

SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
BCC - FINAL BUDGET HEARING

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THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, IN AND FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY MET ON THE ABOVE DATE AT 5:05 P.M. AT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ANNEX BOARD MEETING ROOM, 1331 SOUTH BOULEVARD, CHIPLEY, FLORIDA WITH CHAIRMAN BUSH, VICE-CHAIRMAN ABBOTT, COMMISSIONERS, PATE, BROCK, AND GOTHARD PRESENT. DEPUTY CLERK ODOM, DEPUTY CLERK BRANTLEY, COUNTY COORDINATOR DAVID CORBIN, AND COUNTY ATTORNEY JEFF GOODMAN ATTENDED. CLERK COOK WAS NOT IN ATTENDANCE.

CALL TO ORDER - CHAIRMAN BUSH

PRAYER - COUNTY COORDINATOR DAVID CORBIN

PLEDGE - CHAIRMAN BUSH

CHAIRMAN BUSH ADDRESSED THE PUBLIC THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WELCOMES YOU TO THE FINAL PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 BUDGET AND MILLAGE SETTING. THE PUBLIC HEARING PORTION OF THE MEETING IS REQUIRED BY STATUTE AND WILL ALLOW THE COMMISSION TO ENGAGE PUBLIC OPINION AND ALLOW CITIZENS TO VOICE CONCERNS OR THOUGHTS RELATED TO THE BUDGET. THIS IS NOT A POLITICAL FORUM NOR IS IT A TIME FOR PERSONAL ACCUSATIONS OR DEROGATORY PERSONAL REMARKS, PROFANE OR VULGAR LANGUAGE IS NOT PERMITTED. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN RESPECT FOR ALL POINTS OF VIEW THE BOARD REQUESTS NO CLAPPING, BOOING, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF SUPPORT OR NON-SUPPORT BE USED.

THE BOARD ASKS IF THE PUBLIC WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD TO COME TO THE PODIUM, STATE YOUR NAME, AND LIMIT COMMENTS TO NO MORE THAN THREE MINUTES. IF QUESTIONS ARE ASKED BY THE SPEAKER PURSUANT TO AND SUBJECT TO THE LIMITS OF FLORIDA STATUTES 129.03 AND/OR 200.065 THE RESPONSE OF THE BOARD IF ANY WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL, ALLOTTED TIME WITH NO ADDITIONAL TIME TO ALLOCATE FOR ANY SAID RESPONSES PROVIDED TO THE QUESTION.

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CHAIRMAN BUSH ADDRESSED THE BOARD/PUBLIC THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS ADVERTISED IN THE WASHINGTON COUNTY NEWS SEPTEMBER 14, 2013.

THE INCREASE IN THE MILLAGE OVER THE ROLLED BACK RATE NEEDED TO FUND THE BUDGET IS -3.36%.

THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE IS SET FOR 8.9195 MILLS, WHICH IS LOWER THAN THE ROLLED BACK RATE OF 9.2300. THE ROLLED BACK RATE WOULD HAVE GENERATED \$7,720,511.00. THE 8.9195 MILLAGE RATE GENERATES \$7,460,791.00.

IS THERE ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE OF 8.9195 MILLS?

IS THERE ANYONE ON THE BOARD THAT WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE OF 8.9195 MILLS?

BOARD ACTION IS NEEDED TO ADOPT MILLAGE RESOLUTION 2013-7, ADOPTING THE MILLAGE RATE OF 8.9195 AS THE MILLAGE RATE FOR 2013-2014.

COMMISSIONER PATE OFFERED THE ABOVE MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ABBOTT.

CHAIRMAN BUSH ASKED IF THERE WAS ANY DISCUSSION.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ADDRESSED COUNTY ATTORNEY GOODMAN THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO RAISE THE MILLAGE IF IT WOULD SAVE THE THREE JOBS THAT THE BOARD IS LOOKING AT LOSING.

ATTORNEY GOODMAN ADDRESSED COMMISSIONER ABBOTT THAT HE THINKS THE BOARD HAS THE ABILITY TO RAISE THE MILLAGE RATE BUT NOT TONIGHT. IT HAS BEEN HIS UNDERSTANDING IF THE BOARD CHOOSES TO RAISE THE MILLAGE RATE NOTICES HAVE TO BE SENT OUT, ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEARINGS, AND THE BOARD HAS TO ABSORB THE COST OF RESENDING THE AFFECTED DOCUMENTS.

