

SEPTEMBER 8, 2014 – BUDGET HEARING

The Board of County Commissioners, Walton County, Florida, held a budget hearing on Monday, September 8, 2014 at 5:01 p.m. at the South Walton Courthouse Annex.

The following Board members were present: Commissioner W.N. “Bill” Chapman, Chairman; Commissioner Cindy Meadows, Vice-Chairman; Commissioner Kenneth Pridgen; Commissioner Sara Comander; and Commissioner Bill Imfeld. Mr. Larry Jones, County Administrator; Mr. Stan Sunday, Deputy County Administrator; Ms. Dede Hinote, Deputy County Administrator; and Mr. Alex Alford, Clerk of Courts and County Comptroller, were also present.

Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order to adopt the tentative budget and millage rate for FY 2014-2015.

Chairman Chapman read aloud the following for the record: The purpose of this meeting is to set a tentative millage rate and a tentative budget. The proposed Walton County Board of County Commissioners county-wide millage rate is 3.6363 mills, and 0.4912 mills for the North Walton Mosquito Control District. In aggregate, this is an 8.55% increase over the Rolled Back Rate. The Rolled Back Rate is the rate that would essentially generate the same ad valorem tax revenues as last year. The county-wide 3.6363 mills (which are applied to the General, County Transportation, Fine and Forfeiture, and Capital Projects/Infrastructure funds) is an increase over the fiscal year 2013-2014 rate, which was 3.5563 mills. The 0.4912 millage rate for the North Walton Mosquito Control District is the same as fiscal year 2013-2014 rate, which was 0.4912.

Ms. Melissa Thomason, Assistant Finance Director, discussed the changes that were made to the budget since the July 10, 2014 budget workshop including: cola raises and percentage rates dependent on employment length and salary range, a proposed shift of 1.5% to

the salary table, Public Works increase by 1 FTE for a Traffic Engineer, Code Enforcement increase by 1 FTE for an additional officer including a vehicle, and the purchase of a decibel meter for Code Enforcement. The Fine and Forfeiture budget was increased by \$120,000 for anticipated revenues for housing inmates, and a \$16,315 increase to the Medical Examiners budget.

Motion by Commissioner Imfeld, second by Commissioner Comander, to open the public hearing. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Meadows Aye, Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Imfeld Aye.

Chairman Chapman asked for public comment.

Mr. Dave Lamon urged the Board not to increase property taxes at this time and encouraged keeping the same rate as last year.

Mr. Bob Hudson expressed appreciation for how accessible budget information was during this budget process and spoke in favor of the increase.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to set the tentative county-wide millage rate at 3.6363 mills and 0.4912 mills for North Walton Mosquito Control District as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Meadows Aye, Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Imfeld Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Meadows, second by Commissioner Imfeld, to adopt Resolution (2014-86) setting the tentative county-wide millage rate at 3.6363 mills and 0.4912 mills for North Walton Mosquito Control District as presented.

Ms. Thomason read aloud Resolution (2014-86) for the record.

Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Meadows Aye, Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Imfeld Aye.

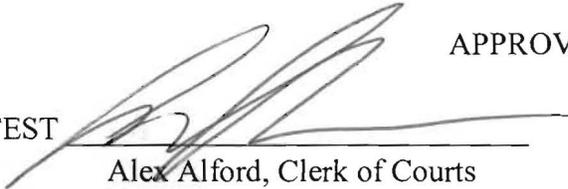
Ms. Thomason read aloud Resolution (2014-87) to adopt the tentative budget for FY 2014-2015.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Meadows, to adopt the tentative budget Resolution (2014-87) setting the tentative budget for FY 2014-2015 as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Meadows Aye, Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Imfeld Aye.

Motion by Commissioner Comander, second by Commissioner Meadows, to close the public hearing. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Chapman Aye, Meadows Aye, Pridgen Aye, Comander Aye, Imfeld Aye.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.

ATTEST



Alex Alford, Clerk of Courts
and County Comptroller

APPROVED


W.N. "Bill" Chapman, Chairman