC20020905DOC008](#)

(Depart Mr. Harris)

**Lynden Rosenberry** expressed concern for government-controlled environmentally sensitive lands. [BC20020905DOC009](#)

(Enter Mr. Harris)

**Karen Ciemniecki** noted the need to purchase environmentally sensitive lands, even if it requires additional taxes. [BC20020905DOC010](#)

**Nelio B. Barros**, Mote Marine Laboratory, thanked the Board for its support. [BC20020905DOC011](#)

**Tentative Millage Rates**

Motion was made by Mr. Bruce, seconded by Mr. McClash, and carried 7 to 0, to adopt

**B-03-001** RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT TENTATIVE AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATES ANNUAL 2002-2003 BUDGET. [BC20020905DOC012](#)

**Tentative County Budget**

Motion was made by Mr. Bruce, seconded by Ms. Brown, and carried 7 to 0, to adopt

**B-03-002** RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO AMEND AND ADOPT A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003. [BC20020905DOC013](#)

**Tentative Special Districts Budget**

Motion was made by Mr. Bruce, seconded by Ms. Brown, and carried 7 to 0, to adopt

**B-03-003** RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADOPT THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR DEPENDENT SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003

(Port Authority, Civic Center Authority, Housing Finance Authority, Law Library District, and Myakka Fire Control District). [BC20020905DOC014](#)

**Staffing Levels and Compensation**

Motion was made by Mr. Bruce, seconded by Ms. Brown, and carried 7 to 0, to adopt

**R-02-228** A RESOLUTION OF THE MANATEE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING CHANGES TO THE PAY IN-LIEU-OF VACATION PROGRAM, INCREASING VACATION ACCRUAL LEVELS AND APPROVING CHANGES TO THE EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION PLAN AND STAFFING LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002/2003 FOR DEPARTMENTS UNDER ITS JURISDICTION.

(Board of County Commissioners; County Administrator; County Attorney; Risk Management; Agriculture/Natural Resources; Building; Community Services; Convention and Visitors; Environmental Management; Facilities Management; Financial Management; Human Resources; Information Services; Parks and Recreation; Planning; Project Management; Public Safety; Transportation; Utilities Operations; Court Administration; Metropolitan Planning Organization).

Staffing Level Total: 1,765

[BC20020905DOC015](#)

**Tentative Millage Rate Comparison**

Mr. Seuffert announced that the increase over rolled back aggregate millage for the operating millage is 12.18 percent. [BC20020905DOC016](#)

**Second Public Hearing**

Mrs. Stein announced that the next public hearing will be held September 17, 2002, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers. [BC20020905DOC017](#)

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adj: 7:42 p.m./pat

Minutes Approved: October 15, 2002