

August 7, 2006
Budget Workshop
Bonifay, Florida

The Holmes County Board of Commissioners met in a Budget Workshop on the above date with the following members present, to wit: Commissioner Jim King, Commissioner Raymon Thomas, Commissioner Harold Smith, Commissioner Phillip Music, and Commissioner Earl Stafford, Chairman.

Alice Vickers, Deputy Clerk, was present and kept the minutes.

Chairman Stafford opened the meeting with prayer and led the pledge.

The Board discussed additional changes that should be made to the bid specifications for the inmate medical care contract. Commissioner Smith offered a motion to approve the additional changes with Commissioner King offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Bid Specifications for Inmate Medical Contract)

Chairman Stafford informed the Board that the Insurance Committee was recommending that the County continue with the same health insurance plan and company for the upcoming year even though the premium was increasing. Commissioner Smith offered a motion for the health insurance to remain the same with Commissioner Music offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board made the following changes to the General Fund proposed budget:

Sheriff	Overall	- 451,350
Building Department	Salaries	- 17,563
	FICA	- 1,344
	Retirement	+ 726
	Travel	- 3,000
	Printing	- 300
	Fire Control	Bonifay
New Hope		- 23,150
Pittman		+ 1,500
Gritney		- 8,000
Noma		+ 500
Westville		- 6,000
Esto		- 7,000
Ponce de Leon		+ 1,500
Pine Log		+ 500
HC Firefighter's Assoc.		- 3,700

Library	Revenue from PPLCS	+ 38,961
	Salaries	+ 48,623
	FICA	+ 3,720
	Retirement	+ 5,752
	Communications	+ 4,561
Health	C.A.R.E.	- 5,000
Miscellaneous	Holmes Creek	- 6,000
	Tri Co Airport	- 5,000
	TCCC-Transport. Disadv.	- 1,000
	Chamber of Commerce	- 10,000
	TCCC-Housing Program	- 500
	TCCC-Community Srv -	1,000
	TCCC-Commodities	- 1,000
	TCCC-Visitation Center	- 500
	Fair Association	+ 3,000
	Health Ins Increase	+ 8,280

The Board made the following changes to the Transportation Trust proposed budget:

Repair & Maintenance	- 20,000
Repair & Maintenance – Inmate	- 1,000
Improvements (Road Signs)	- 5,000
Bonifay Road & Bridge	- 90,915
Health Insurance Increase	+ 3,720

The Board discussed the Sheriff's budget request. Sheila Paul of the Sheriff's Office reminded the Board that the COPS grant which funded three positions was expiring in this fiscal year. She stated that per a grant stipulation, these positions had to be funded for one additional year at the County's expense at a cost of approximately \$100,000. The Board discussed that they had understood that the County would not have to continue with the positions when the Sheriff came before the Board to ask for the grant approval. The Board agreed to fund a 12.5% increase over the 2005-06 budget.

The Board discussed the salary for the Building Inspector. Chairman Stafford advised that Mr. Williams had passed all of his exams and was certified. He also stated that Mr. Rau's services would no longer be required since Mr. Williams was now certified. The Board tentatively budgeted funds to increase Mr. Williams' salary to \$56,000, the secretary's salary to \$20,000, and the part-time position to \$8.00 per hour.

The Board discussed the request from the Extension Service to add a part-time position for 4-H and to increase the Secretary's salary by \$1.00 per hour. The Board tentatively budgeted funds to grant this request.

Susan Harris, Library Director, requested that the Board establish two twenty hour positions for the Library. She informed the Board that PPLCS was currently funding five twenty hour positions for the County. She asked that these positions be added to her budget with PPLCS reimbursing the County for the expenses in order to leverage more state funding for the Library. The Board agreed to both of these requests.

The Board discussed the request for a \$1.00 per hour raise for all Library employees for the new fiscal year and tentatively budgeted funds for a ninety-nine cents per hour increase.

The Board discussed that the health insurance premium would be increasing by approximately \$70 per month for employee coverage. Commissioner Thomas offered a motion for the County to pay the increase on employee coverage pending union approval. Commissioner King offered a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thomas stated that the account for fuel taxes might not have to be funded due to some recent revisions to the law. He asked the Deputy Clerk to check with Bob McKee of the Florida Association of Counties to verify this.

The Board discussed the Boater Improvements Funds and asked the Deputy Clerk to see what projects could be done with these funds.

Commissioner Thomas discussed the need for repairs at the Farmer's Market. He stated that the roof needed insulating, the offices needed refurbishing, the walk-in cooler was not operable, and that the roof also leaked. Commissioner Thomas offered a motion to apply to the Department of Agriculture for a grant to help with the needed repairs. Commissioner Music offered a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Susan Harris, Library Director, state that an upgrade would be done to the Sirici computer system at the Library during the week of September 4, 2006. The Board agreed for the Library to be closed during this time.

Commissioner Smith offered a motion to adjourn with Commissioner Music offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting stood adjourned.

Clerk

Chairman