

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2016 AT 8:00 A.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing for the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget on Thursday, June 23, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Building. Present at the meeting were: Vice-Chair Commissioner Craig Bryant, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, County Manager Michael Melton, Finance Director Vicki Mays, County Clerk Shanda Murphy. Chairman Turner was not in attendance due to being out of the country.

Commissioner Craig Bryant called the meeting to order.

Mr. Michael Melton presented the first reading of the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Proposed Budget (see attached presentation). In summary, General Fund expenses were presented at \$16,161,230.00 and Separate Fund expenses were presented at \$4,191,724.00. Proposed General Fund Revenues included a ½ mill increase (\$433,387.00) and 0.5 months of fund balance (\$607,099.00) – totaling a balanced budget with revenues at \$16,161,230.00. By utilizing 0.5 months of fund balance, the fund balance was reduced to \$3,404,837.00 (approximately 2.8 months operating expense). Commissioner Bryant questioned why a ½ mill increase had been included in the proposed budget. Mr. Melton stated that was the direction given by the Board at the June 13, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Bryant reviewed the calculations he had from the previous meeting and stated he disagreed with the proposed budget calculation. Commissioner Nix stated that he agreed with Commissioner Bryant and could not support a millage increase; however he thought a better solution would be to utilize additional fund balance. Commissioner Goodger stated that he wanted to see the county maintain a three (3) month fund balance. Ms. Vicki Mays stated that it was difficult to project the amount which would roll into fund balance following Fiscal Year 2015-2016 because there is still revenue to come and a good deal of expenses to still be paid through August which would post against the FY 2016 Budget.

Commissioner Bryant opened the floor for public comment on the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget.

Sheriff Neal Walden asked for clarification as to whether the three (3) vehicles he had requested ~in addition to the two (2) which approved for purchase from the FY 2016 Budget ~ were still in the proposed budget. Commissioner Bryant stated that all capitol had been removed from the budget and these vehicles had been placed on a list for consideration of SPLOST funding. Sheriff Walden also asked if the employee pay increases that had been proposed were included. Commissioner Nix stated that the proposed budget did not include any employee pay increases.

Ms. Vicki Mays stated that the information presented did not include an adjustment for a \$15,000.00 double entry which had been corrected in the Sheriff's Office Budget; therefore the proposed expense budget was actually \$15,000.00 less than stated.

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Ms. Laurie Lee (County Resident) stated that she attended the June 13, 2016 meeting and although she was in agreement with increasing the millage rate by ½ mill she too was confused about the \$600,000.00 + which was listed from fund balance. She stated that she was under the impress that the budget would be balanced using a millage increase as opposed to fund balance.

Commissioner Nix stated that he did not support increasing taxes based on a budget which was only an estimate or a guess.

Mr. Carl Noon encouraged the Board to set the budget based on what is required in order to provide the needed services within the County. He encouraged the Board to look at ways to recognize and retain quality employees.

Ms. Annette Boswell of White County Family Connections stated that the organization and children serviced greatly appreciated the support of the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Shawn Henderson stated that he would go on record as not being in favor of increasing taxes. He stated that he believed revenues would be higher than projected.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of the June 23, 2016 Budget Public Hearing are approved as stated this 30th day of June, 2016.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

s/Travis C. Turner
Chairman Travis Turner

s/Terry D. Goodger
Terry Goodger, District 1

s/Lyn Holcomb
Lyn Holcomb, District 2

s/Edwin Nix
Edwin Nix, District 3

s/Craig Bryant
Craig Bryant, District 4

s/Shanda Murphy
Shanda Murphy, County Clerk