

**CALHOUN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WORKSHOP MINUTES  
BUDGET – FY 2015-2016  
APRIL 20, 2015**

**PRESENT AND ACTING:**

**THOMAS G. FLOWERS, CHAIRMAN  
DENNIS JONES  
DARRELL MCDOUGALD  
WOODROW "LEE" SHELTON**

**GENE MORRIS, DEPUTY  
CARLA HAND, CLERK OF COURT AND COUNTY COMPTROLLER  
BECKY BROWN, DEPUTY CLERK**

The workshop was called to order by Chairman Flowers at 5:30 p.m., CT.

**FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 BUDGET**

Clerk Hand opened discussion on the fiscal year 2015-2016 budget process. She asked the Board to give direction to the County Department Heads and the Constitutional Officers on various budget issues including capital projects, Courthouse HVAC, equipment needs, County website development, employee pay rates/raises, employee health insurance and CDBG grant match. The Clerk stated the current advalorem tax rate is 9.90 mills.

Chairman Flowers asked the Constitutional Officers and Department Heads if they had any special needs to be addressed in the budget or other budget comments.

Mr. Stone, Property Appraiser, advised the Board the tax base has remained stagnant, comparable to last year.

Ms. Smith, Tax Collector, requested the Board not reduce her budget. She noted her office has taken on additional tag/title work for an auto leasing company which provides additional fees to the County. She anticipates renewing 3,000 tags for this company in June at a fee of \$3.00/tag.

Ms. Laramore, Supervisor of Elections, advised the Board there will be two elections during this budget cycle which will take approximately \$28,000-\$35,000 extra in her budget.

Sheriff Kimbrel advised the Board there has been an increase in bailiff activity in the Courthouse. He anticipates current year bailiff costs to be \$8,000 more than budgeted. Sheriff Kimbrel also expressed concerns regarding the continued availability of the County's funds earmarked for the bailiff position. Clerk Hand stated these funds are limited and there is adequate funding for next year.

Clerk Hand advised the Board a copy of the official records of the County are required to be stored offsite. The Clerk stated the equipment used for this process has reached its maximum capacity and

OR 2015 APR 20 309

additional equipment will be needed. The cost for this data vaulting equipment and consumption service agreement is approximately \$21,000 to be paid \$350 per month for five (5) years.

Mr. McDaniel, Road Department, advised the Board the Road Department will need to purchase new equipment over the next few years and asked the Board to set back \$100,000 annually for the next three (3) years for these purchases. Mr. McDaniel asked the Board to increase the road materials budget by \$10,000.00.

Ms. Maupin, Library Director, advised the Board she doesn't foresee any huge increases within her budget for next year and may be able to operate with no budget increase. Ms. Maupin stated she had staffing changes and anticipates an increase in the Universal Services Grant (E-Rate money grant.)

Ms. Ludlow, County Extension Agent, asked the Board to include in her budget a van to transport the 4-H and Master Gardner program participants and to include a computer for the Office Manager.

Mr. Jenks, Maintenance Superintendent, asked the Board to include in his budget an HVAC system for the Courthouse. He also requested to replace the maintenance van.

Mr. Clemons and Mr. Joe Wood asked the Board to include an increase of \$6,000.00 in the budget for chemicals for the spraying program.

Mr. Fleck, IDA Board Chairman, advised the Board the Calhoun County Airport is in good shape. Mr. Fleck stated any money received from the State aviation grants and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) needs to be spent within the airport. He also stated the Airport would contribute to the cost of the herbicides/chemicals for work done at the airport.

Chairman Flowers directed the Clerk to prepare Budget request letters to department heads and outside organizations. He further requested a recap from the Volunteer Fire Departments of how their prior year budget funds were spent.

The Board agreed by consensus to include (in the initial budget draft) health insurance premiums at \$500 per month/per employee, millage at a rate of 9.90 mills, \$50,000 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) match, the Courthouse HVAC and a 3% pay rate increase per department.

The Workshop was adjourned at 6:08 pm.



THOMAS G. FLOWERS, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:



CARLA A. HAND, CLERK

OR BOOK 15 PAGE 310