DEPUTY CLERK BRANTLEY ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE RE-ADVERTISED AS AN INCREASE AND THEN THE TRIM NOTICES WOULD HAVE TO BE SENT BACK OUT.

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ATTORNEY GOODMAN ADDRESSED DEPUTY CLERK BRANTLEY THE BOARD WOULD HAVE TO PAY FOR THE COST OF THAT.

DEPUTY CLERK BRANTLEY SAID YES.

COMMISSIONER PATE ADDRESSED CHAIRMAN BUSH THAT THE ONLY THING THAT CAN BE DONE TONIGHT IS CHANGING THE LINE ITEMS AND MAKE THEM BALANCE.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ADDRESSED DEPUTY CLERK ODOM AND BRANTLEY THERE IS \$96,000.00 THAT WILL START COMING IN 2014.

DEPUTY CLERK ODOM ADDRESSED COMMISSIONER ABBOTT THAT IT WILL BE DECEMBER 2015.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT HE DOES NOT KNOW IF THIS IS ABOUT MONEY.

ROLL CALL VOTES ON A PREVIOUS MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER PATE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ABBOTT TO SET THE MILLAGE AT 8.9195.

COMMISSIONER GOTHARD - YES

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT - YES

CHAIRMAN BUSH - YES

COMMISSIONER PATE - YES

COMMISSIONER BROCK - YES

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHAIRMAN BUSH ADDRESSED THE BOARD/PUBLIC THE TOTAL BUDGET EXCLUDING MSBU FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 IS \$22,471,139.00. THE TOTAL MSBU BUDGET IS \$599,186.00 FOR A TOTAL BUDGET OF \$23,070,325.00.

IS THERE ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014?

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COMMISSIONER PATE ASKED CHAIRMAN BUSH IF HE WANTED TO DISCUSS WHAT WAS DONE LAST WEEK.

COMMISSIONER PATE WENT ON TO SAY FOLKS YOU ARE BRINGING LAWSUITS DOWN ON YOU FASTER THAN WE CAN GET THE MONEY TO LINE UP FOR THEM.

HE DOES NOT SEE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CASH CARRIED ON THE ONE THAT WAS PICKED EXCEPT THE DOLLAR FIGURE. IT STILL MEANS IT IS COMING OUT OF SOME POT THAT YOU CAN GET IT. IF IT IS CASH CARRYING NON REOCCURRING FUNDS IT IS THE SAME THING ALL THE WAY DOWN EXCEPT THREE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO LOSE THEIR JOBS AND HE HAS NEVER HEARD OF, SEEN IT, AND IS ASHAMED TO BE A PART OF IT.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ASKED DEPUTY CLERK ODOM TO SPEAK. LAST YEAR THERE WAS \$570,000.00, WHICH WAS THE LESS 5%. OUT OF THE LESS 5% HOW MUCH WAS COLLECTED ON THAT ONE LINE ITEM.

DEPUTY CLERK ODOM ADDRESSED COMMISSIONER ABBOTT THAT SHE KNOWS THAT \$370,000.00 WAS RECEIVED OVER LAST YEARS REVENUES THAT WERE BUDGETED.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ASKED THE BOARD IF THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO USE THAT ADDITIONAL \$370,000.00 TO FUND THOSE JOBS.

DEPUTY CLERK ODOM ADDRESSED THE BOARD THERE IS \$212,000.00 IN THERE AND IT WOULD ONLY TAKE \$108,000.00 MORE.

COMMISSIONER PATE ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT THE FIVE EMPLOYEES THAT IT WAS SAID WERE CUT DUE TO BUDGET. THEY WERE NOT HAULED IN THERE IN THREE MONTHS TO FIND OUT THEY WERE LOSING THOSE JOBS.

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO THESE FOLKS HERE IS NOT CHRISTIAN OR UN CHRISTIAN.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO BE ON RECORD SAYING THE EVIDENCE IS THERE, WHICH IS IN THE MONEY AND VERY OBVIOUS. THE MONEY IS THERE AND HE FEELS THAT THE BOARD AS A WHOLE IS MAKING A TERRIBLE MISTAKE BY NOT FUNDING THE THREE POSITIONS.

