

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 |

The following persons were present:

Chairman Tray Hawkins

Vice-Chairman Todd Abbott

Commissioner Charles Kent

Commissioner Steve Joyner

Also present were County Administrator Jeff Massey, County Attorney Fuqua, Fuqua & Milton, P.A., Finance Director Johnnie Pettis, and Deputy Clerk Risha Brantley.

I. PROCLAMATION

- Call to Order - Chairman Hawkins
- Invocation – Jeff Massey
- Pledge

The purpose of this meeting is to hold the public hearing tentatively adopting the millage rate, and budgets for the Washington County Board of County Commissioners, and MSBU for fiscal year 2021 – 2022.

The meeting was advertised via the TRIM notice.

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

III. NON-AGENDA AUDIENCE – Effective October 1, 2013, Florida Statute

286.0114 mandates that “members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a proposition before a Board or Commission.” Everyone shall have three (3) minutes to speak on the proposition before the Board. Before the time a meeting has been called to order, should an individual or group wish to address an item which is on the agenda for consideration, the individual or group shall obtain, from the Commission Secretary or Clerk, a public comment form and shall write on the form their name and the agenda matter which they wish to address. The completed form(s) shall be returned to the Commission Secretary/Clerk who shall provide the form(s) to the Chairperson. Should a particular group wish to address an item, they shall nominate a spokesperson to voice their ideas, comments, and concerns. In the event, an individual would like to speak on an item and has not signed up in advance, those who have signed shall be given priority and those who have not signed up may speak at the sole discretion of the Board Chair. The county-approved public participation policy is recorded on book 1216, page 70.

Keith Benish addressed the board regarding the increase in his taxes from last year to this year.

Chairman Hawkins suggested he speak with Gil Carter, Property Appraiser.

Chairman Hawkins - The tentative millage rate remains at 8.500, which is the same as budget year 2019 – 2020. The rate remaining the same has caused a 3.45% increase above the rolled-back rate of 8.2164, which would generate ad valorem of \$8,202,868.00. The value of

property has increased this fiscal year. Per specification in the American Rescue Act, which are funds the county has received a portion of, the millage can't be lowered for a minimum of 2 fiscal years.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

- Tentative Millage Rate of 8.500 for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 – Chairman Hawkins read the millage resolution. Commissioner Joyner offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Abbott, and carried by roll call vote 4 - 0.
- Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 – Chairman Hawkins read the budget resolution. Commissioner Kent offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Joyner, and carried by roll call vote 4 – 0.

Deputy Clerk Brantley advised that the budget is significantly higher this year due to projected revenue from Hurricane Michael and Sally.

- Tentative MSBU Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 – 2022 for \$486,823.00 – Chairman Hawkins read the resolution by title. Commissioner Abbott offered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kent, and carried by roll call vote 4 - 0.

Chairman Hawkins – The final budget hearing has been scheduled for September 28, 2021, at 5:05 p.m. at 1331 South Boulevard, Chipley, Florida.

V. ADJOURN