September 6, 2022 Special Session Bonifay, Florida

The Holmes County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Session on the above date with the following members present: Commissioner Clint Erickson, Commissioner Jeff Good, Commissioner Phillip Music, Commissioner Brandon Newsom and Commissioner Earl Stafford, Chairman of the Board.

Nate Nolin, County Attorney, and David Corbin, Project Director, were present.

Angie Purvee, Finance Director, was present and kept the minutes.

Chairman Stafford called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. David Corbin, Project Director, led the prayer and pledge.

Pursuant to Public Notice, the Board held a public hearing to establish the tentative millage and budget. Chairman Stafford advised that the proposed millage was set at 9.4916 which is 5.55% greater than the rolled-back rate of 8.9924. The millage rate of 9.4916 is the current millage. By adopting the same rate for 2022-23 this generates a small increase in revenue which was needed to balance the General and Transportation Trust Funds. Nate Nolin, County Attorney, read Resolution 22-28 which adopts the proposed millage of 9.4916. The public was given an opportunity to ask questions regarding the millage rate and the effect on their taxes with no one responding. Commissioner Music offered a motion to adopt the resolution with Commissioner Newsom offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution #22-28)

Attorney Nolin read Resolution #22-29 adopting a Tentative Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 in the amount of \$33,271,793. Commissioner Newsom offered a motion to adopt the resolution with Commissioner Music offering a second. The motion passed unanimously.

(Resolution #22-29)

(Tentative Budget)

Commissioner Erickson offered a motion to schedule the Final Budget hearing for Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 5:01 p.m. Commissioner Music offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

Anne Rodgers, Friends of Dogwood Lakes, discussed the work needed to raise the level of Dogwood Lakes and requested that the Board place \$45,000 of the costs on the 2022-23 budget.

Steve Connell, EMS Director, discussed the Medicaid minimum wage ruling that raises the wages of direct care employees of Medicaid providers to at least \$15 per hour effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. He advised that EMS personnel fall under this ruling since Medicaid is billed for EMS services. Discussion of this matter included the following:

- Medicaid to increase their service fees, but rates have not been published
- How the surrounding counties are dealing with the new ruling
- Cost to bring the County's EMS employees to \$15 per hour far exceeds the cost of opting out and losing the revenue from billing for Medicaid services

• Effects on ruling on non-Emergency personnel

Board agreed by consensus to wait for further clarification of the ruling and for Medicaid to publish the new fee schedule.

There being no further business at this time the meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Clerk

Chairman