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CHAIRMAN BUSH ADDRESSED COMMISSIONER ABBOTT THAT IT IS ACTUALLY SEVEN POSITIONS.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ADDRESSED CHAIRMAN BUSH THAT HE UNDERSTANDS SEVEN POSITIONS, BUT FOUR OF THEM ARE NOT FILLED AND HE IS TALKING ABOUT THE THREE WHERE A PERSON IS SITTING IN THE JOB. HE WOULD LIKE TO BE ON RECORD SAYING THAT.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT PROJECTION 40 INCLUDED HUMAN RESOURCES, WHICH DO NOT HELP WITH THE OTHER TWO POSITIONS, BUT IF THERE IS SOMETHING, THE BOARD CAN DO WITH THAT. HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ALL THREE AND THE MONEY IS THERE.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ASKED DEPUTY CLERK ODOM IF THE MONEY IS THERE.

DEPUTY CLERK ODOM ADDRESSED COMMISSIONER ABBOTT THAT PROJECTION 50 WAS DONE THAT INCLUDED THEM.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ASKED AGAIN FOR THE BOARD TO RECONSIDER FILLING THE THREE JOBS. IT IS NOT PERSONAL BUT THE LIVES OF THREE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES ARE BEING AFFECTED. IT IS NOT NECESSARY BECAUSE THE MONEY IS THERE.

COMMISSIONER PATE ADDRESSED THE BOARD IT WAS DONE IN A PRETTY PUBLIC WAY FROM JULY ON AND NOBODY HAS GIVEN THEM A DATE TO GO HOME UNLESS IT HAPPENED TODAY.

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ASKED COMMISSIONER BROCK IF HE BELIEVES THE MONEY IS THERE.

COMMISSIONER BROCK ADDRESSED COMMISSIONER ABBOTT THAT HE COULD NOT SAY BECAUSE HE HAS HEARD SO MUCH LATELY OF SHIFTING AND POLITICS GETTING INTO IT. ALL OF A SUDDEN, HERE AT THE END, THE BOARD IS HEARING THERE IS THE MONEY AND IT IS IN 50.

THE COMMITTEE CAME WITH A RECOMMENDATION ON THE ROLL BACK.

DEPUTY CLERK ODOM ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT THERE WERE ALWAYS THOSE PROJECTIONS AND THE BOARD HAD A CHOICE.

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COMMISSIONER ABBOTT ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT HE WAS FOR PROJECTION 30, WHICH WAS THE SAME AS CLERK COOKS PROJECTION 50 THAT INCLUDED ALL THE EMPLOYEES.

ATTORNEY GOODMAN ADDRESSED THE BOARD THE BOARD HAS THE ABILITY TO SET OR AMEND THE LINE ITEMS AS THEY SEE FIT RIGHT NOW AS LONG AS IT IS BALANCED. THE BUDGET CAN BE AMENDED BUT HAS TO BE ADOPTED TONIGHT.

DEPUTY CLERK BRANTLEY ASKED ATTORNEY GOODMAN IF THERE WOULD HAVE TO BE ANOTHER TENTATIVE AND ANOTHER FINAL.

ATTORNEY GOODMAN ADDRESSED DEPUTY CLERK BRANTLEY THAT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE SO AS LONG AS THE MILLAGE IS NOT BEING CHANGED.

COMMISSIONER GOTHARD OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BROCK TO ADOPT BUDGET RESOLUTION 2013-8 SETTING THE BUDGET AT \$23,070,325.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMISSIONER GOTHARD - YES

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT - NO

CHAIRMAN BUSH - YES

COMMISSIONER PATE - NO

COMMISSIONER BROCK - YES

MOTION CARRIED 3 TO 2

CHAIRMAN BUSH ADDRESSED THE BOARD THE TENTATIVE MSBU BUDGET IS \$599,186.00.

IS THERE ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD WITH ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE MSBU 2013-2014 BUDGET?

CHAIRMAN BUSH ADDRESSED THE BOARD THAT ACTION IS NEEDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2013-9, WHICH ADOPTS THE MSBU BUDGET.

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COMMISSIONER GOTHARD OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ABBOTT
TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION 2013-9 FOR \$599,186.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE

COMMISSIONER GOTHARD - YES

COMMISSIONER ABBOTT - YES

CHAIRMAN BUSH - YES

COMMISSIONER PATE - YES

COMMISSIONER BROCK - YES

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COMMISSIONER BROCK OFFERED A MOTION, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GOTHARD
AND CARRIED TO ADJOURN.

DEPUTY CLERK BRANTLEY

CHAIRMAN BUSH