

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Washington County, Florida
Board Meeting
1331 South Blvd., Chipley, FL 32428

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|------------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| DISTRICT 1 | DISTRICT 2 | DISTRICT 3 | DISTRICT 4 | DISTRICT 5 |
| Alan Bush | Charles Kent | Tray Hawkins Chairman | Todd Abbott Vice-Chairman | Steve Joyner |

I. PROCLAMATION

- A. Call to Order – Chairman Hawkins
- B. Invocation/Pledge – Jeff Massey offered the invocation, which was followed by the pledge.

Present were Chairman Hawkins, Vice-Chairman Abbott, and Commissioners Bush, Kent, and Joyner. Also present were Jeff Massey, County Administrator, Lora C. Bell, Clerk, Risha Brantley, Deputy Clerk, and Johnnie Pettis, Finance Director.

II. ADOPT THE AGENDA – **Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent carried to adopt the agenda.**

III. AGENDA ITEMS

- 2018-2019 Proposed Budget

Jeff Massey addressed the board. The franchise fees were put in to aid the board in lowering the millage rate. The board would like to see the millage rate at 8.500. Lowering the millage would mean an estimated drop in revenue of \$508,000.00.

Future funds received from the consortium will help offset the insurance, and go back in the general fund.

budget for a public works director. Funds can be adjusted if that is something that the board would like to pursue.

In reference to budgeting ahead, the intent is to bank money that will cover the financial impact of dropping the ad valorem in the future to 8.500.

Commissioner Bush requested a list of grants that would be affected by a reduction in ad valorem.

Commissioner Bush suggested to leave room in the budget to hire employees. The county needs to have fair market wage.

Commissioner Joyner asked how much franchise fee monies are being used to balance the budget.

Chairman Hawkins advised \$425,000.00.

Johnnie Pettis commented on the employees receiving a different benefit based on an employee's selection of single or family coverage.

Chairman Hawkins advised that all employees are receiving some benefit.

Commissioner Abbott advised there is no way to make it level.

Chairman Hawkins advised the \$220,000.00 will stay in the budget for next year.

Chairman Hawkins advised Sheriff Crews to come back before the board if the school board does not fund the school resource position.

Ted Everett addressed the board. The county does not give the Chamber of Commerce any funds for its operation. There is a separate account set up for the funds received from the county for economic development (EDC).

Chairman Hawkins confirmed that the county currently gives \$30,000.00 to economic development (EDC).

Ted Everett clarified with the board that \$25,000.00 of those funds are for his salary and \$5,000.00 is for the website for economic development (EDC).

The remaining expenses are paid for by chamber membership fees.

Running the economic development (EDC) has cost the chamber \$80,000.00. The chamber cannot uphold spending this type of money annually for economic development.

EDC lies within the chamber though an MOU with the county.

Chairman Hawkins confirmed that EDC's request is for approximately an additional \$37,000.00.

Chairman Hawkins requested Ted Everett bring a budget back before the board for \$50,000.00.

them per requisition request for two years; the funding was removed from the 18/19 budget.

The board confirmed to leave the funding for \$5,000.00 in the budget.

Chairman Hawkins advised the clerk's office to include \$50,000.00 in the budget for economic development.

Johnnie Pettis, Finance Director advised the board that Opportunity Florida is dues, which is located under the administrative budget.

The board agreed to remove the requested amount for Opportunity Florida from the budget next year.

Chairman Hawkins clarified that the change in the human resource department is to bring the two employees within the salary study.

Jeff Massey, County Administrator advised the board there is also funding included in the human resource budget for Accufund.

Commissioner Bush advised Jeff Massey if he would like to look at a public works director in the budget, to make sure there is funding in the budget.

Chairman Hawkins clarified that with the two employees in the human resource department being brought up in the pay study, that would be everyone.

Marla Hayes, Human Resource advised that it would be complete.

\$750,000.00 was added. \$46,843.00 is economic development. The total is \$796,843.00.

- IV. ADJOURN – *Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bush and carried to adjourn.*

Deputy Clerk Brantley

Date Board Approved